R-24-76

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CLEAR CREEK COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Clear Creek County, Colorado (the "Board") last approved the Clear Creek County Emergency Operations Plan ("Clear Creek County EOP") on January 18, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to revise the Clear Creek County EOP to reflect updates to the plan and changes to Colorado Revised Statutes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements of C.R.S. § 24-33.5-707(2), each county shall maintain an emergency management agency which has jurisdiction over and serves the entire county; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements of C.R.S. § 24-33.5-707(4), at a minimum, the composition of the emergency management agency shall be a director or coordinator appointed and governed by the chief executive officer or governing body of the appointing jurisdiction, the director or coordinator shall be responsible for the planning, coordination, and execution of the local pre- and post-disaster services; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements of C.R.S. § 24-33.5-707(8), each county emergency management agency shall prepare and keep current a locally defined emergency management plan for its area, including provisions for the preparation, prevention, mitigation, response, and recovery from emergencies and disasters; and

WHEREAS, the Clear Creek County EOP , as revised, consists of the plan and supporting annex documents which, when combined, are referred to as the Clear Creek County EOP, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to appoint the Clear Creek County Director of Emergency Management to carry out the responsibilities under C.R.S. § 24-33.5-707(4) and to delegate to the Director of Emergency Management the authority to implement and administer the Clear Creek County EOP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Clear Creek County, Colorado, that:

1. The Board hereby approves and adopts the revised Clear Creek County EOP, attached hereto as Exhibit A, .

2. The Board finds that adoption of the Clear Creek County EOP is in the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of and visitors to Clear Creek County.

3. The Board hereby delegates to the Director of Emergency Management the authority for planning and coordination of local disaster services, including management of emergency and disaster planning and response for Clear Creek County, activation, deactivation, and management of the Emergency Operations Center, procurement of response capabilities, and implementation of resources.

4. The Board recognizes the value of coordinated efforts of the elected offices and county departments in support of emergency and disaster operations under the direction of the Director of Emergency Management. The Board directs the Director of Emergency Management to coordinate emergency and disaster operations with all Clear Creek County departments, municipal government representatives, and other private and public sectors represented in the Multiagency Coordination (MAC) Group and the Emergency Operations Center, in a manner that is acceptable to these organizations and the Board.

5. The Director of Emergency Management is authorized to make non-substantive changes to the Clear Creek County EOP as necessary. Any substantive changes proposed by the Director of Emergency Management shall be reviewed by the Board and any changes approved by the Board shall be adopted by resolution.

6. All previously adopted or approved emergency operations plans are hereby repealed and replaced with the Clear Creek County EOP adopted by this Resolution.

ADOPTED this _____5th_____ day of _____November_____, 2024, at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Clear Creek County Board of County Commissioners.

_____
George Marlin, Chair

_____
Randall Wheelock, Commissioner   ATTEST:

_____
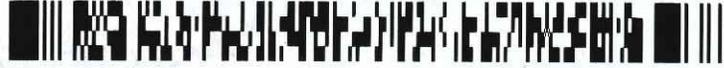Mitch Houston, Commissioner

_____
Deputy Clerk and Recorder
For Brenda L. Corbett
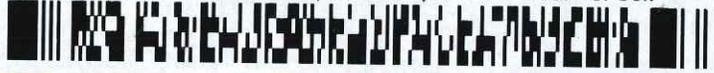Clear Creek County Clerk and Recorder

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN: BASE PLAN

October 2024, Version 2.0

Maintained by the
Clear Creek County Office of Emergency Management

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT

As the Clear Creek County Board of County Commissioners, it is our responsibility and the obligation of our county government to ensure that the mission to provide effective services while fostering sustainable economic growth and protecting our quality of life is at the forefront of our vision each and every day. This mission is embraced through a commitment by all agencies and their employees to invest the necessary resources to ensure the effective management and coordination of all activities to prepare for, mitigate, prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from all threats and hazards. Our commitment to this investment ensures the delivery of emergency management services that provide the foundation for a more resilient county by reducing the loss of life, minimizing human suffering, and enhancing the protection of our property and environment.

The purpose of the Clear Creek County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is to provide a coordinated and equitable framework for emergency management from the whole community when an emergency or disaster occurs. The Clear Creek County EOP guides the implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and includes administration and strategic information and processes necessary to ensure effective and efficient all-hazards emergency management. The EOP sets forth the necessary requirements that will promote effective planning; resource management; training; exercises; and public information to achieve our goal and obligation of protecting the health and safety of people including disproportionally impacted communities, critical infrastructure, and the environment of Clear Creek County.

The EOP is designed to minimize the disruption of each agency mission by establishing a system of collaboration and communication by all agencies during times of crisis. In order to meet this goal, it is imperative that all County agencies and their personnel build capabilities, including planning, organizing, equipment, training, and exercising, to execute their required roles and responsibilities in accordance with this EOP.

Signed this ___ day of _____, 2024

_____

Board of County Commissioner Chair, Clear Creek County

RECORD OF CHANGE

Date	Description of Change	Done By
12/2021	Revised all ESFs, Base Plan, Alert and Warning Notification Annex, and Resource Mobilization Annex	S. Boccia
9/2024	Revised the entire Base Plan and integrated Alert and Warning Notification policy from JeffCom into Base Plan	C. Boggs-Blake
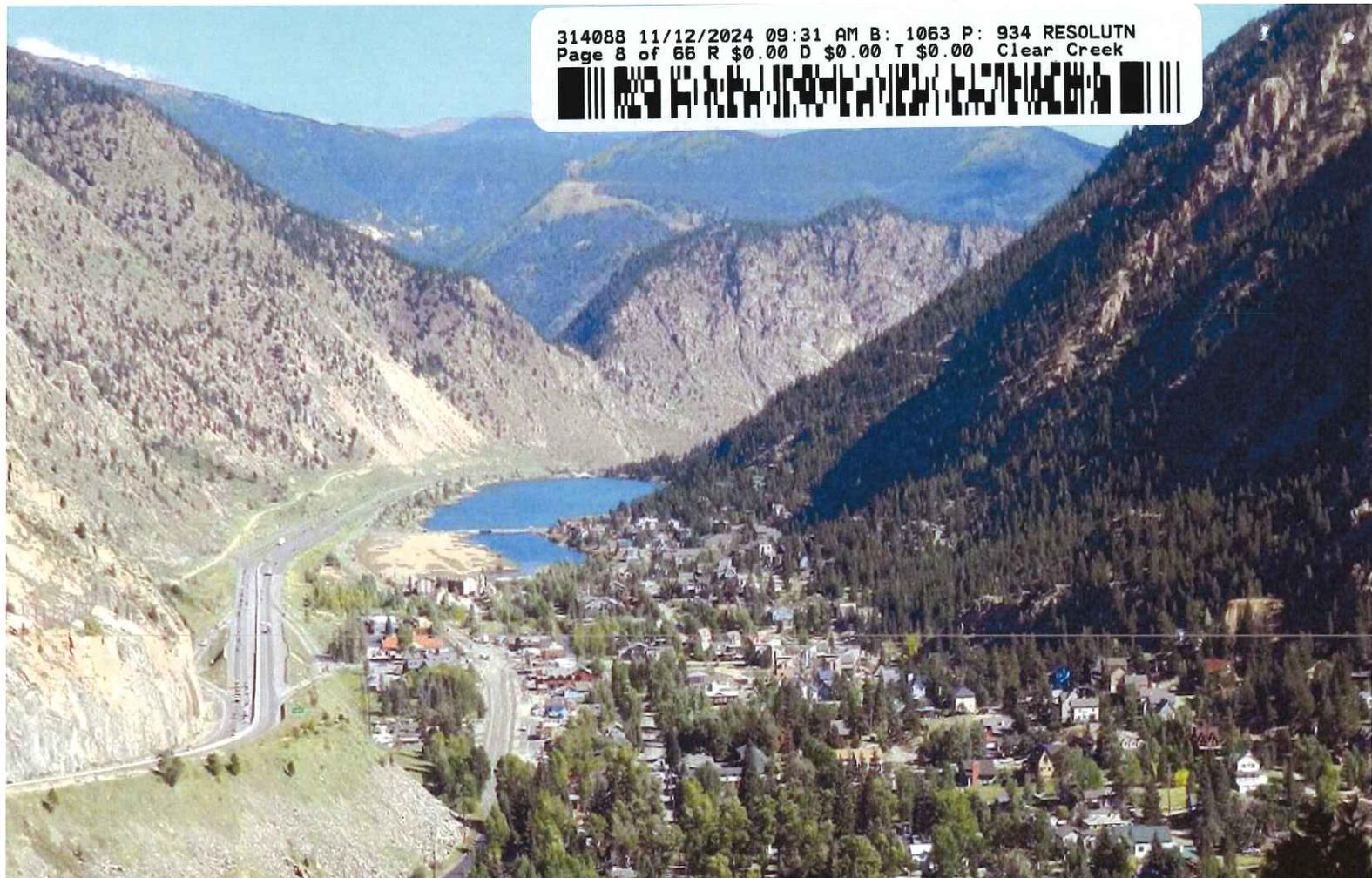
SECTION 1:
INTRODUCTION AND SITUATION OVERVIEW

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION AND SITUATION OVERVIEW

1.1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 PURPOSE

This Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) provides a framework for the coordinated management of emergencies that affect Clear Creek County (the County). This plan considers the entire Clear Creek County community and was developed in cooperation with county departments, agencies, and offices (departments), as well as special districts; local, state and federal government agencies; private sector organizations; and partner organizations. The EOP creates a unified system for emergency management operations by identifying roles and responsibilities, coordination structures, and actions to be taken across the lifecycle of an emergency.

1.1.2 SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

The EOP is the principal plan governing all emergencies and disasters occurring within the limits of the County affecting the well-being of the County's people, critical infrastructure, businesses, and environment. This plan was created with input from a variety of government, non-profit and private sector stakeholders, and defines how the whole County community manages emergencies.

Clear Creek County Resolution R 10-22 establishes and approves the Clear Creek County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) which is the policy for emergency and disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation for all county agencies. Agencies delineated by their roles and responsibilities are expected to support the EOP and must develop and carry out their functional responsibilities assigned in the EOP, in a coordinated and cooperative manner.

Furthermore, the EOP applies to all partner organizations, private businesses, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) operating within the County. While the EOP is not binding on the operations of organizations external to county government, the County strongly encourages all local organizations and businesses to coordinate their emergency plans and procedures with the provisions of the EOP to ensure a coordinated countywide emergency response and recovery effort.

The EOP does not need to be officially activated prior to one or more of the sections herein being implemented. Furthermore, each department and organization listed in the EOP is responsible for understanding its own emergency authority and procedures when implementing the provisions of the EOP.

1.1.3 STRUCTURE

The EOP is comprised of several key sections:

- **Base Plan:** The Base Plan defines the purpose of the EOP, the plan's underpinning legal authorities, Clear Creek County's emergency management organization, and each department's major emergency responsibilities.
- **General Appendices:** The general appendices include a glossary of terms and acronyms and other indexes to guide use of the EOP and exhibit compliance with all relevant standards.
- **Mission Annexes:** Annexes that supplement the EOP Base Plan concepts with discrete, multi-agency, mission-specific objectives, coordination structures, and roles and responsibilities, for example, Alert and Warning, Resource Mobilization, or Public Information.
  - ○ **Service Appendices:** Agency-specific roles and responsibilities organized into discrete functions, or "services" that further define the roles of an agency in emergency management. They cover more specific processes in support of Missions to supplement agency procedures and checklists. Service Appendices also serve as the foundation for capability development for county agencies.

- **Supporting/tactical standard operating guides and procedures (SOG/SOP):** Additional doctrine, guides, procedures, and checklists that directly support annexes, such as a department operations center guide.

1.1.4 INTEGRATION WITH CLEAR CREEK COUNTY'S FAMILY OF EMERGENCY PLANS

The EOP defines the framework for the coordinated management of emergencies that impact life safety, property, critical infrastructure, and the environment in the county. The EOP integrates with two other core County emergency management doctrines:

- **Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP):** The overarching strategic document that defines the threats and hazards in Clear Creek County and how those hazards might impact the County through the context of its economic, geographic, and social profile. It defines the county's 13 hazards in the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) and identifies clear strategies for how the County can reduce hazard impacts.
- **Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP):** The COOP establishes methods by which the County's government maintains operability of its mission essential functions during emergencies and operational disruptions. Furthermore, the COOP outlines the foundation for continued service and resilience of county sites, information and data, equipment and systems, and staff and organization.

The EOP and its support doctrine are designed as tools to operationalize emergency management capabilities, implemented through incident-specific action planning.

1.1.5 FOUNDATIONAL LAWS AND STANDARDS

1.1.5.1 NATIONAL

- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988 and Amendments (42 U.S.C. § 5121 et seq.).
- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.).
- Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. § 11001 et seq.).
- Homeland Security Act, 2002.
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD 5), Management of Domestic Incidents
- Pandemic and All Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act (PAHPRA) of 2013 (42 U.S.C.§ 201 et seq.).
- National Incident Management System (NIMS), 3rd Edition, October 2017.
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Preparedness Goal, 2nd Edition, September 2015.
- FEMA's National Preparedness System, July 2020.
- FEMA's National Planning Frameworks
- FEMA's Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 101, Version 3, September 2021.
- FEMA's Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 201, 3rd Edition, May 2018.
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1600, 2019 Edition.
- Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006 (PETS) and FEMA DAP 9523.19.
- Plain Writing Act, 2010
- Post-Katria Emergency Management Reform Act, 2006.

1.1.5.2 STATE

- Colorado Disaster Emergency Act (C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701 et al.).
- Colorado Emergency Operations Plan.
- Natural Disaster Fund (C.R.S. § 25-8-608.7).

1.1.5.3 LOCAL

- Clear Creek County Resolution R-05-137: Adoption of the National Incident Management System, November 2, 2005.
- Clear Creek County Resolution 2020-103: Adoption of Revised Purchasing Guidelines, November 30, 2020.
- Clear Creek County Resolution R 10-22: Adoption of the Clear Creek County Emergency Operations Plan, January 18, 2022.

1.1.6 PLANNING PRINCIPLES

The EOP allows flexibility and discretion within a well-defined emergency management framework to enable a nimble and coordinated management of all-hazards emergencies. The EOP is based on the following principles:

- The EOP addresses emergency management within Clear Creek County from a whole-community perspective by incorporating the needs, responsibilities, and capabilities of not only government, but that of private and non-profit partners as well.
- Emergency preparedness is everyone's responsibility. People, businesses, and government have individual preparedness responsibilities that must be internally addressed and coordinated with each other.
- Nothing in this EOP alters or impedes the ability of local, state, and federal governments or private agencies and organizations from carrying out their specific authorities or performing their specific responsibilities under all applicable laws, executive orders, and directives.
- The immediate response priority to an emergency or disaster situation of any size and scope is saving lives and then protecting critical infrastructure, property, and the environment.
- Emergency management operations are designed to equitably serve all residents of the County, including those with access and functional needs, language barriers, transit challenges, housing instability, economic insecurity, and other social vulnerabilities.
- Incidents are managed at the lowest possible geographic, organizational, and jurisdictional level.
- The whole community will be included in planning and response efforts through the MAC Group and representation in the appropriate Emergency Support Function (ESF) in the EOC.
- Incident response requires extensive consequence management to respond to unanticipated second and third order effects.
- Depending on various factors including the magnitude of the event, Clear Creek County may not be able to meet all responsibilities indicated in this plan.
- County departments and partner organizations may need to respond on short notice at any time of the day or night to provide effective and timely assistance. It is the responsibility of leaders in each department and organization to ensure their staff is trained, prepared, and available to meet the requirements of this plan.
- An incident may impact emergency management and response personnel, rendering them unable to execute their emergency responsibilities. Each department and partner organization should build personnel depth within their organizations to ensure they are able to meet their responsibilities outlined in this plan.
- Certain essential services must be maintained during an emergency, and it is the responsibility of each department and organization to ensure that they can both support County-wide emergency management efforts and continue their own essential services. All County businesses and NGOs should also develop business continuity plans to be implemented if an incident affects their organization.
- Response operations may last for several hours, days, weeks or longer. Recovery operations may last for days, weeks, months or even years.
- An emergency may require the mobilization and reallocation of available local resources. All resources maintained by the county may be called upon to assist with emergency response. Furthermore, resources not normally available to the County may be acquired through emergency procurement, donations, or other means.

- If an emergency exceeds local response capabilities, outside assistance may be available through mutual aid agreements with nearby jurisdictions or through the State's Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Often the County must declare a local emergency and local resources fully committed before state or federal assistance is requested. Additionally, depending on the size and scope of the emergency and/or concurrent emergencies across a wide geographic area, resources may not be available in a timely manner.

1.2   SITUATION OVERVIEW

1.2.1   CLEAR CREEK COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

Clear Creek County originated with gold panning during the Colorado gold rush starting in 1858, and gold and silver mining quickly followed. It was one of the first 17 counties created by the Colorado legislature in 1861. Clear Creek County encompasses 396 square miles of primarily rugged mountain terrain in the north central part of Colorado. Most of the land is owned by the U.S. Forest Service.

Agency	Square Miles Owned	Percent of County Land Owned
U.S. Forest Service	270.7	68%
Colorado Parks and Wildlife	6.4	1.6%
Denver Mountain Parks	4.1	1%

The County is bordered on the east by Jefferson County, on the west by Summit County, on the northwest by Grand and Gilpin Counties, and on the south by Park County. The county boundary on the west is the Continental Divide. Altitudes range from 6,880 feet to more than 14,000 feet at the highest summit of the highest peaks. There are four "14ers", or mountains with an elevation over 14,000 feet: Grays Peak, Torreys Peak, Mt. Evans, and Mt. Bierstadt. The County shares multiple high mountain passes with other counties: Guanella Pass in the southwestern part of the county is shared with Park County, Berthoud Pass in the northwest part of the county is shared with Grand County, and Loveland Pass in the western part of the county leads to Summit County to the west. Both Berthoud and Loveland passes cross the Continental Divide, at 11,307 feet and 11,990 feet, respectively. The Eisenhower-Johnson Memorial Tunnel connects Clear Creek and Summit counties at an altitude of 11,314 feet. Additionally, the Mt. Evans Scenic Byway is the highest paved road in North America, at 14,130 feet.

Graphic 1. Clear Creek County

Interstate 70 runs directly through the County, and a fault line runs just underneath it. High-volume traffic periods increase significantly in the summer, followed in volume by ski season traffic. There are 2 ski resorts and 5 active mines in the County.

There are four municipalities within the County: the Town of Empire, the Town of Georgetown, the City of Idaho Springs, and the Town of Silver Plume. The population of Clear Creek County is 9,397 (U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Population Estimates). The eastern part of the county is somewhat rural with scattered, densely populated areas in the Wildland Urban Interface. The western portion is sparsely populated. Clear Creek County experiences a significant influx of travelers throughout the year with Interstate 70 being the main route from the front range to the western slope of Colorado. Therefore, Clear Creek County may see as many as a million people traveling throughout the county on a high-travel weekend.

Clear Creek County Population and Land Use Areas				
	2020 Population	%	Land Area (Square Miles)	%
Clear Creek County	9,397		365	
Unincorporated Clear Creek County	5,945	63.26%	360.88	98.87%
Municipalities				
Town of Empire	345	3.67%	0.268	0.07%
Town of Georgetown	1,118	11.90%	1.102	0.30%
City of Idaho Springs	1,782	18.96%	2.346	0.64%
Town of Silver Plume	207	2.20%	0.261	0.07%
Central City*	0	0.00%	0.140	0.04%
Incorporated Total	**3452**	**36.74%**	**4.12**	**1.13%**
Other Census Designated Places (CDP's)				
Blue Valley	173	1.84%	1.052	0.29%
Brook Forest	288	3.06%	0.526	0.14%
Downieville-Lawson-Dumont	527	5.61%	0.799	0.22%
Echo Hills	313	3.33%	0.568	0.16%
Floyd Hill	1,048	11.15%	6.293	1.72%
Pine Valley	363	3.86%	0.823	0.23%
St. Mary's	333	3.54%	1.446	0.40%
Upper Bear Creek	984	10.47%	3.791	1.04%
Upper Witter Gulch	380	4.04%	0.910	0.25%
CDP's Total	**4,409**	**46.92%**	**16.21**	**4.44%**

2020 Population Source: 2020 U.S. Census

Land Area Source: 2020 U.S. Census, Clear Creek County GIS

* Central City, located in Gilpin County, owns a small parcel of land in Clear Creek County, with no inhabitants.

The County has had 8 federal disaster declarations since 1969 for severe storms, flooding, heavy rain, flash flooding, landslides, mudslides, wildfires, snow, Hurricane Katrina evacuation, and the COVID-19 global pandemic.

The County has a minimally diverse population with the following makeup:

Race	Population	%
White, not Hispanic	8,009	85.2%
White, Hispanic	389	4.1%
Two or More Races	258	2.8%
Black	188	2%
Asian	94	1%

92.52% of the County's population primarily speak English, while 7,48% speak other languages. Of that 7.48%, Spanish is the largest other language of 6.13% of the population.

1.2.1.1 SOCIAL VULNERABILITY

The data shows vulnerabilities in the following areas:

- Poverty status (6.62% of the population live below the poverty line, this is lower than the 12.5% national average)
- Affordable house (As of 2022, the median property value was $506,900)
- Household Income (As of 2022, the median household income was $87,169)
- Rent vs. Own (As of 2022, 80% of residents own their home while 71.3% of them have a mortgage)

1.2.2 HAZARD AND RISK OVERVIEW

This risk assessment covers the entire geographical extent of Clear Creek County.

This risk assessment methodology follows the best practices and a common, four-step process: 1) Hazard identification, 2) profiling of hazard events, 3) inventory of assets, and 4) estimation of potential human and economic losses based on the exposure and vulnerability of people, buildings, and infrastructure. **Clear Creek County organizes its emergency management program around building capabilities and reducing risk for the following 13 hazards and their impacts.** Clear Creek County does this through a capabilities-based approach, identifying the required missions and county services needed to manage all hazards in the county, creating specific service targets based on the hazard and risk information compiled in the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Hazard	Overall Risk Rating
Wildfire	High
Winter Storm	High
Flood	High
Severe Wind, Hail, & Lightning	Medium
Drought	Medium
Landslide, Mud/Debris Flow, and Rockfalls	Medium
Avalanche	Medium
Dam Incident	Medium
Earthquake	Low
Erosion and Deposition, Expansive Soil, and Subsidence	Low
Extreme Heat	Low
Tornado	Low
Space Weather	Low

The following tables describe the county hazards identified in the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan, and key points as planning considerations for each hazard.

	Hazard	Overall Significance	Key Points
Top 3 County Risks	Wildfire	High	• A total of 4,160 parcels and 4,706 buildings are located in areas exposed to wildfire risk, with a total value of approximately $1.27 billion. The greatest exposure is located in unincorporated parts of the County. • Wildfire within Clear Creek County and in adjacent counties can deter tourism and affect the local economy and air quality. • Wildfires can cause a range of secondary hazards, such as contamination of reservoirs, destabilized slopes and landslides, increased erosion, and flooding.
	Winter Storm	High	• Severe winter weather can isolate residents and travelers by closing roads into and out of the County. • Most winter storms have not resulted in reported damage, but those that do can be significant. Average annualized losses from winter storms in the County are $620,000.

Flood	High	• Countywide an estimated $11.4 million in property losses is at risk to a 1% annual chance flood hazard. The unincorporated areas of the county together make up the majority of this risk, with an estimated $7.2 million in losses.
		• Georgetown and Silver Plume are also at high risk of flooding, with estimated losses of $3.1 million and $0.6 million respectively.

Hazard	Overall Significance	Key Points
Avalanche	Medium	• Since 1950 there have been 33 avalanche fatalities in the County. • Backcountry recreationalists, road crews, and motorists along the main roadways are the most at risk to avalanche dangers. • Human actions are the most common causes of avalanches.
Dam Incident	Medium	• Approximately 2,505 people and 1,536 buildings are exposed within the dam inundation areas in the County. • A dam failure and loss of water from a critical reservoir or structure could include direct and indirect business and industry damages or disruption of the local economy and key county resources (e.g. potable water).
Drought & Extreme Heat	Medium	• Climate change may increase the frequency and severity of drought which could lead to impacts to the recreation and tourism industry. • Extreme heat events are unlikely throughout the County, and the magnitude of heat events is low.
Hail, Lightning, & Severe Wind	Medium	• There have been 148 recorded hail, lightning and severe wind events in Clear Creek County since 1972, resulting in over $16,825,000 in property damages –all from severe wind events. • Lightning events have caused 14 injuries since 1982. • 11% of Medicare Beneficiaries in the County rely on electricity-dependent medical equipment to live independently, making them vulnerable to events that may result in power outages.
Landslide, Mud/Debris Flow, and Rockfalls	Medium	• Landslides, debris flow, and rockfalls do occur with some regularity in Clear Creek County. The direct effect on the populace is low, but there is potential for severe injury or death from rockfalls. • The secondary effect of closed roads is a more likely threat, especially if the closed roads cut off emergency personnel from those who need assistance. • As incidents of wildfires increase and hillsides are void of vegetation, rain-soaked hillsides are more likely to slide resulting in increased damage countywide. • Landslides may cause negative environmental consequences, including water quality degradation.
Earthquake	Low	• Colorado has much lower seismic activity compared to other Western states. • Resulting damages to building stock and utility lifelines, and income-related losses could equate to millions of dollars based on HAZUS-MH modeling. • Earthquake risk is relatively the same across all participating jurisdictions, though impacts could be greater in areas with historic buildings and concentrations of people, such as Idaho Springs and Georgetown.

Hazard	Overall Significance	Key Points
Erosion and Deposition, Expansive Soil, and Subsidence	Low	• Overall significance of this hazard is Low, except the subsidence hazard is High for Idaho Springs, and erosion /deposition hazard is Medium for Empire and Georgetown. • Human activities greatly influence the rate and extent of erosion and deposition. • Riverine erosion can reduce water quality and impact aquatic habitat as well as impacting private property and critical infrastructure. • Abandoned mine information is incomplete. There are likely to be hazardous areas in addition to known locations. • Many older sinkholes have been covered with recent soil infilling and are completely concealed at the surface.
Space Weather	Low	• The processes that trigger space weather are continuously occurring on the surface of the sun. • NOAA monitors solar activities and issues advisories, watches, and warnings in the event of larger space weather events. • Impacts from the various types of space weather often include power outages, electrical disruptions, and disruptions to global communications networks, satellites, and GPS systems. • While space weather events occur frequently, events which impact Earth and specifically Clear Creek County occur far less frequently.
Tornado	Low	• There have been two recorded tornado events in the County since 1950. Neither resulted in property damage or injuries. • Elderly and individuals who depend on electricity for medical needs are vulnerable to power outages caused by a tornado. 11% of Medicare Beneficiaries in the County rely on electricity-dependent equipment. • All property is potentially vulnerable during tornado events, but mobile homes are disproportionately at risk due to the design of the homes. 5.5% of total housing in the County are mobile homes.

> *Additional community profile and risk information is available in the Clear Creek County Hazard Mitigation Plan.*

1.2.2.1 CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is expected to exacerbate the top hazards in Clear Creek County, Colorado. Warmer temperatures and shifting weather patterns can lead to reduced snowpack, earlier snowmelt, and drier conditions, all of which contribute to a heightened wildfire and extreme weather risk. Simultaneously, more extreme winter storms could result in heavier snowfall and more frequent blizzards, creating dangerous travel conditions and straining emergency response resources. These climate-driven hazards must be a central consideration in emergency management planning, ensuring that both mitigation strategies and response capabilities are adapted to address the growing complexity and frequency of such events. A proactive approach will help communities build resilience in the face of an evolving climate.

SECTION 2:
CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

SECTION 2: CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

2.1 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1.1 INTRODUCTION

County, state, and federal agencies are each granted unique authorities to manage emergencies. These authorities are closely coordinated between government agencies as well as with external partner organizations to ensure a emergency management strategy.

Large emergencies and disasters may require the support and resources of state and federal entities, but overall direction and control of emergency response and recovery activities is maintained by the County until the point that County indicates devolution.

2.1.2 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

The BOCC has the authority to approve the expenditure of County resources for emergency or disaster response purposes in addition to make formal local emergency declaration. They may also issue official orders or proclamations regarding population protection or temporary social restrictions, such as evacuation orders, establishment of curfew, and expenditures.

During Recovery, the BOCC has the responsibility to commit and provide direction to County government activities in support of relief efforts. They issue directives as required to County departments and personnel regarding changes in normal duties and work schedules, temporary assignments, and employment of temporary workers.

The BOCC meets with the Multi-agency Coordination (MAC) Group as needed to establish high-level response priorities, establish necessary policies and directives, and determine county-wide resourcing capabilities. If additional outside assistance is needed, the BOCC shall approve formal requests for outside assistance from other local, state, or federal jurisdictions.

2.1.2.1 LOCAL DISASTER DECLARATION

In Colorado, a Local Disaster may be declared only by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision (C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709):

A local disaster may be declared only by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision. It shall not be continued or renewed for a period in excess of 7 days except by or with the consent of the governing board of the political subdivision.

For Clear Creek County, the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) serves as the principal executive officer. In the Chair's absence, the declaration may be done by another Commissioner, or the County Manager, in that order. Likewise, the BOCC or Town Manager of a municipality may declare a Local Disaster for events that occur within their respective municipality.

The purpose of a Local Disaster declaration is to activate the response and recovery aspects of applicable local and inter-jurisdictional disaster plans and to authorize the furnishing and funding of assistance. A Local Disaster declaration should be issued when resources are expected to be seriously depleted and there is potential danger to people due to an emergency incident. Official notification and declaration of the event by the BOCC is crucial to effective mutual-aid response from the Federal, State and local governmental agencies. A Local Disaster declaration may trigger future administrative policies and financial mechanisms and is a step in the process for obtaining extensive state or federal assistance.

While the Emergency Management Director or Sheriff makes a recommendation to the BOCC on whether a local

disaster declaration is warranted; only the BOCC can make a local disaster declaration. If the BOCC is unavailable to make a timely decision, the County Manager can make the decision and inform the BOCC at the earliest opportunity.

A Local Disaster Declaration can be varied and the criteria that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has provided with input from Federal Disaster Law "restricts the use of arithmetical formulas or other objective standards as the sole basis for determining the need for Federal supplemental aid." FEMA assesses numerous factors which assist in determining severity, magnitude, and impact of a disaster event, and include, but are not limited to:

- Amount and type of damage (e.g. number of homes destroyed).
- Impact on the infrastructure of affected areas or critical facilities.
- Imminent threats to public health and safety.
- Impacts to essential government services and functions.
- Unique capability of the Federal government.
- Dispersion or concentration of damage.
- Level of insurance coverage in place for homeowners and public facilities.
- Assistance available from other sources (federal, state, local, voluntary organizations).
- State and Local resource commitments from previous, undeclared events.
- Frequency of disaster events over recent time period.

A local disaster declaration is not required to activate the EOC or the EOP. But a local disaster declaration automatically activates both the EOC and EOP.

2.1.3 CLEAR CREEK COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

The Clear Creek County Manager's Office is responsible for ensuring the BOCC responsibilities stated above are fulfilled in the absence of the BOCC. This Office advises the BOCC as soon as practical of the nature and status of the emergency.

They may also commit emergency funds to support emergency response and recovery efforts including supporting the EOC. The Clear Creek County Manager's Office may mobilize and commit county resources (personnel and equipment) for the purpose of stabilizing, resolving, and recovering from the dangers presented by the emergency or disaster.

Ultimately, the Clear Creek County Manager's Office maintains overall responsibility for all county operations and coordinates the dissemination of all public information regarding Clear Creek County government operations. The Clear Creek County Manager's Office will be available for regular status briefings at the EOC and provide guidance and direction as required.

In Recovery, this office shall coordinate post-emergency or disaster recovery functions with assignments to specific offices and departments.

2.1.4 CLEAR CREEK COUNTY ASSESSOR

The Clear Creek County Assessor shall contribute personnel, records, and other resources to support the damage assessment function (participation on EOC damage assessment teams).

2.1.5 CLEAR CREEK COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER

The Clear Creek County Clerk and Recorder shall provide for safe keeping of vital records.

2.1.6 CLEAR CREEK COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

The Clear Creek County Attorney's Office shall provide legal counsel and assistance to BOCC and to other county officials before, during, and after disaster and emergency incidents in the county. They will draft or review emergency contracts, memoranda of understanding, and intergovernmental agreements and prepare other legal documents (disaster declarations, resolutions, or regulations to facilitate emergency response operations).

2.1.7 CLEAR CREEK COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (OEM)

The Clear Creek County Office of Emergency Management shall activate and manage the EOC and this plan. They coordinate and assist JeffCom 911 communications center with the disseminate emergency public messaging as specified in the JeffCom Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) 200-24 "Lookout Alert System". They coordinate the attainment and delivery of resources required to support the Incident Commander's objectives.

OEM shall coordinate the completion of a Rapid Needs Assessment in order to assess damages to critical infrastructure, public impact, and response capabilities to inform a local disaster declaration. They will establish communication with the Colorado Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) for the provision of status reports and requesting assistance as necessary.

OEM or via the EOC shall open emergency shelters as required and provide guidance and direction to EOC staff, including that required for resource management, damage assessment, intergovernmental coordination, hazard mitigation, and other emergency management functions.

OEM shall serve as liaison between the EOC and Incident Command, ensuring the EOC is aware of the priorities and objectives of Incident Command, and that Incident Command is aware of the status of resources requested. They also serve as liaison between Incident Command and the BOCC, working through the County Manager and Sheriff.

2.1.7.1 PRE-DECLARATION EMERGENCY AUTHORITY OF OEM

The pre-declaration emergency authority of the Office of Emergency Management consists of:

- Implementing the Emergency Operations Plan.
- Activating the Emergency Operations Center.
- Convening the Multi-agency Coordination Group.
- Opening evacuation centers and shelters.
- Ordering and mobilizing resources, requesting mutual aid, and approving emergency spending to effectively respond to the emergency or disaster.
  - Spending is consistent with *Clear Creek County Resolution 2020-103: Resolution Adopting Revised Purchasing Guidelines*, November 30, 2020.

2.1.8 CLEAR CREEK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office oversees the Couty's OEM. The Sheriff's Office oversees all law enforcement responsibilities in unincorporated Clear Creek County and may be asked to support local municipality law enforcement as needed. The Sheriff, or designee, and OEM work closely with county leadership to build and implement emergency management capabilities for the County.

2.1.9 CLEAR CREEK COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The Clear Creek County Planning Department shall participation in long-term disaster recovery and hazard mitigation planning and flood plain administration to ensure the compatibility of community redevelopment plans and hazard mitigation measures with the comprehensive county land use plan and other community development plans.
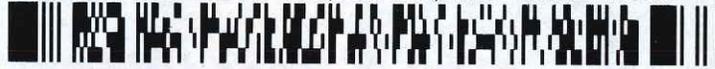
2.1.10 CLEAR CREEK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES (HR)

The Clear Creek County Department of Human Resources shall ensure emergency response compliance with existing policies that are applicable to labor laws, worker's compensation, and County employees. They may develop and implement policies for employees working extended hours and possibly performing duties outside their job descriptions. They develop and implement policies for possible remote, telework, or reassignment. Lastly, HR will coordinate all insurance actions pertaining to County property through existing insurance policies and claim process.

2.1.11 CLEAR CREEK COUNTY FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Clear Creek County Finance Department will revise purchasing or contracting policies or procedures to accommodate emergency needs, document all disaster purchases, and assign a special project number to track all county-related disaster expenses. They will document all employee hours worked on a disaster and be familiar with state or federal disaster finance guidance, forms, rules, procedures, and deadlines. The Clear Creek County Finance Department shall provide staff to lead the Finance and Administration section of the EOC.

2.1.12 CLEAR CREEK COUNTY DEPARTMENTS

Resolution R-05-137 adopted NIMS for responses to multi-jurisdictional and/or multiagency incidents. Departments must implement NIMS into their procedures, guidelines, Incident Action Plans, trainings, exercises, mutual aid agreements, and resource management procedures.

Furthermore, county departments must familiarize themselves with the provisions of this plan and ensure that they maintain the ability to perform their assigned responsibilities. This includes retaining the appropriate number of essential staff during an emergency and providing these staff members with equipment, training and support necessary to accomplish their assigned tasks. Departmental emergency management tasks and legal authorities are enumerated in Section 3.2 of this plan.

2.1.13 SPECIAL DISTRICTS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The success of Clear Creek County's emergency management effort is contingent on strong partnerships and coordination with NGOs, including Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOADs), and Special Districts. Many of County's essential services, such Schools, Fire, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), are provided by special districts that daily serve the people of Clear Creek County. Similarly, NGOs operating within the County provide key services such as mass care support, disaster casework, and housing assistance.

Special districts and some NGOs are responsible for fulfilling their missions to the community even during emergencies. Each organization is expected to develop and exercise continuity, response, and recovery plans to ensure a high level of readiness. During an emergency, the County may call upon local NGOs and special districts to provide resources to assist in response and recovery efforts and/or provide liaisons to the EOC. The County also encourages these organizations to align their emergency planning with the Clear Creek County EOP to ensure there is a coordinated countywide response to emergencies.

2.1.14 MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS

Municipal Governments may assign an emergency management point of contact between the municipality and the County, and actively participate in the emergency management system. They may coordinate and integrate emergency management activities of the municipality with County emergency management through all phases of emergency management.

Municipalities shall provide OEM with current copies of any emergency operating guidelines, emergency contact information, and lists of critical resources. This will ensure incident management activities are conducted using

NIMS concepts and principles.

They ensure that OEM is kept informed of situations that require (or may potentially require) countywide coordination and/or the activation of the EOC. Municipal Governments also ensure that, during a disaster, response activities (including requests for assistance, and public information efforts) are coordinated with Clear Creek County, and that situation reports, damage assessments, and requests for County, State and/or Federal assistance are channeled through Clear Creek County.

2.1.15 HOSPITALS AND HEALTHCARE CLINICS

Hospitals and healthcare clinics maintain internal EOPs. The County does not have any hospitals, and transports to hospitals in surrounding counites. Additionally, the CommonSpirit Primary Care health clinic in Idaho Springs is maintained by CommonSpirit and maybe asked to support medical support needs during emergencies within the County.

2.1.16 PRIVATE SECTOR

Most resources needed to manage an emergency within County are owned by the private sector, and the maintenance or restoration of private enterprise following an emergency is essential to the County's recovery. Although county government does not exercise direct oversight of the private sector, there are certain expectations and requests that the County makes of businesses within its jurisdiction.

Businesses are expected foremost to provide for their own well-being and that of their employees. All businesses are also strongly encouraged to develop a comprehensive business continuity plan that is regularly exercised and addresses all hazards and threats facing the business and its employees. By investing in continuity, businesses can mitigate the impact of an emergency and expedite the County's overall recovery.

The County may also call upon the private sector to actively participate in emergency response and recovery. Some businesses, such as utility and communication providers, provide essential services with well-defined emergency roles. Other businesses have goods and services that may be called upon to fulfill infrequent emergency needs. In both circumstances, the County requests that businesses explore ways to support their community during emergencies and be ready to respond to requests for resources from the EOC. Emergency coordination with the private sector is managed through the EOC's Liaison Section, and, in certain circumstances, businesses may also be requested to provide liaisons to the EOC.

2.1.17 INDIVIDUAL PEOPLE

Individual people and families are the fundamental building blocks of Clear Creek County and the foundation of the County's emergency preparedness. The County strongly encourages the community to take this role seriously by preparing themselves, their families, and their neighborhoods for emergencies. As part of this responsibility, the County urges everyone to maintain three or more days of emergency supplies capable of sustaining each household in the event access is interrupted to utilities, communications, financial institutions, stores and government services. Prepared residents and tourists are more able to protect their own lives and property and therefore reduce the strain on community resources during an emergency. This allows the County to focus on aiding under resourced populations and those most directly impacted by the emergency.

2.1.18 STATE OF COLORADO

When local and mutual aid resources are exhausted or anticipated to be exhausted, Clear Creek County may reach out to the State of Colorado for assistance. The Governor of Colorado, in accordance with C.R.S. § 24-33.5 704, is the state official responsible for addressing threats and hazards to the state and its people and possesses the authority to declare a "disaster emergency" and subsequently implement any of the following measures:

- Suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders, rules, or regulations of any state agency, if strict compliance with those provisions would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action to cope with the emergency.

- Utilize all available resources of the state government and of each political subdivision of the state as reasonably necessary to cope with the disaster emergency.

- Transfer the direction, personnel, or functions of state departments and agencies or units thereof for the purpose of performing or facilitating emergency services.

- Subject to any applicable requirements for compensation under C.R.S. § 24-33.5-711, commandeer or utilize any private property if the governor finds this necessary to cope with the disaster emergency.

- Direct and/or compel the evacuation of all or part of the population from any stricken or threatened area in the state if the governor deems this action necessary for the preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response or recovery.

- Prescribe routes, modes of transportation, and destinations in connection with evacuation.

- Control ingress to and egress from a disaster area, the movement of persons within the area, and the occupancy of premises therein.

- Suspend or limit the sale, dispensing or transportation of alcoholic beverages, firearms, explosives, or combustibles.

- Make provisions for the availability and use of temporary emergency housing.

- Determine the percentage at which the state and a local government will contribute money to cover the non-federal cost share required by the federal "Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act", as amended, 42 U.S.C. §. 5121 et seq., required by the federal highway administration pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 125, or required by any other federal law in order to receive federal disaster relief funds.

The State of Colorado may also reach out to other states and territories for resources through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) or request federal resources through a presidential emergency or major disaster declaration.

In the event of a public health emergency, under the provisions of C.R.S. § 24-33.5-704, the governor may also choose to activate the Governor's Expert Emergency Epidemic Response Committee (GEEERC) to provide expert advice and guidance.

2.1.19 UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

If local and state resources are exhausted or anticipated to be exhausted, the State of Colorado, in coordination Clear Creek County and all other affected local jurisdictions, may request assistance from the federal government. The President, as the chief executive of the United States, may, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 5192, exercise any of the following authorities to address an emergency:

- Direct any federal agency, with or without reimbursement, to utilize its authorities and the resources granted to it under federal law (including personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and managerial, technical and advisory services) in support of state and local emergency assistance efforts to save lives, protect property and public health and safety, and lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe, including precautionary evacuations.

- Coordinate all disaster relief assistance (including voluntary efforts) provided by federal agencies, private organizations, and state and local governments.

- Provide technical and advisory assistance to affected state and local governments for:
    - The performance of essential community services.
    - Issuance of warnings of risks or hazards.
    - Public health and safety information, including dissemination of such information.

- o Provision of health and safety measures.
  - o Management, control and reduction of immediate threats to public health and safety.
- Provide emergency assistance through federal agencies.
- Remove debris in accordance with the terms and conditions of 42 U.S.C. § 5173.
- Provide individual and household assistance in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 5174.
- Assist state and local governments in the distribution of medicine, food and other consumable supplies and emergency assistance.
- Provide accelerated federal assistance and federal support where necessary to save lives, prevent human suffering or mitigate severe damage, which may be provided in the absence of a specific request and in which case the President:
  - o Shall, to the fullest extent practicable, promptly notify and coordinate with a state in which such assistance or support is provided.
  - o Shall not, in notifying and coordinating with a state, delay or impede the rapid deployment, use and distribution of critical resources to victims of an emergency.

In exercising his or her authority under 42 U.S.C. § 5121, et seq., the President may grant requests from the Governor of the State of Colorado for either an Emergency Declaration or Major Disaster Declaration. These presidential declarations permit federal agencies to deploy personnel and resources to support disaster response and recovery. Presidential declarations also open federal funding streams and cost sharing for assistance directly to individuals, known as Individual Assistance (IA); assistance directly to local and state governments and qualifying non-profits, known as Public Assistance (PA); and funding to prevent future disasters through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). PA and IA each have multiple subcategories of funding that County may or may not qualify for even after receiving a presidential declaration.

- **Emergency Declaration:** 42 U.S.C. § 5193 allows the President to spend up to $5 million (without reporting to Congress) to protect lives, property, public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of catastrophe. Potential PA reimbursement under an Emergency Declaration is limited to expenditures for Category A (debris removal) and Category B (emergency protective measures). Potential IA assistance is limited to the Individuals and Households Program (IHP). No HMGP funding is made available for an Emergency Declaration.

- **Major Disaster Declaration:** 42 U.S.C. § 5170a allows the President to make available federal assistance and cost shares to address a wide array of emergency response and recovery needs that exceed local and state capabilities. In the event that Clear Creek County is declared a federal disaster area, federal departments and agencies may make available resources and assistance to augment those of the county and the state. Potential PA reimbursement under a Major Disaster Declaration includes expenses related to Category A (debris removal), Category B (emergency protective measures), Category C (roads and bridges), Category D (water control facilities), Category E (public building and contents), Category F (public utilities) and Category G (parks, recreational, and other facilities). Potential IA assistance under a Major Disaster Declaration includes Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP), Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA), Disaster Legal Services (DLS), Disaster Case Management (DCM), Individuals and Households Program (IHP) and Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP). HMGP funding may also be available after the emergency to assist in preventing future disasters.

Apart from presidential declarations, numerous federal agencies can provide disaster assistance. The following federal agencies may separately provide grants and loans to individuals, local governments, and certain NGOs.

- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS): If disease or disorder presents a public health emergency, including significant outbreaks of infectious disease or bioterrorism attacks, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) may exercise his or her authority under 42 U.S.C. Ch 6A § 201, et seq. to declare a public health state of emergency. A public health state of emergency allows DHHS to access emergency funding and waive or modify certain privacy rules and other regulations under

Medicare, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). HHS may also provide states and municipalities with large quantities of pharmaceutical and medical supplies known as the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), assistance in evacuating large numbers of sick or injured patients through the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS), or technical expertise to guide local and state decision makers.

- Small Business Administration (SBA): The SBA may use its authority under 15 U.S.C. § 633(c) to separately issue disaster assistance in the form of:
    - Physical Loans: Loans to businesses owners, homeowners, renters and qualifying non-profits for physical damage sustained to their property during a disaster.
    - Economic Injury Loans: Loans to businesses for economic injury sustained during a disaster.
- Department of Agriculture (USDA): The USDA's Rural Development, Farm Service Agency, and Natural Resource Conservation Service may implement one or more assistance programs focused on removing debris or restoring forests, farmland, water quality, grazing land, livestock herds or crops. (7 U.S.C. § 1531-7333; 16 U.S.C. § 2201-3893; 19 U.S.C. § 2497a)
- Highway Administration: The Federal Highway Administration may, subject to the provisions of 23 U.S.C. § 120(e) and 125, issue funding through the Emergency Relief Program to repair federal-aid highways and roads on federal lands that are damaged due to natural hazards or other external cause.
- Office for Victims of Crime: Following events of mass violence or terrorism, 34 U.S.C. § 20101 allows for grants to be provided directly to victims, local governments or victims assistance organizations by the Office for Victims of Crime. Office for Victims of Crime funding is administered through the Colorado Department of Public Safety's Division of Criminal Justice.

While overall management and command authority for incidents within Clear Creek County rests with the County, the federal government may exercise jurisdiction over aspects of an emergency response in certain situations. These situations include:

- Investigating acts of terror: 50 U.S.C. § 401 and Presidential EO 12333 gives the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) authority to oversee investigations related to acts of terror. All other response and recovery functions related to acts of terror within Clear Creek County are managed by the County.
- National states of emergency: In certain nationwide crises, most notably an attack by a foreign nation, the President's powers under Article II of the US Constitution and 50 U.S.C. § 1601-1651 gives the federal government more direct control over local affairs and emergency response decisions.

2.2 EMERGENCY ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

Multi-Agency Coordination occurs at multiple levels during emergencies. Multi-Agency Coordination Groups can coordination response functions as well as bring together the Countywide Coordination Group (CCG) for incident pre-planning and pre-incident response. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) provides a rigid structure for responses that supports on-scene incident response.

2.2.1 MULTI-AGENCY COORDINATION STRUCTURES

2.2.1.1 INTRODUCTION

The management of incidents, crises, events, emergencies, and or declared disasters within the County requires coordination among on-scene resources, agency operations, multi-agency coordination structures, public information entities, and policy makers. The concerted effort of the multiple organizations needed to accomplish these key emergency management tasks is known as a Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Groups. Clear Creek County adheres to the principles of NIMS in organizing its MAC Groups.

✓ DO	🚫 DO NOT
• Act as a policy-level body to the EOC; address when a policy doesn't exist or doesn't work. • Provide strategic guidance to the EOC. • Authorize spending limits and parameters to the EOC. • Support scarce resource prioritization and allocation. • Enable decision-making among elected and appointed officials.	• Direct on-scene activities. • Perform incident command functions. • Replace the primary functions of operations, coordination, or dispatch organizations. • Micro-manage Incident Command or the EOC. • Order supplies, personnel, or other resources.

The Clear Creek County EOC provides multi agency coordination through the following functions:

- **Resource Support:** Identify, acquire, prioritize and allocate needed and anticipated support resources.
- **Developing and Maintaining Situational Awareness:** Information from various sources must be displayed and shared with the appropriate audiences to promote increased understanding and awareness of the current situation.
- **Emergency Support Function Coordination:** The EOC provides coordination and management for ESFs activated in support of the incident.
- **Managing Information:** The EOC must have processes in place to collect, analyze, and preserve information.
- **Policy Coordination:** Policy directives are reflected within the EOC's operations.

The County MAC Group members typically include agency administrators or executives from stakeholder agencies impacted by and with resources committed to the incident. The MAC Group may also include representatives from non-governmental organizations. Countywide multi-agency emergency management operations are conducted through several organized structures that facilitate a flexible, adaptable way of managing a wide range of crises and emergencies. The sections below comprise the many ways the County maintains and implements a modular, coordinated multi-agency coordination system.

2.2.1.2 COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROECTION PLANS (CWPPS)

A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is a strategic document developed by a community in collaboration with local governments, fire departments, landowners, and state or federal agencies to address the risk of wildfires. The plan identifies areas vulnerable to wildfire, assesses hazards, and outlines actions to reduce wildfire risks, such as vegetation management, improved emergency response, and public education. CWPPs are designed to protect lives, property, and natural resources by prioritizing fire mitigation efforts, fostering collaboration, and promoting resilience against wildfires. These plans are tailored to the unique needs and characteristics of each community. Clear Creek County's CWPP is due to be approved in early 2025 and has been done through CCFA. Evergreen Fire Protection District has completed its own CWPP which is due to be approved in late 2024 and will be integrated into the Jefferson County CWPP.

2.2.1.3 COUNTYWIDE COORDINATION GROUP

In some cases, the county may receive notification of an incident or event that agencies can handle with internal resources but requires enhanced countywide communication and coordination. The Countywide Coordination Group (CCG) is designed as the point of coordination for these types of situations and may be established for days, weeks,

or months. The group's intent is to remain flexible and scalable, incorporating agencies as needed based on current or projected incident or event needs and impacts.

The CCG can address both short- or no-notice incidents as well as long-term events. However, it is important to note that for incidents with unknown extent of impact or imminent threats to life safety, the County may immediately escalate to the EOC.

Most emergency response operations are adequately managed through a single responding unit or with support from other first responders, organizations, and departments within the County. Clear Creek County first responder agency leadership, and designee, are part of JeffCom's Major Incident Paging system. If an incident or emergency rises to a level of severity as determined in the JeffCom SOP 200-8 "Major Incident Paging," JeffCom will notify via CAD the core group of Clear Creek County response leadership. This includes command staff from law enforcement agencies, public information officers, emergency management, EMS, and fire agencies. The Clear Creek County Emergency Management Director assists with maintaining the list for Major Incident Paging and communicates updates and needs directly JeffCom on an as needed basis. JeffCom retains the responsibility to order resources through CAD and refers any requests they cannot fill to the EOC. The Emergency Management Director activates the EOC to the appropriate level, and the EOC assumes the responsibilities of ordering and tracking resources that JeffCom cannot fill. The EOC and Incident Commander assess:

- Extent and severity of the hazard and the Clear Creek County response capabilities available.
- Additional resources required immediately.
- Any additional public emergency notifications that are required, to include the affected population, specific actions to take, and where to get additional information.
- The need for a local disaster declaration.
- OEM coordinates this group in a unified command with another lead agency or agencies. They are empowered to make decisions, coordinate and lead stakeholder agencies, and are responsible for reviewing and approving all related communications.

2.2.1.4 MUTUAL AID

A Mutual Aid Agreement (MAA) or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) are essential components of emergency management planning, response, and recovery activities. These agreements provide reciprocal emergency aid and assistance during an emergency or disaster. They can increase available resources and improve response and recovery efforts.

Mutual aid requests are coordinated through JeffCom 911 communications center, the Clear Creek County Office of Emergency Management, or the EOC if activated. To request mutual aid, Clear Creek County uses the following process:

The party seeking mutual aid shall make the request directly to the party providing the aid in coordination with the JeffCom 911 communications center, the Clear Creek County Office of Emergency Management, or the EOC if activated.

Requests may be verbal or in writing. If verbal, the request shall be confirmed in writing no later than thirty (30) calendar days following the verbal request unless otherwise stated according to policies or resolutions.

All communication shall be conducted directly between recipient and provider in coordination with the JeffCom 911 communications center, the Clear Creek County Office of Emergency Management, or the EOC if activated. The Recipient shall be responsible for keeping all parties advised of the status of mutual aid activities.

2.2.1.5 POLICY ADVISORY GROUP

Larger incidents may require activation of the Policy Advisory Group which consists of elected and appointed officials

within the County and other counties if it is a multi-county event. The Clear Creek County Manager leads this group. The purpose of this group is to provide policy guidance to the EOC. Elected officials play a critical role in fiscal decision-making and priorities during disaster response and recovery. Response and recovery efforts that fall outside the purview of the Incident Command staff(s) may require the involvement of elected officials.

The Sheriff and the Director of Emergency Management provide advice and technical assistance to the Policy Advisory Group on the use of County resources during an emergency or disaster incident. The Clear Creek County Board of Commissioners is the ultimate authority for the approval and use of County resources and assets.

If a disaster occurs within an incorporated (municipal) area of the County, the Policy Advisory Group works with officials from these jurisdictions to coordinate declarations of emergencies and disasters. The incorporated (municipal) area, and Special Districts, must also declare a state of emergency or disaster to receive reimbursement from the State or Federal government.

The Policy Group coordinates with the EOC and provides information for briefings and situation reports and maintains accurate records of all correspondence and decisions.

2.2.1.6 DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY

If needed, a Delegation of Authority facilitates the transition between incident management agencies. It is a written transfer of management authority of an incident to a designated Incident Commander. Delegation of Authority is provided to the Incident Commander by the Agency Executive delegating authority and assigning responsibilities. The Delegation of Authority should include objectives, priorities, expectations, constraints, cost share arrangements, turn back goals and other considerations or guidelines as needed. The purpose of the Delegation of Authority is for a designated body to manage the incident from objectives provided by the requesting Authority Having Jurisdiction (i.e., Clear Creek County). A Delegation of Authority should include the following:

- Legal authorities and restrictions.
- Financial authorities and restrictions.
- Reporting requirements.
- Demographic overview and potential issues.
- Political implications.
- Agency or jurisdictional priorities.
- Plan for public information management.
- Process for communications.
- Plan for ongoing incident evaluation.
- Termination conditions.

A Delegation of Authority is not an abdication of responsibility or authority; it is a means of assurance in an emergency setting by providing for an assignment with prescribed conditions and limitations. The authority granted must be broad enough to ensure that local policy and priorities can be effectively and feasibly implemented. The Delegation of Authority should also provide for the accountability of personnel and equipment, limitations to scope, and the power of review and termination.

Wildland Fire Incident

For a wildfire event that has exceeded the capability of the local Fire Protection District (FPD), the FPD's Chief or designee may request that the Sheriff's Office assume control and financial responsibility for the incident. If agreed, the Sheriff, or designee, and the FPD Chief, or designee, must sign a Delegation of Authority. It is possible to conduct a Delegation of Authority over the phone or radio with two representatives, however, in such circumstances; both parties must officially sign the document as soon as possible.

Once the Sheriff's Office has assumed responsibility for the wildfire incident, the Sheriff's Office shall assume financial responsibility for firefighting efforts and shall assign a local Incident Management Team (IMT) to provide the command-and-control infrastructure required to manage the wildfire (C.R.S 30-10-513).

When a wildfire exceeds the capability of the county to control or extinguish, the Sheriff, or designee, will seek the support of the State by requesting assistance from the Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC). If a transfer of authority and responsibility for fire suppression to DFPC is agreed upon, the Sheriff, or designee, and the Director of DFPC, or designee, shall sign an Assumption of Fire Control Duty.

2.2.1.7 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Emergency Support Function Overview

Emergency Support Functions (ESF) provide a common framework for all-hazards response and recovery. The 15 ESF categories correlate with those in the National Response Framework and the State Emergency Operations Plan. Clear Creek County has created an additional ESF for management of volunteers and donations. The Director of Emergency Management activates ESFs depending on the incident support needs.

Primary and Supporting agencies have been identified for each ESF in the Plan. The term Agency is used for simplicity; it could refer to an office, department, division, section, or other term to denote a governmental entity. For accountability, each ESF is led by a government agency. Primary and supporting agencies are responsible for preparing additional operating guidelines, checklists, staffing patterns, and resource requirements needed to complete assignments. Each agency is responsible for carrying out the tasks assigned by this EOP, with the coordinating lead agency having primary responsibility for organizing that effort.

Clear Creek County Emergency Support Functions	
ESF 1: Transportation	ESF 10: Hazardous Materials
ESF 2: Technology and Communications	ESF 11: Animals and Agriculture
ESF 3: Public Works and Utilities	ESF 12: Energy
ESF 4: Fire Fighting	ESF 13: Evacuation and Security
ESF 5: Information and Planning	ESF 14: Recovery
ESF 6: Sheltering and Mass Care	ESF 15: Public Information and Media Management
ESF 7: Resource Ordering and Logistics	ESF 16: Volunteer and Donations Management
ESF 8: Health and Medical Services	
ESF 9: Search and Rescue	

All municipalities, Town and County departments, constitutional officers, agencies and other organizations fall under the direction of the coordinating agency designated in the Plan. The Clear Creek County Office of Emergency Management will coordinate with State, Federal and other outside agencies.

Purpose

The Clear Creek County EOC provides government officials with a centralized location to analyze critical incident information, facilitate the decision-making process, and coordinate response and short-term recovery activities. The EOC serves as the principal point from which to coordinate assignments in support of Incident Command, and to proactively plan for consequence management for community stabilization; conduct resource ordering, tracking, and management; and to facilitate the activities of private and volunteer organizations in the delivery of emergency

assistance to affected areas.

The Emergency Management Director activates the EOC to the appropriate level based on the incident, assigns an EOC Manager, and activates necessary Emergency Support Functions (ESFs). The EOC Manager has wide authority to maintain a structure within the EOC that best meets the needs for assistance and resource management support for Incident Command. The EOC Manager coordinates and manages all personnel within the EOC. Resource requests are coordinated through the EOC.

The following are possible criteria for activation of the Emergency Operations Center:

- A County emergency declaration is made
- Coordination of response activities are needed
- Resource coordination is needed to respond to an event.

The organizational structure of the EOC is modular, extending to incorporate all elements necessary for the type, size, scope, and complexity of a given incident. The core organizational structure of the EOC is organized by Emergency Support Functions (ESF)s. The organizational structure can be condensed, expanded, or reconfigured as needed.

Location(s)

The OEM and Clear Creek Fire Authority (CCFA) maintains the primary EOC facility for Clear Creek County. The Primary EOC is located in Dumont at CCFA Station 1. The County is currently working on identifying an alternate EOC location.

Graphic 2. Primary EOC

Activation Thresholds and Levels

Like the ICS structure, the EOC is scalable, modular, and flexible to meet the demands of each emergency. The EOC is comprised of three shifts (first shift, second shift and alternate shift) that are capable of alternating for sustained 24-hour operations consisting of 12-hour operational periods, or other operational period rotations determined by the needs of the incident or event.

CCC EOC Activation Levels			
Activation Level*	Conditions	Actions	Staffing
Level 1: Full	An event or emergency requiring large-scale mutual aid, increased levels of operational coordination, or significant state or federal assistance	• Coordinate all participating representatives (government, private sector, non-profit, volunteers) in support of the incident • Maintain overall situational awareness of incident • Compile, analyze, and share incident information • Communicate with all participating and appropriate partner representatives • Order and track incident resources • Coordinate Joint Information System	OEM personnel and most or all ESFs
Level 2: Partial	An event or disaster is imminent or has occurred	• Coordinate County activities in support of the incident • Establish operational tempo (including communication schedule) • Monitor resources (assets and personnel) availability • Order and track incident resources • Collect, analyze and disseminate information • Create Incident Support Plan • Develop Situation Reports	OEM personnel and essential ESFs
Level 3: Watch	An event or disaster is probable	• Monitor tactical radios • Monitor WebEOC • Coordinate with state Regional Field Manager	Minimal staffing -- OEM only

Staff are encouraged to understand the full scope of hazards that may impact the county and require an EOC activation.

Clear Creek County personnel may be reassigned by the County Manager's Office to provide support to the EOC during an EOC activation.

The EOC is intended to provide an effective way to communicate and coordinate response and initial recovery operations. It is also the intent to minimize the activation time of the EOC so that the ESF representatives can get back to their normal duties as soon as possible and minimize the disruption to their normal business activities. As ESF participation requirements are reduced to a point that the representatives can provide any continued support virtually or as a part of their normal business functions they will be deactivated by the EOC Manager. At the point where remaining response activities and recovery operations could be effectively managed without a continuous presence at the EOC then the EOC will be deactivated.

A local disaster declaration is not required to activate the EOC or the EOP. But a local disaster declaration automatically activates both the EOC and EOP.

Structure and Organization

Office of Emergency Management Director (or designee) activates the EOC to the appropriate level based on the incident, and immediately notifies the County Manager and County Sheriff, at a minimum. Any County department or division head may request the OEM Director activate the EOC.

During activation, the EOC provides multi-agency coordination; emergency function coordination; communication;
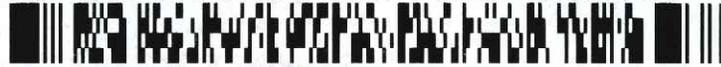
resource ordering and tracking; and information collection, analysis and dissemination. Based on the size and scope of the incident, the EOC activates and operates at one of three levels:

- Level 1: Full Activation
- Level 2: Partial Activation
- Level 3: Watch

The OEM Director determines the level of operation of the EOC based on the situation assessment and best available information.

Policy Advisory Group
(Elected Officials, Managers, Legal, Others)

Joint Information Center/System

EOC Manager

Public Information Officer
ESF 15 – Public Information & Media Management

Planning Section
- ESF 5 – Information and Planning
- Situational Awareness

Resource Support Section
- ESF 7 – Resource Ordering & Logistics
- ESF 16 – Volunteer & Donations Management

Operations Section

Emergency Services Branch
- ESF 4 – Firefighting
- ESF 9 – Search and Rescue
- ESF 10 – Hazardous Materials
- ESF 13 – Evacuation and Security

Human Services Branch
- ESF 6 – Sheltering and Mass Care
- ESF 8 – Health & Medical Services
- ESF 11 – Animals and Agriculture

Infrastructure Branch
- ESF 1 – Transportation
- ESF 2 – Communications and I.T.
- ESF 3 – Public Works and Utilities
- ESF 12 – Energy

Finance and Administration Section

Graphic 3. Emergency Operations Center Organization Chart

The five EOC Sections comprise the following:

Associated Color	Section
Red	• **EOC Operations Section:** The EOC Operations Section is the coordination conduit between the EOC and the response organizations in the field. The EOC Operations Section provides updates from the public and private organizations involved in emergency response activities to track progress towards achieving the EOC's strategic objectives. Additionally, the EOC Operations Section identifies unmet response needs and works with the Resource Support section to meet them.
Dark Blue	• **EOC Resource Support Section:** The EOC Resource Support Section is responsible for ordering, tracking and overseeing delivery of all resources requested through the EOC. Departments may deploy their internal resources or other resources for which there are pre-existing agreements without processing the request through the EOC Resource Support Section. Similarly, communication centers and DOCs may order resources without going through the EOC. The EOC Resource Support Section coordinates with the EOC Finance and Administration Section to track expenditures and adhere to spending limits.
Yellow	• **EOC Planning Section:** The EOC Plans Section is responsible for gathering status updates from the other EOC sections, forecasting future incident demands and creating plans to accomplish the EOC's strategic objectives for each upcoming operational period. The Plans Section prepares EOC Action Plans and situation reports. In addition, the Plans Section begins planning recovery actions during the initial response phase of an emergency.
Green	• **EOC Finance and Administration Section:** The EOC Finance and Administration Section is responsible for managing all emergency expenditures by setting purchase limits, tracking costs and managing claims. The EOC Finance and Administration Section is also responsible for coordinating with the Plans Section to quantify damage estimates to determine possible eligibility for state and federal disaster assistance programs.
Gray	• **EOC Public Information Officer:** The EOC Public Information Officer fulfills the ESF 15 role and is responsible for all emergency communications.

Joint Information System/Joint Information Center

The Joint Information System provides the mechanism for integrating public information activities among Joint Information Centers, across jurisdictions, and with private-sector and non-governmental organizations. Coordination of public information and media interaction is critical and is a function of a Joint Information System (JIS). The JIS may be a virtual organization in which the Public Information Officers (PIOs) of various organizations collaborate via telephone, e-mail or other electronic modes.

If a physical location is established for the JIS, it is denoted as the Joint Information Center (JIC). The EOC Director, in coordination with the ICP will activate the JIS/JIC. The JIS/JIC operation creates and delivers uniform and timely emergency and public safety messages and serves as the central point of public information collection and dissemination. The PIO is responsible for obtaining approval of all information releases from the field under the direction of the Incident Commander.

Depending on the incident, representatives from each jurisdiction, agency, private sector organization, and/or non-governmental organizations involved in incident management activities are to be notified and requested to have their JIC representative respond to the EOC within a reasonable period of time. Communication may be accomplished via the Emergency Alert System, radio, cable override, television, fax, Internet, telephone or any other means available.

The EOC, through the PIO, works closely with local media providers to ensure timely and accurate information is provided to the public. The PIO Officer notifies media outlets that all inquiries are to be directed to the JIC. The JIC releases media updates on a routine basis and when noteworthy events take place. Members of the media will not be allowed access to the EOC.

2.2.1.8 PARTNER EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTERS

Hospitals, special districts, neighboring cities and municipalities, private organizations, and the State of Colorado may open their own EOCs during an emergency. The County does not have oversight of these EOCs; however, the County's EOC Director is tasked with communicating the County's EOC's strategic objectives to partner EOCs and coordinating joint efforts to accomplish them.

2.2.1.9 INCIDENT MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE TEAMS

Incident Management Assistance Teams (IMATs) are small groups of FEMA personnel (typically about 10 members) that deploy to the state EOC during a large emergency that may require federal assistance. An IMAT's primary responsibility is to coordinate with the local and state EOCs to support the deployment of federal resources to assist in response and recovery efforts. IMATs do not possess direction and control authority. Instead, an IMAT supports the county and state as they exercise their respective emergency management responsibilities and authorities. The County coordinates with IMAT teams through the State EOC Liaison.

2.2.1.10 JOINT FIELD OFFICE

During presidentially declared disasters, FEMA may establish a Joint Field Office (JFO) to coordinate recovery operations among federal, state and local entities. There is typically only one JFO for a disaster area, and the JFO may not be located within the County. The JFO does not manage on-scene recovery operations or provide services directly to people. Instead, the JFO focuses on providing support to on-scene efforts and conducting broader support operations that may extend beyond the incident site. The JFO also coordinates the resources and information being distributed throughout the disaster region including at Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs). The County's Planning Section is responsible for coordination with the JFO.

2.2.1.11 INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

The ICS as defined in the NIMS establishes a structure for how all incidents throughout the county are managed. The ICS is based on the principle of unity of command, meaning that teams of three to seven responders on an incident site each report to one supervisor, and the supervisors in turn report to one supervisor, on up the chain to the Incident Commander (IC). The IC is responsible for leading multi-agency operations on an incident scene and approving an IAP, developed through the IAP planning process, to guide incident objectives. All agencies involved in incident response report up through the ICS structure regardless of their usual chain of command. The ICS structure is scalable, modular and flexible to meet changing incident demands. This means that only the components needed to meet incident demands are activated.

Some complex incidents fall within the jurisdiction of multiple agencies and require increased inter-agency coordination to manage. For these incidents, the IC may choose to establish a Unified Command. Unified Command consists of two or more representatives from different agencies working together to lead an ICS structure. Establishing Unified Command means that there is no longer a single IC, and all command decisions must be agreed upon among the Unified Commanders (UCs) and communicated down the ICS structure with a singular voice.

Most emergencies in Clear Creek County begin and end with the deployment of first responders, typically Fire, EMS, or law enforcement personnel. The primary responding unit establishes Incident Command and manages response operations. Response to all incidents will be organized using the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS). The Incident Commander assumes command of the scene and assigns positions as needed according to ICS. The Incident Commander establishes an Incident Command Post (ICP) to coordinate field units. If additional units are required, the Incident Commander may request support from other fire districts, law enforcement, or County departments, through JeffCom 911 communications center.

- **ICS Command Staff:** The Command Staff is comprised of the IC and several support positions needed to ensure incident safety, liaise with the EOC or other MAC structures, and coordinate with the media or JIC.

- **ICS Operations Section**: The Operations Section is responsible for all tactical operations at the incident level. This includes carrying out the objectives of the incident action plan and providing information on ongoing operations to the ICS Planning Section

- **ICS Planning Section**: The Planning Section is responsible for the collection, evaluation and dissemination of information related to the incident, and for the preparation and documentation of Incident Action Plans and situation reports. The Planning Section maintains critical information on the current and forecasted situation and tracks the status of resources assigned to the incident.

- **ICS Resource Support Section**: The Logistics Section is responsible for mobilizing and deploying facilities, services and materials for the incident.

- **ICS Finance and Administration Section**: The Finance and Administration Section is responsible for reviewing expenditures, allocating funds, and managing all other financial considerations.
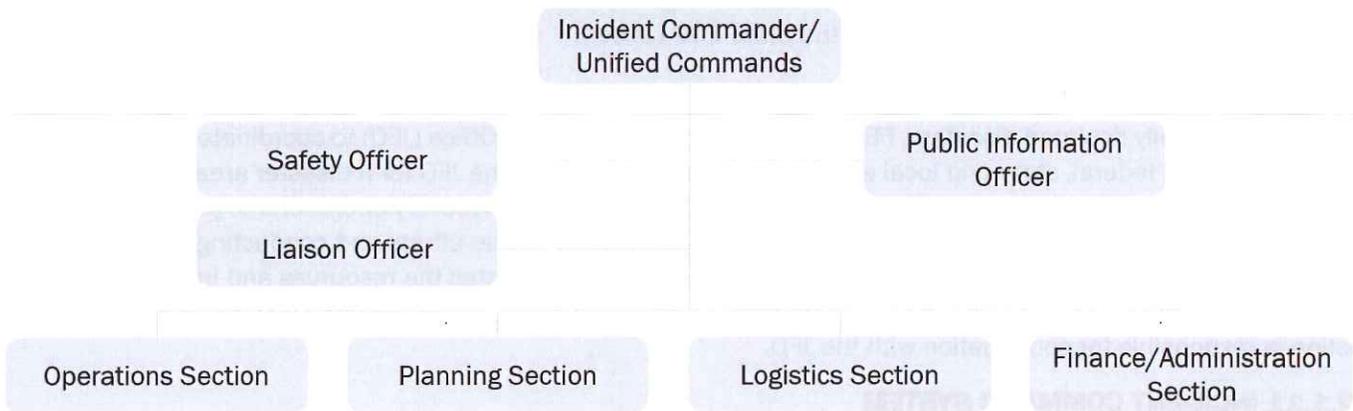
Graphic 4. Incident Command System

Area Command

For emergency incidents spanning multiple geographic locations, an Area Command may be established. An Area Command structure consists of an individual or unified command structure that oversees multiple incident locations which are in turn managed by their own IC and ICS structure. An Area Commander (AC) is responsible for the operational response components of the incident area and the effective deployment of resources to each of the area's ICs and UCs.
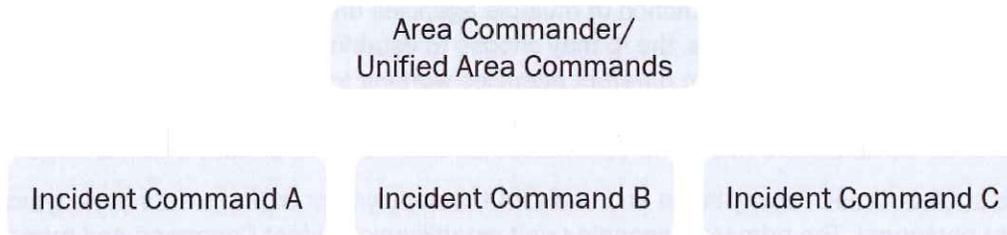
Graphic 5. Area Command

Incident Management Teams

An Incident Management Team (IMT) provides on-scene incident management support immediately prior to and during incidents or events that exceed a jurisdiction's or agency's capability or capacity. Teams could include members of local, state, federal, tribal and territorial entities; NGOs; and private sector organizations. The County may request an IMT to assist in running operations for large incidents.
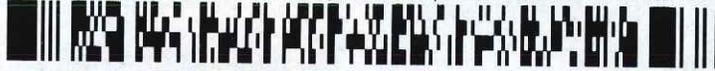
2.2.1.12 COMMUNICATIONS CENTERS

In 2024, the County transferred all 911 communications responsibilities to Jefferson County's JeffCom 911. JeffCom 911 provides communications essential for the municipal and county governments to communicate with all governmental entities. Communication centers provide daily incident management and resource coordination for emergency and routine operations. Each is operated independently of the EOC during normal operations but supports the EOC's strategic objectives during emergencies.

Communication centers may coordinate the ordering and deployment of resources typically under their jurisdiction even when the EOC is activated.

- **JeffCom 911:** The Jefferson County 911 Communication Center serves as Clear Creek County's 24/7 public safety answering point for calls from the public for emergency assistance as well as the dispatch centers for the Clear Creek Fire Authority (CCFA), Clear Creek Sheriff's Office (CCSO), Idaho Springs Police Department (ISPD), Evergreen Fire/Rescue (EFR), Clear Creek Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Empire Police Department, and Georgetown Police Department.
    - During emergencies, 911 is charged with triaging and prioritizing calls for emergency services to ensure the limited number of response assets are utilized as efficiently as possible.
    - The JeffCom is responsible for receiving all emergency notifications issued from the state or federal government through the National Warning System (NAWAS) and initiating initial response actions as well as notifying key County staff and leadership. JeffCom is further tasked as the primary issuer of public warnings for the County. 911 Communications coordinates with the EOC through the EOC Public Information Officer or designee.

2.2.1.13 COMMUNICATON SYSTEMS

ESF 2—Communications provides information and guidance concerning available communications systems and methods in Clear Creek County, including:

- Dissemination of emergency information to response organizations and government.
- Information flow and management to and from the EOC.
- Communications interoperability among response units.
- Primary and backup communications systems.
- Telecommunications and information technology resources.
- Emergency warning and notification.
- During a disaster, multiple communication systems will be used to communicate among the various agencies involved in the event.

Radios: 700/800 MHZ and VHF radios will be used. The choice between 700/800 MHZ and VHF is a tactical decision made at the ICP and is based upon which system functions the best within a particular geographical/topographical area. There are areas within the County that 700/800 MHZ radios have poor coverage, and VHF is the better option. In other areas of the County, 700/800 MHZ radios provide better coverage. Channels and frequencies will be chosen based upon the incident and responding jurisdictions.

Landlines, cellphones, and pagers: Phones and pagers are used routinely to communicate both in the field and in the EOC. Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)/Auxiliary Communications (AuxComm): ARES/AuxComm is used as a backup communication system both in the field and in the EOC. The County has a workstation set up for ARES/AuxComm personnel to facilitate this capability.

Common Program Control Stations (CPCS) are radio stations utilized to provide the general public with information about events. Clear Creek County has a radio station identified as the CPCS to activate the Emergency Alert System (EAS).

2.2.1.14 PUBLIC ALERT AND WARNING

When the public is threatened by an immediate or potential emergency situation, it is essential that timely alerting and warning be accomplished to protect the public. The alerting process draws the public's attention to a threat or danger. The warning process provides accurate information and instructions to guide public response in taking appropriate protective actions.

Initial notification of incidents at the local level are accomplished in a variety of ways including public safety radio, internet, television, radio, broadcast, etc. This information is then passed to the public via emergency notification system, public safety radio, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) radio, television, social media alerts, etc. Other agencies with responsibilities for notification include the National Weather Service and Colorado State Patrol.

The County uses multiple tools as part of a Public Alert and Warning System. JeffCom 911 provides Clear Creek County with a single point to disseminate alert and warnings to government officials that a hazardous situation could threaten the general welfare, health and safety, and/or property of the population. This agency is responsible for alert and warning for both Jefferson and Clear Creek Counties and follow internal procedures for disseminating messages.

In emergency situations posing an immediate threat to life or personal safety, JeffCom 911 will issue an emergency alert or warning by the most effective means available, usually using LookOut Alerts.

For employee emergency alerts and notifications, pre-identified county users have the authority to send messages to Clear Creek County employees and other key stakeholder employees (i.e. Clear Creek County Sheriff's Office) via LookOut Alerts. These notifications are internal only. A standard operating procedure (SOP) is currently in development and will be completed in 2025.

JeffCom 911 is licensed to utilize the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) on behalf of Clear Creek County for major disasters when it is critical to reach as many people as possible within an affected area, regardless of whether they are registered with LookOut Alerts. The following components are under public warning systems.

- **Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA):** WEAs are a component of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) that enable the county to push emergency messages to mobile devices in a geographic area. In contrast to opt-in emergency push notifications (EPN), WEAs are based on a cell phone's current location and not a registered address.

- **Reverse Emergency Notification (REN):** The REN system (previously referred to as Reverse 911), is a system that geographically targets mass voice notifications to landline phones. It can also reach subscribers through additional channels such as text messaging, email, or voice calls.

- **Outdoor Warning System (OWS):** The OWS is a network of warning sirens located throughout the county that are used as an all-hazards tool to identify the potential risk and impact against individuals, property, and the environment specifically. Siren activation shall mean for anyone outdoors to immediately seek shelter and check local news/social media for further information. Sirens may be activated for evacuation or shelter-in-place protective actions to alert the public to seek shelter indoors. The sirens can be activated countywide or geographically targeted to a section(s) of the county.

- **Emergency Alert System (EAS):** The EAS is a component of IPAWS that allows for emergency messages to be sent to radio and TV broadcasters. Messages are typically broadcasted over numerous local radio stations and scrolled across the bottom of televisions on local broadcast stations.

JeffCom 911 notifies response and emergency management personnel when the threat of a disaster is imminent. The Clear Creek County Office of Emergency Management notifies the appropriate agencies outside of the jurisdiction such as the Department of Public Safety's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM). JeffCom 911 is equipped with multiple communication networks and auxiliary power.

2.2.1.15 PUBLIC INFORMATION

Public Information is the general strategy of communicating with the masses. The County utilizes a wide variety of platforms and methods to reach the whole community along the communications continuum and throughout an incident.

- **Public Address Communications:** Public address communications, sometimes referred to as "bull horn" or "megaphone" communications are notifications to the public facilitated in a door-to-door or immediate vicinity operation. Traditional first responder agencies are the primary user of this method, for example, CCSO issues evacuations for a wildland fire and send deputies to conduct door-to-door notifications. Locations such as schools and large venues often have public address systems that may be used to disseminate life safety messaging. The County will use a variety of communication methods when appropriate, but this style of communication allows for life safety messaging and crisis communications around evacuation, shelter-in-place, or information messaging around protective actions in targeted neighborhood(s) and/or during times of communication systems disruptions.

- **Social Media:** Social media is one of the primary channels the County uses in emergencies. Most County departments have their own individual social media accounts in addition to the one universal Clear Creek County account on Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter), Instagram, and Nextdoor. The County Public Information Officer is responsible for managing the county's

- **Traditional Media:** Traditional media includes legacy media, newspapers, and radio stations. The County builds and maintains strong relationships with the media agencies in County and down into the Denver metro area as well as the front range of Colorado. It is to be expected that while the County predominately works with local media, an incident or event may garner national or international news interest. The County will coordinate with the media through interviews, press conferences, and timely responses to media inquiries. This responsiveness reduces the risk of the media disseminating mis-and-disinformation, rumors, and inaccurate information and helps the County push emergency messaging as a trusted source through traditional media.

- **Print/Products:** Print and products are important tools the County uses to convey emergency messaging. Products include both electronic and printed flyers, press releases, employee bulletins, posters, frequently asked questions (FAQs), images, and videos developed to support, clarify, or expand upon crisis communications distributed through other means. These assets are important as they can be posted online or physically placed in common areas to help reach individuals who might have barriers to accessing information electronically. Based on the nature of the incident or event, determines the type, and need for products.

- **Website:** The county hosts the clearcreekcounty.us website through CivicPlus. Marketing and communications staff in the county have access to edit their respective agency web pages including developing, revising, and deleting pages. For website support or assistance, the county has full-time staff available to provide technical support, accessibility recommendations, and coordinate content control and layout, including emergency alert banners.

2.2.2 PUBLIC PROTECTIVE ACTIONS

2.2.2.1 INTRODUCTION

Public protective actions consist of orders to the public to take measures to protect their lives, property and wellbeing. These orders may be issued by an IC for an incident scene or by the BOCC for large portions of the County. While there are many potential public protective action orders that may be issued, the most common are detailed below.

2.2.2.2 SHELTER IN PLACE

Certain threats require the public to immediately go indoors and stay there until told it is safe to leave. This type of protective action is typically implemented to address immediate security threats, police operations in an area or a

hazardous materials release. The order to shelter in place is normally short-lived and targets a specific neighborhood or at-risk geographic area.

For a hazardous materials releases, the public may also receive instructions to close all doors, windows, flumes and other exterior openings of a structure. Law Enforcement (LE) is responsible for enacting and enforcing shelter in place orders. When relevant, CCFA, Evergreen Fire/Rescue (EFR), and Public Health are charged with providing LE with subject matter expertise involving the chemical or environmental hazard and what areas should be sheltered in place.

2.2.2.3 CURFEW

Curfew orders assist in preventing damages, injuries or unrest by restricting who may be outside of their home in a certain geographic area at a given time. Curfew orders should include the times of the curfew, the area of the curfew and who is exempt from the curfew. The BOCC has the authority to issue curfews, which are then enforced by local LE and publicized by the JIS or EOC ESF 15 - Public Information Officer.

2.2.2.4 AVOID THE AREA

Avoid the area orders deny access to a geographic area and instruct the public to avoid that area. Avoid the area orders are often issued in tandem with orders to those living, working or otherwise doing business in the restricted area to shelter in place or evacuate. LE is responsible for enacting and enforcing avoid-the-area orders.

2.2.2.5 PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTIVE ACTIONS

Public health protective actions are as varied as the public health threats that may face the county. For example, contamination of the county's drinking water may result in instructions to boil or not use tap water. For communicable diseases, certain quarantine, isolation, or social distancing orders may be issued. The Executive Director of the Public Health agency may issue public health protective actions in consultation with the Policy Advisory Group. The Public Health agency is responsible for implementing public health protective actions and coordinating with all relevant lead, support and partner organizations.

2.2.2.6 EVACUATION

Evacuation orders are notices to the public to leave a geographic area. Evacuation areas can be a single county block or a large portion of the county. Evacuations must consider the transportation needs and accessibility challenges of people in the area being evacuated. Affected populations must also be given information regarding safe evacuation routes. Additionally, an evacuation center should be set up nearby to receive evacuees and provide information related to returning to the evacuated area or support evacuees through an extended displacement. Evacuations also require significant coordination to ensure safe and organized re-entry and reoccupation of evacuated areas. Local LE is responsible for enforcing and carrying out evacuation orders.

2.2.2.7 RE-ENTRY

After an evacuation or an order to avoid the area, residents, business owners and recovery vendors must be allowed to orderly return to an area. For smaller emergencies with a limited scope, re-entry may be managed at the incident site by local LE. For larger emergencies, re-entry may need to be managed using a tiered process at an off-site location.

For a major emergency or disaster, the County may establish a re-entry credentialing site. Property owners and tenants, as well as service providers, recovery contractors and other key personnel will be vetted and credentialed at this location and issued passes to enter areas of restricted access. Entry will be prioritized according to the following tiers:
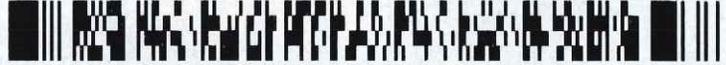
- **Tier 1:** Access restricted to the damage assessment and repair personnel that are needed to address immediate life safety needs or restore basic infrastructure needed to allow the safe re- entry of additional personnel.
- **Tier 2:** Access restrictions broadened to include property owners and tenants as well as their approved recovery contractors.
- **Tier 3:** Open access. Increased police patrols and curfews may still be in effect.

2.2.3   MASS TRAUMA MANAGEMENT STRUCTURES

2.2.3.1 REUNIFICATION

Reunification between a survivor and loved ones can occur at a variety of physical locations, including at the incident scene, in a hospital, at home or at a designated Assistance Center. Reunification may occur through a variety of mechanisms, over the course of several hours or days, and may be facilitated through a number of agencies and roles.

2.2.3.2 VICTIM INFORMATION CENTER

The rapid identification of human remains during a mass fatality incident is critical to supporting victims' families and informing any ongoing investigation. If the normal resources of the County Coroner's Office are overwhelmed, the County may activate the regional Mass Fatality and Victim Identification Center Plan for the North Central Region. The VIC is responsible for collecting records, data, DNA and other resources in support of victim identification and assist the Community Assistance Center (CAC) in managing the missing persons list. The VIC coordinates its operations with overall county emergency management efforts through regular communication with the Public Health and Environment DOC.

> *For more information on Mass Fatality and Victim Identification Centers, please see the North Central Region Mass Fatality Plan (2019).*

2.2.3.3 DISASTER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Mass care extends beyond physical needs and includes psychological needs of emergency survivors and responders. The County and its NGO partners are committed to helping address the community's immediate psychological needs after a significant emergency. Typically, American Red Cross, or Victim Advocates are responsible for triaging and providing immediate behavioral health support to victims in the early hours or days following an incident.

2.2.4   MASS CARE STRUCTURES

2.2.4.1 INTRODUCTION

Mass care is the ability to provide for basic physical and emotional needs of Clear Creek County residents and visitors during an emergency. This includes shelter, food, water, basic hygiene supplies, essential clothing, routine medications and behavioral health counseling. Mass care and emergency logistics are interdependent, with logistics structures providing the resources needed to successfully conduct mass care. Given the resource and logistical demands of mass care operations, all efforts should be made to maintain or rapidly restore services that allow residents to stay in their own homes and provide for their own basic needs.

2.2.4.2 EVACUATION CENTERS

Evacuation centers are locations established to care for displaced populations in the hours immediately following an evacuation. Evacuation centers are typically established in a county facility located near the evacuated area, and transportation may be provided to assist in moving individuals from an evacuation area to the evacuation center. An

evacuation center may provide basic assistance to displaced populations, including transportation to emergency shelters for further assistance. Evacuation centers coordinate their operations through the EOC and are typically led by American Red Cross.

2.2.4.3 EMERGENCY SHELTERING AND WARMING CENTERS

Emergency Sheltering constitutes actions taken to provide overnight shelter and wraparound services as deemed necessary by a needs assessment, for those displaced due to impacts of an incident. Routine sheltering for single family house fires or similar incidents is normally managed by NGO partners including the American Red Cross (ARC).

Sheltering for significant emergencies is led by ARC in coordination with County, NGO, and private sector partners. To be successful, emergency sheltering often requires mass feeding, case work, behavioral health and resource support operations. Clear Creek County is committed to providing accessible shelters for the whole community. While not all potential shelter locations within the County have been upgraded to modern standards of accessibility, the County will make every effort to have adequate number of shelters in an affected area are accessible to those with access and functional needs or determine suitable transportation options. Shelters coordinate their operations through the EOC and are typically led by American Red Cross. The County typically utilizes pre-identified locations, prioritizing Georgetown and Idaho Springs. These locations are selected by the County in collaboration with ARC. These locations have occupant sheltering capacities of about 100 or fewer individuals.

2.2.4.4 MASS FEEDING

Mass feeding may be necessary to support shelters, neighborhoods without access to normal food service or the needs of responders. NGO and private sector partners are key in providing mass feeding services. The County will primarily rely on the County Jail to distribute food. Other feeding operations maybe supported by NGOs and private sector organizations. Administrators and staff of all mass feeding operations should consider religious dietary restrictions and the health needs of those receiving food.

2.2.4.5 CASE WORK

Case work is essential for determining when to transition residents out of shelters and into other housing options and for identifying appropriate assistance to ensure nutrition and other needs are met after mass feeding operations are discontinued. Mass care operations are intended to provide temporary aid to the public in the immediate aftermath of an emergency. As the focus of emergency operations shifts to recovery, mass care operations should be demobilized, and routine services resumed to serve the community's everyday needs.

2.2.4.6 ANIMAL SHELTERING

A significant percentage of County households are home to one or more pets. Pets should be sheltered on-site near their owners or at a nearby facility that is accessible to owners. Charlie's Place, the Clear Creek County Animal Shelter, will support emergency animal sheltering needs. American Red Cross allows animals in person shelters, so the County makes efforts to select pre-approved shelters that allow for dual occupancy. animals. Emergency animal sheltering is coordinated through the EOC. For large animal sheltering, the County will need to request outside county support.

The Plan takes into consideration the needs of individuals with disabilities relying on service animals. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) protects the rights of all individuals with disabilities and requires that State and local governments comply with Title II of the ADA in the emergency and disaster-related programs, services, and activities they provide.

The sheltering and protection of companion animals are the primary responsibility of their owners. When owners are unable to provide for the care and needs of their household pets and service animals, the local jurisdiction provides

assistance as outlined in the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006 (PETS) and FEMA DAP 9523.19. The PETS Act requires that local governments plan for sheltering and care of household pets and service animals during emergencies where shelters are established.

Clear Creek County has included pet sheltering as part of ESF 6: Mass Care Sheltering Annex that addresses the following:

- Pre-event planning
- Animal sheltering operations
- Animal registration and return
- Coordination with human shelters.

The FEMA Disaster Pet Assistance Policy 9523.19 identifies the expenses related to state and local governments' emergency pet evacuation and sheltering activities that are eligible for reimbursement following a major disaster declaration under Category B, Emergency Protective Measures, and provisions of the Public Assistance Program. The terms household pet, service animal, and congregate household pet shelters are defined. The policy details eligible reimbursements related to shelter facilities, supplies and commodities, eligible labor, equipment, emergency veterinary services, transportation, shelter safety and security, cleaning and restoration, and the removal and disposal of animal carcasses.

2.2.5 EMERGENCY LOGISTICS AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURES

Logistics and resource support are critical components of effective emergency management, required at varying levels depending on the severity and complexity of the incident. In all emergencies, basic resource support is essential both with and without the activation of the EOC, ensuring that fundamental needs are met, and resources are allocated efficiently. For certain incidents, the incident missions necessitate more-advanced logistics capabilities, including the staging and distribution of resources to strategically manage the situation. In rare instances, significant supply chain gaps or major disruptions in resource availability demand a logistics-focused response to address the emergency comprehensively and restore normalcy.

The following sections comprise the primary services within the Logistics and Resource Management mission in the county.

2.2.5.1 RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Resources may be required beyond those that can be obtained through first responders in the field or mutual aid. Emergencies can require more specialized resources than the responding agencies have available. The resource management function is necessary to ensure that:

- A complete picture of available resources is known to decision makers
- All available resources are used appropriately and arrive where and when they are most needed.
- Additional resources can be secured for responders as their own resources are expended or damaged.
- Critical resource needs of the public are met despite disruption of commerce and infrastructure.
- Accountability is maintained for the jurisdiction's use of resources.

2.2.5.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Resource management is a process that ranges from determining needs to finding and staging resources to meet these needs and tracking those resources through to demobilization. Detailed information on County resource mobilization and management systems and processes can be found in the Resource Management Annex of this plan.

2.2.5.3 DONATIONS MANAGEMENT

The County may not accept in-kind donations due to their extreme administrative burden and often limited utility to survivors. Instead, in-kind donations will be referred to County VOAD and NGO partners. Exceptions to this policy may be made for donations from known organizations of supplies specifically requested by the EOC.

2.2.5.4 VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

The County encourages residents to take an active role in their community's emergency preparedness. This includes volunteering to assist in emergency response and recovery operations. However, it is imperative that sign up with and function under the supervision of a VOAD, business or government organization operating in accordance with this emergency plan. Organizations utilizing volunteers should also be able to provide the appropriate safety, legal and insurance protections, as well as proper training and official identification. Spontaneous volunteers should be referred to appropriate VOADs.

2.2.5.5 PERSONNEL SUPPORT AND ALLOCATION

In some cases, County employees may be requested to sign up on a volunteer basis to provide surge staffing support for emergency duties. All emergency volunteers affiliated with Clear Creek County, Town of Empire, Town of Georgetown, or Idaho Springs, must be pre-approved for their role by their respective Human Resources (HR). In other extreme cases, the County may need to hire additional on-call, contingency, or short-term staff to fill staffing gaps which must be coordinated by HR in this role.

In some cases, the County may re-deploy staff to fill emergent staffing roles in an emergency.

2.2.5.6 POINTS OF DISTRIBUTION

PODs receive commodities directly from a supplier and efficiently and equitably distribute them to Clear Creek County residents and visitors with special consideration given to those with access and functional needs. There are two types of PODS: pharmaceutical and commodity.

Pharmaceutical PODs receive medicine, vaccines and other pharmaceutical supplies directly from the RSS or from a supplier. The P-POD then efficiently and equitably distributes these pharmaceutical supplies to County residents and visitors. These PODs are designed to serve the whole community, including those with access and functional needs and can be open (accessible to the general public) or closed (open only to high-risk groups or critical personnel). Due to additional chain-of-custody, medication-storage and documentation needs, the throughput rate for Pharmaceutical PODs is generally less than that of Commodity PODs and can vary widely depending on each medication's administration needs. Pharmaceutical POD operations are coordinated through the Public Health Agency with the support of the EOC.

Receiving, Staging and Storage (RSS) Site (Public Health Emergencies)

The U.S. DHHS Administration for Strategic Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) maintains large quantities of pharmaceutical and medical supplies known as the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) that can be surged to areas experiencing public health emergencies. In emergency situations, the director of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment may request SNS supplies. Once SNS supplies are on their way, the RSS site should be set up to manage the shipments at the state level. The Clear Creek Public Health agency will coordinate the delivery of SNS supplies from the RSS directly to PODS.

Commodity PODs are tailored to the modes of transportation and expected volume of users within their service area. The County may activate one or more Commodity POD when an area of the County lacks access to essential commodities such as food or water. Commodity PODs can be categorized as either open or closed. Open PODs serve

the public, and closed PODs are made available only to certain high-risk groups such as institutionalized populations and educational campuses, or groups essential to emergency operations such as first responders, key support personnel and certain private sector service providers. Commodity POD operations are coordinated through the CCG or EOC.

2.2.5.7 EMERGENCY FINANCE AND LOGISTICS

The Authority Having Jurisdiction is responsible for the cost of the incident. In ICS, agencies/authorities are defined either as jurisdictional (having statutory responsibility for incident management) or as assisting or cooperating (providing resources or other assistance). A Clear Creek County Delegation of Authority will specify financial responsibility for the incident by operational period as well as any financial constraints.

Expenditures are tracked from the onset of an incident. The proper ICS forms will be used at the ICP and at the EOC to track expenditures to optimize the full potential reimbursements from any applicable funding source.

County expenditures will be routed through the Clear Creek County Finance Department. Receipts will be maintained for reimbursement and audit purposes. If a disaster is declared, Finance will pursue all potential sources for funding reimbursement.

Clear Creek County Human Resources and Finance Departments together will determine procedures to use for proper accounting of time spent on emergency management by county employees instead of their normal duties. EOC participants that are not Clear Creek County employees will coordinate their work hours and accounting with their parent organization.

The Resource Ordering and Resource Support Section of the EOC is responsible for ordering and tracking resources. The Finance and Administration Section in the EOC, and ultimately the Clear Creek County Finance Department, are responsible for managing all financial matters for the emergency response.

As such, all cost share agreements, invoices, crew time reports, and equipment shift tickets, will be maintained initially by the Finance and Administration Section of the EOC and made available to the Clear Creek County Finance Department when the EOC is deactivated.

The EOC Finance and Administration section will maintain copies of all contracts entered by the EOC for emergency resources. Expendable items purchased for use in the EOC will be maintained by the Clear Creek County OEM for future activations of the EOC.

Resource ordering is coordinated through the Resource Ordering and Logistics section in the EOC. Logistics will track resources as they are ordered and confirmed deployed. All resource requests are captured using an ICS Resource Request form (ICS Form 213RR).

Each agency tasked within the Plan is responsible for developing and maintaining applicable resource lists. These lists follow established county protocols for maintaining resource lists. At a minimum, a full resource list (including all county resources) is provided to Clear Creek County Office of Emergency Management and the ESF 7 Primary Agency. Obtaining resources attempts to fill resource requests first by existing County local partner resources, then via Mutual Aid Agreements, then by neighboring Counties. If those are not successful, the EOC will submit resource requests to the State EOC to help locate a resource; the requesting organization is still responsible for paying for what is ordered. The State EOC coordinates local requests for federal assistance. Details on resource ordering are in ESF 7: Resource Ordering and Logistics.

2.2.6   PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT STRUCTURES

2.2.6.1 INTRODUCTION

Public Health response structures overlap with many of the other response structures, especially within Mass Care

Structures. In addition to Animal Sheltering, Behavioral Health Services, and Pharmaceutical Point of Dispensing operations, the Public Health response structures include broadly supporting the healthcare structures as well as filling service gaps as appropriate to ensure communities impacted by a disaster have access to medical care and support services.

2.2.6.2 HEALTHCARE COORDINATION

There are no hospitals in Clear Creek County. Additionally, the CommonSpirit Primary Care health clinic in Idaho Springs is maintained by CommonSpirit and maybe asked to support medical support needs during emergencies within the County.

2.2.6.3 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CLEAN UP

CCFA and EFR serve as the designated emergency response agency (DERA) and are the first responders to hazardous materials including identification of clean-up contractors. The Colorado State Patrol or Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) maybe contacted to support clean-up operations of a major spill or release.

2.2.6.4 ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENTS

Environmental site assessments should be conducted prior to identifying a location for mass care services. The EOC and Policy Advisory Group supports site selection processes by assessing the environmental safety of proposed mass care service sites. This may include identifying safe locations for sheltering or logistics staging areas. Additionally, Public Health, ARC, or EOC designee may conduct site assessments to ensure shelter habitability for mass care operations, ensuring sheltering operations are in alignment with public health standards.

2.2.6.5 FATALITY MANAGEMENT

During and following disasters or incidents, there may be large amounts of fatalities that stress the existing system. Clear Creek County Coroner's Office is responsible for supporting fatality management surge within the County. This may include establishing temporary morgues and utilizing mutual aid resources from within the NCR.

2.2.7   RECOVERY STRUCTURES

2.2.7.1 EOC RECOVERY COORDINATION

The EOC's mission extends beyond initial response actions intended to preserve life, property and the environment to also include short-term recovery coordination. Short-term recovery operations consist of actions to restore the services that are needed to reoccupy homes and businesses, obtain any available state or federal disaster assistance and bridge any remaining resource gaps that are preventing residents and businesses from moving swiftly towards recovery.

While recovery should begin with the initial response, the EOC's primary focus shifts to recovery once the EOC Director's response objectives are achieved and the EOC Action Plan's emphasis shifts to recovery needs. This shift may be marked by the EOC's operational periods lengthening beyond 12 hours or the EOC shifting to daytime only operations.

Disaster recovery begins when a disaster occurs, therefore this EOP contains ESF 14: Recovery which describes roles and responsibilities for initial recovery efforts. The ESF begins the recovery process, and it transitions to longer-term organizational structures as outlined in the County Disaster Recovery Plan (2018). The County's Disaster Recovery plan is planned to be revised in 2025.

2.2.7.2 LONG-TERM RECOVERY

Long-term recovery from a disaster is described at the national level as capabilities necessary for communities

affected or threatened by any incident to rebuild infrastructure systems, provide adequate, accessible interim and long-term housing that meets the needs of all survivors, revitalize health systems (including behavioral health) and social and community services, promote economic development, and restore natural and cultural resources. The National Disaster Recovery Framework (2016) identifies 8 guiding principles for recovery:

- Individual and Family Empowerment
- Leadership and Local Primacy
- Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning
- Engaged Partnerships and Inclusiveness
- Unity of Effort
- Timeliness and Flexibility
- Resilience and Sustainability
- Psychological and Emotional Recovery

2.2.7.3 DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Damage assessment begins during response operations and typically escalates as the emergency transitions towards recovery. Countywide damage assessment is led by the EOC.

- **Windshield Survey:** The initial damage assessment occurs as first responders enter areas of the County affected by the emergency and report damage back to JeffCom 911. This assessment is known as a Windshield Survey. JeffCom 911 then note areas of damage with a focus on immediate life safety risks. The EOC documents findings.

- **Safety Assessment:** The EOC is responsible for coordinating the deployment of teams to perform safety assessments of structures that pose an immediate life safety threat. When possible, safety assessment teams should be organized and placed on standby prior to the emergency. Teams are primarily comprised of first response and County personnel with engineering and architectural specialties. Safety assessments are focused on immediate life safety risks and determining if a structure is safe or unsafe.

- **Initial Damage Assessment (IDA):** Once immediate life safety threats have been addressed and the emergency begins to transition to recovery, the EOC will evaluate the need for an Initial Damage Assessment (IDA). The purpose of the IDA is to map the scope of damage in order to inform EOC actions related to debris management and other recovery needs, and to quantify the damage to assess eligibility for state and federal disaster assistance. IDA teams are typically comprised of officials from first response agencies or designees. IDA teams coordinate directly with the EOC.

- **Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA):** If the EOC determines that damages from the emergency may meet the indicators for a federal disaster declaration, he or she will request that the Governor of Colorado ask the President of the United States to issue a Major Disaster Declaration. To verify damage estimates in the IDA, FEMA and the Colorado Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DHSEM) may perform a Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA). The EOC is responsible for providing the PDA team with data from the IDA to review and confirm.

- **Ongoing Damage Assessment:** Ongoing damage assessments are key to the success of recovery efforts. Ongoing damage assessments are organized by the EOC and intended to document the progress of recovery efforts as well as identify any developing issues. Ongoing damage assessment teams may be comprised of specialized officials from many different departments.

2.2.7.4 DEBRIS MANAGEMENT

Certain emergencies generate large amounts of debris from damaged and destroyed structures, vehicles, vegetation and other sources. This debris must be collected, sorted and ultimately disposed of. The County is responsible for managing the disposal of debris on public property or in the rights-of-way but may also assist with the disposal of

debris on private property that poses an immediate public safety risk. The rapid removal of debris is essential to the community's overall recovery and may also qualify the County for increased federal reimbursement during presidentially declared disasters.

Debris management operations of a limited scope may be managed by the EOC; however, large operations will require help from private-sector contractors. The County should maintain debris management and monitoring contracts to ensure expeditious debris management.

2.2.7.5 ASSISTANCE CENTERS

The EOC may establish numerous types of assistance centers depending on the mid- and long-term needs of individuals impacted by an incident. The County manages this need with a generic "assistance center" approach where the base assistance center process is consistent as a location (physical and/or virtual) to provide services to individuals based on needs and impacts of the incident. This site serves as a hub for incident-specific assistance and linkage to a "menu of services" provided by various county agencies and community partners. Services may include financial, insurance, employment and housing assistance, among many others. Disaster Assistance Centers (DAC)s are staffed by representatives from public, private and non-profit service providers depending on the type of assistance provided. The process includes specific considerations and checklists for the more-traditional iterations of assistance centers such as, Family Assistance Center/Community Assistance Centers or DACs. If Clear Creek County is included in a Presidential Disaster Declaration, the assistance center may receive state and federal support by traditional Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) resources. In these cases, supervision is provided jointly by the FEMA, state and local managers through the JFO. The process of establishing a DRC is initiated through a recommendation by the State Coordinating Officer (SCO) to the Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) overseeing federal operations for the disaster.

2.2.7.6 COST RECOVERY

Disaster cost recovery highlights the importance of not only addressing immediate losses but also planning for future resilience. Effective recovery requires a forward-looking approach that incorporates strategies to reduce vulnerability to future disasters. This includes improving infrastructure, updating building codes, and investing in sustainable practices that mitigate risk. By integrating future planning into disaster recovery, communities can better protect themselves from repeated losses, reduce long-term costs, and ensure a more resilient recovery that withstands future threats. The County intends to further expand Cost Recovery planning efforts in next few years.

2.2.7.7 ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Economic recovery after a disaster requires more than just addressing immediate financial losses; it necessitates future planning to build long-term resilience. This involves restoring businesses, jobs, and infrastructure while also investing in strategies that reduce vulnerability to future economic disruptions. By focusing on diversification, sustainable practices, and strengthening local industries, communities can protect themselves from future crises. Incorporating future planning into economic recovery helps ensure stability, fosters growth, and reduces the long-term impact of future disasters on the local economy. The County intends to further expand Cost Recovery planning efforts in next few years.

SECTION 3:
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 ORGANIZATIONAL EMERGENCY FUNCTIONS

3.1.1 OVERVIEW OF EMERGENCY FUNCTIONS

The County and outside partner organizations have critical emergency management responsibilities linked to FEMA Core Capabilities necessary to comprehensively address the County's 13 threats and hazards. Each county department and external organization supports capability development for Core Capabilities as either the lead, support, or a partner.

3.1.1.1 PRIMARY AGENCIES

Primary agencies are county departments assigned lead responsibility for coordinating the county's effort to address a FEMA Core Capability. Primary agencies are not expected to manage a Core Capability alone but are charged with organizing other county departments and external organizations overseeing county emergency management responsibilities linked to a Core Capability. Lead agencies are ultimately accountable to the BOCC for the development of their Core Capability.

3.1.1.2 SUPPORT AGENCIES

Support agencies are county departments that maintain their own assigned county emergency management services and responsibilities and assist the primary agency in building and managing the Core Capability linked to their department services. Core Capabilities may have numerous support agencies with linked emergency management responsibilities and related assets and skillsets. Support agencies coordinate with the primary agency but are ultimately accountable to the BOCC for building their emergency management capabilities and assisting the lead in developing an assigned Core Capability.

3.1.1.3 PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Partner organizations are external to county government that are critical in addressing a Core Capability that may require the resources and subject-matter expertise of numerous partner organizations to successfully build emergency management capabilities. Like support agencies, partner organizations should coordinate their efforts with the lead agency; however, they do not ultimately report to the BOCC and therefore possess more autonomy.

3.1.2 FEMA CORE CAPABILITIES

County emergency management services and FEMA Core Capabilities must be continuously developed and evaluated to ensure the county is adequately prepared for an emergency. Core Capabilities are listed by FEMA Mission Area in this section. Some capabilities are shared among all mission areas and are listed first. The Prevention and Protection Mission Areas share a number of common capabilities and are grouped together. Learn more about FEMA's Core Capabilities here!

3.1.3 CORE CAPABILITY TABLE

The primary, support and partner responsibilities for each Core Capability are listed by ESFs in the following matrix.

Agencies/Organizations	ESF 1 Transportation	ESF 2 Communications & I.T.	ESF 3 Public Works & Utilities	ESF 4 Fire Fighting	ESF 5 Information & Planning	ESF 6 Sheltering & Mass Care	ESF 7 Resource Ordering & Logistics	ESF 8 Health & Medical Services	ESF 9 Search & Rescue	ESF 10 Hazardous Materials	ESF 11 Animals & Agriculture	ESF 12 Energy	ESF 13 Evacuation & Security	ESF 14 Recovery	ESF 15 Public Information & Media Management	ESF 16 Donations & Volunteer Management
Local Agencies																
Assessor					S									S		
Clerk & Recorder					S											
Coroner					S			S								
County Attorney					S		S								S	S
Treasurer					S											
Sheriff's Office	S	S	S		S		S		P-d	S	S	S	P		P-d	
Animal Control					S						P					
Communications Center (Dispatch)		S		S	S		S			S	S	S	S			
Accounting					S		P									
County Manager's Office					S		S						P		P-d	
Information Technology		P			S	S							S		S	S
Emergency Management		S	S	S	P	P	S	S			S		P		S	P
Emergency Medical Services					S	S		S	S	S						
Facilities					S							S				
Finance					S											S
Human Services					S			S								P
Public Health and Environment		S			S	S		P								
Public Works (Road & Bridge)	S		P		S								S			
Transit Department	P				S											
Office of Information Technology		S			S	S										
Office of Strategic & Community Planning			S		S											
Municipal Agencies			S		S								S			
Other Jurisdiction Agencies					S	S		S	S		S		S			S
Special Districts																
Clear Creek Fire Authority			S	P-d	S	S		S	P-d	P-d	S	S				
Clear Creek School District					S						S					
Evergreen Fire Protection District				P-d	S				P-d	P-d						
Other Fire Districts and Departments				S	S						S					
Water and Sanitation Districts			S		S											
Private and Non-profit Organizations																
Non-governmental Organizations		S	S	S	S	S		S			S		S			S
Private Sector Organizations		S	S		S			S	S		S					
State and Federal Level Agencies																
State-level Agencies	S	S	S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S	S	S		S
Federal-level Agencies			S					S	S	S			S	S		

SECTION 4:
PLAN MAINTENANCE AND SUPPLEMENTS

SECTION 4: PLAN MAINTENANCE AND SUPPLEMENTS

4.1 PLAN MAINTENANCE

The Clear Creek County EOP Base Plan, annexes, appendices, and subsequent revisions supersede all previous editions. OEM is responsible for maintaining, updating, and disseminating the EOP. OEM revises the EOP at least every 5 years, and it is effective upon approval by the BOCC. OEM updates the plan as necessary based on real-world incidents and exercises. OEM can make minor modifications to the plan and requires BOCC approval for major updates or changes.

Planning is fundamentally a process to manage risk. Strategic planning sets the context and expectations for operational planning; operational planning provides the framework for tactical planning. This EOP is reflective of the Operational planning tier, and outlines roles and responsibilities.

The Director of Emergency Management updates and maintains the EOP using a multi-agency coordination process. OEM revises the Plan using a

Strategic
How to meet emergency responsibilities long-term

Operational
Identification of roles and responsibilities, tasks, integration, and action

Tactical
Management of personnel, equipment, and resources on direct incident response

Figure 3: Tiers of Emergency Planning

number of sources, including After-Action Reports from incidents and exercises, updated doctrine and guidance, and best practices. OEM coordinates review and update of the EOP with the assistance and involvement of all applicable entities. OEM does this through the Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Group for subject matter expertise review of the Plan. This includes ESF primary and support agencies, Special Districts, mutual aid partners and neighboring counties, non-governmental Organizations, private sector organizations, and state and federal agencies.

The preparation and revision of ESFs are the responsibility of the primary agency with the assistance of designated support agencies and OEM. The primary and support agencies and organizations of each ESF are responsible for preparing and maintaining operating procedures and checklists for all responsibilities assigned them in the Clear Creek County EOP. Agencies, departments, offices, and other organizations with roles identified in the Plan are responsible for ensuring that their staff is familiar with what is written in the Plan and are adequately trained to carry out emergency assignments. OEM establishes format and content guidance that is followed in the revision process and coordinates and incorporates revisions to annexes.

Continued review and revision of the Clear Creek County EOP is essential to the County's Emergency Preparedness. Proper maintenance of the plan is coordinated by the OEM and is highly dependent on the engagement of departments and organizations across the whole community.

4.2 TRAINING AND EXERCISE

Clear Creek County OEM implements a training and exercise program, consistent with NIMS and the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP), for incident management organizations and personnel. OEM develops, conducts, and evaluates multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional drills and exercises to practice plan implementation. OEM creates After-Action Reports to document corrective actions to improve challenges in planning, personnel and organizing, equipment and facilities, training, and exercising. Staff participation in exercises provides opportunities for refining plans and procedures in preparation for an actual disaster and emergency event. OEM

solicits input from the MAC Group to develop a multi-year training and exercise plan which outlines training and exercises the County wants to conduct to maintain and improve disaster capabilities.

4.3 SUPPLEMENTS TO THE EOP BASE PLAN

- General Appendices
    - Glossary of Terms
    - Glossary of Acronyms
- Approved Mission Annexes
    - JeffCom SOP 200-24 Lookout Alert System
    - JeffCom SOP 200-8 Major Incident Paging
    - Resource Management Annex
    - Recovery Annex

APPENDIX A. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Access and Function Needs (AFN)	Individuals requiring special consideration in emergency planning due to disabilities, age, limited English proficiency, transportation resources or similar factors.
Activation Level (AL)	Levels 3, 2 or 1 that defines the staffing level of the EOC or JIC.
After-Action Report (AAR)	A document that captures observations of an exercise or actual incident and makes recommendations for improvements.
Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)	A volunteer corps of licensed amateur radio operators organized to assist in public service and emergency communications.
Americans With Disabilities Act	A piece of civil rights legislation passed in 1990 to protect individuals with disabilities from discrimination.
Area Command (AC)	An organization established to oversee the management of multiple incidents that are each being handled by a separate Incident Command System, or to oversee the management of a very large or evolving incident that has multiple incident management teams engaged.
Assistance Center	An assistance center (sometimes referred to as a Reception, Community, or Family Assistance Center) may be established following an emergency to provide services and information to individuals, or their friends and family, impacted by the incident. It provides a linkage to a "menu of services" provided by various county agencies and community partners, that may include financial, religious/spiritual, transportation, insurance, employment and housing assistance, among many others.
Avoid the Area	A public protective action instructing individuals not to go near an area of the County.
Base Plan	A section of the EOP that defines its underpinning legal authorities, Clear Creek County's emergency management organization and the countywide emergency management concept of operations.
Branch	The organizational level having functional or geographical responsibility for major aspects of EOC or incident operations.
Commodity Point of Distribution	Temporary sites that receive commodities, such as food Page 2 and water, from an LSA or directly from a supplier, and efficiently and equitably distribute them to County residents and visitors, including those with access and functional needs.
Communication Center	Facilities designed to gather information from various organizations and the public, and then disseminate that information to appropriate agencies for action.
Continuity of Operations	Efforts and programs aimed at ensuring an agency continues to accomplish its mission-essential functions when normal conditions are interrupted.
Critical Infrastructure	Assets, systems and networks, whether physical or virtual, so vital to the County that their incapacitation or destruction would have a debilitating impact on physical or economic security, public health or safety, or any combination of those matters.
Curfew	An official order for the public in a defined area to stay indoors for a specific predefined time of day.
Direction and Control	Legal authority to make policy level decisions related to emergency management operations within the County.
Disaster Assistance Center (DAC)	A facility coordinated by the County to provide specific assistance and information to County residents and businesses. This includes local financial, insurance, employment and housing assistance.
Disaster Emergency Declaration	A declaration authorizing the governor or BOCC to exercise certain emergency powers under Colorado Revised Statutes. This may also be referred to as a State of Emergency Declaration.

Term	Definition
Disaster Recovery Center (DRC)	A facility coordinated by the County, state, and federal agencies to provide specific assistance and information to County residents and businesses. This includes financial, insurance, employment and housing assistance.
Economic Injury Loans	Loans provided by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to assist businesses in recovery from an incident resulting in economic damages.
Emergency, Incident, Disaster	Terms with similar meaning that generally refer to an occurrence threatening life, property, or the environment that must be managed through any combination of county agencies, multiple agencies, other jurisdictions/mutual aid, and/or federal aid.
Emergency Alert System (EAS)	A national warning system that sends emergency messages to radio and television stations, including cable and satellite stations.
Emergency Management	A coordination function charged with creating the framework within which county agencies build capabilities to manage emergencies and communities build resiliency to community hazards and cope with disasters.
Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)	A congressionally ratified organization that provides form and structure for interstate mutual aid. Through EMAC, a disaster-affected state can request and receive assistance from other member states quickly and efficiently.
Emergency Operations Center (EOC)	Centralized emergency management facility for the County's prevention, response and recovery operations for all hazards.
EOC Action Plan	A plan created to guide EOC actions for one operational period.
Equity	Equity recognizes that each person has different circumstances and allocates the resources and opportunities needed to reach an equal outcome. Clear Creek County believes that equity is when race and other social identities can no longer be used to predict life outcomes.
Evacuation	The organized, phased and supervised withdrawal, dispersal or removal of people from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas.
Evacuation Center	A location where evacuees can be initially transported to receive basic services.
Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO)	The official appointed by the President to execute Stafford Act authorities, including the commitment of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) resources and mission assignment of other Federal departments or agencies.
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Core Capability	The 32 competencies that FEMA promotes as a way for an emergency management program to accomplish to adequately address the hazards and threats facing the county.
FEMA Mission Areas	The five major focus areas FEMA promotes as a way to build emergency management capabilities, including mitigation, prevention, protection, response and recovery.
Front Range	A mountain range that runs from Casper, Wyoming to Pueblo, Colorado and is directly adjacent to the major population centers of Colorado, including Clear Creek County.
General Appendices	Appendices to the Base Plan of the EOP that include a glossary of terms and acronyms as well as multiple indexes to guide the use of the EOP and exhibit compliance with all relevant standards.
Hazard	A potential source of harm to a community that is typically the result of a natural occurrence or technological accident.
Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA)	Clear Creek County's primary risk assessment, located in the Hazard Mitigation Plan, assessing threats and hazards facing the County.
Hazard Mitigation	Actions taken to reduce or eliminate risk to people, property, and the environment from emergencies.

Term	Definition
Improvement Plan	A plan identifying specific corrective actions from an exercise, event or response and assigning each action to responsible parties to be addressed.
Incident Action Plan (IAP)	Tactical objectives and guidance reflecting specific actions for the next operational period at an incident scene.
Incident Command/Incident Commander (IC)	An individual responsible for the command of incident operations at the incident site or an off-site command post.
Incident Command System (ICS)	A standardized approach to the command, control and coordination of on-scene incident management, providing a common hierarchy within which personnel from multiple organizations can be effective.
Incident Management Agency	An agency responsible for leading field response and recovery efforts. This includes developing notification procedures to detect that an incident is occurring, initiating response actions, establishing an ICS structure and coordinating with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and the EOC if the incident escalates into an emergency.
Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT)	Federal teams of emergency management professionals that are able to rapidly deploy when requested by the state.
Incident Management Team	A team of qualified personnel, configured according to ICS, that deploy in support of affected jurisdictions and/or on-scene personnel.
Initial Damage Assessment (IDA)	An evaluation of emergency impacts designed to map the scope of damage to the community, quantify this damage and inform EOC actions related to debris management, eligibility for state and federal disaster assistance and recovery needs.
Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)	A single interface source that provides public safety officials with an effective way to alert the public about serious emergencies using the Emergency Alert System (EAS), Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio, and other public alerting systems.
Isolation	A public health protective action used to restrict the movement of ill persons who have a communicable disease.
Joint Field Office (JFO)	The primary federal incident management field structure. The JFO is a temporary federal facility that provides a central location for the coordination of local, state, tribal and federal governments, as well as private sector entities and NGOs with response and recovery responsibilities and capabilities.
Joint Information Center (JIC)	A facility established to coordinate all emergency-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media. To the greatest extent possible, public information officials from all participating agencies should co-locate at the JIC.
Joint Information System (JIS)	Integrates incident information and public affairs into a cohesive organization designed to provide consistent, coordinated, accurate, accessible, timely and complete information during crisis or incident operations. The mission of the JIS is to provide a structure and system for developing and delivering coordinated inter-agency messages and executing public information plans and strategies.
Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Groups	A group that provides the architecture to support coordination for incident prioritization, critical resource allocation, communication systems integration, and information coordination. The elements of a multi-agency coordination systems include facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures and communications.
Mutual Aid	Voluntary assistance between agencies or jurisdictions in which they help one another by sharing emergency resources.
National Incident Management System (NIMS)	A systematic approach to guide all levels of government, NGOs and the private sector to work together to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to and recover from the effects of incidents.

Term	Definition
National Special Security Events (NSSE)	A special event of national significance that DHS has designated as a high risk for criminal or terrorist activity.
National Warning System (NAWAS)	A 24-hour continuous private-line telephone system used to convey warnings to federal, state, local, tribal and territorial governments and public safety officials.
Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)	A not-for-profit organization that operates independently of any government, typically one whose purpose is to address a particular social or political issue. An NGO is not created by a government, but it may work cooperatively with government. Examples of NGOs include faith-based groups, relief agencies, organizations that support people with access and functional needs, and animal welfare organizations.
North Central All-Hazards Emergency Management Region (NCR)	A region of the State of Colorado established to help address inter-jurisdictional emergency management issues within the counties of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin and Jefferson.
Ongoing Damage Assessment	Recurring damage assessments intended to document the progress of recovery efforts and identify any developing issues.
Operational Period	Period of time scheduled for execution of a given set of actions as specified in the EOC Action Plan or IAP.
Outdoor Warning System (OWS)	A network of sirens located throughout the county that are activated to notify the public to seek shelter indoors.
Partner Organization	Organizations external to Clear Creek County that are critical in providing support to agency capability development and resource gaps.
Pharmaceutical Point of Dispensing	A location where large quantities of medication can be distributed during a public health emergency.
Physical Loans	SBA loans to business owners, homeowners, renters and qualifying non-profits to repair physical damage sustained to their property during a disaster.
Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA)	A damage assessment conducted by FEMA and the Colorado Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) to independently assess damage and confirm the estimates in Clear Creek County's IDA.
Primary Agency	Clear Creek departments that are assigned responsibility for coordinating the County's effort to address a capability.
Private Sector	Organizations and entities that are not part of any governmental structure. The private sector includes for-profit and not-for-profit organizations.
Public Information Officer (PIO)	An organization's representative that is responsible for interfacing with the public and media and/or with other agencies.
Public Service Radio	An 800 MHz radio system used by numerous county agencies, including public safety entities.
Quarantine	A public health protective action used to separate and restrict the movement of well persons who may have been exposed to a communicable disease to see if they become ill.
Receipt, Storage and Staging (RSS)	A location identified by CDPHE that is responsible for receiving SNS supplies and distributing them to various counties.
Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC)	A facility located in each FEMA region that is responsible for coordinating federal emergency management response activities for that region. The Region Eight RRCC is located at the Denver Federal Center.
Reunification	The process of reuniting friends and family members with their relatives that may be deceased, injured, or missing following a mass trauma incident.
Risk	The exposure of the Clear Creek County community to the impacts of a threat or hazard.
Risk Assessment	A study undertaken to identify and rank risks affecting the Clear Creek community.

Term	Definition
Robert T Stafford Disaster Relief and Recovery and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act)	A piece of legislation governing federal emergency management powers and actions.
Route Alerting	A method of public alerting accomplished by fire, police or other responders driving through an area to warn the public of a threat or hazard, usually used only when other notification methods are deemed incomplete or insufficient.
Service Appendices	Agency-specific roles and responsibilities organized into discrete functions, or "services." Services are groupings of tasks and activities, organized by a concept of operations, that further define the roles of an agency in emergency management. They allow for more-specific processes in support of Mission Annexes to supplement agency procedures and checklists. Service Appendices also serve as the foundation for capability development for county agencies.
Shelter	A location where displaced populations can sleep, eat and receive other basic services.
Shelter in Place	A public protective action that asks the public to go inside a structure and stay there to protect themselves from a threat or hazard.
Short-Term	Relating to immediate actions to stabilize and emergency and address unfolding threats to life, property or the environment.
Special Districts	A limited-purpose government entity created by Colorado General Statute to address a specific need in a portion of the state (e.g., RTD).
Special Event Assessment Rating (SEAR)	A rating of between one and five assigned to special events by The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) based on their significance and risk of terrorism or significant crime.
State Coordinating Officer (SCO)	The chief state official responsible for coordinating with FEMA during a presidentially declared disaster.
State of Emergency	A declaration by the chief elected official of a jurisdiction affording the government additional powers with which to manage an emergency.
Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)	The nation's largest supply of potentially life-saving pharmaceuticals and medical supplies for use in a public health emergency severe enough to cause local supplies to run out.
Strategic Objectives	An objective set by the EOC Director and recorded in the EOC Action Plan that provides policy level direction for all emergency response and recovery actions in Clear Creek County.
Threat	A potential source of harm to a community that is typically the result of a criminal or terrorist activity
Unified Command	Unified effort to implement tactical objectives for an incident impacting multiple agencies or jurisdictions.
Victim Identification	A process established by the County Coroner to assist in the identification of the deceased during a mass fatality incident. This process is typically supported by the operations of a Victim Information Center.
Victim Information Center	A location, often co-located with a Reunification Center or Community Assistance Center (CAC) where the medical examiner can collect records, data, DNA and other resources in support of victim identification and assist the CAC in managing the missing persons list.
Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)	NGOs that provide essential services to the community during an emergency.
WebEOC	An Internet-based emergency management program designed to share information between organizations and jurisdictions.
Windshield Survey	A damage assessment conducted by first responders as they enter areas of the county affected by the emergency and report damage back to JeffCom 911.

Term	Definition
Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA)	A component of the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) that allows for emergency messages to be sent to all mobile devices in a geographic area.

Acronym	Definition
AAR	After-Action Report
AC	Area Command
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AFN	Access and Functional Needs
AL	Activation Level
ALS	Advanced Life Support
AOM	Airport Operations Manager
ARC	American Red Cross
ARES	Amateur Radio Emergency Service
ASPR	Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (DHHS)
CAC	Community Assistance Center
CBI	Colorado Bureau of Investigation
CDPHE	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
COOP	Continuity of Operations Plan
CPG	Comprehensive Preparedness Guide
CRS	Colorado Revised Statute or Community Rating System
CSP	Colorado State Patrol
CST	Civil Support Team
DAC	Disaster Assistance Center
DCM	Disaster Case Management
DHHS	United States Department of Health and Human Services
DHSEM	Colorado Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
DLS	Disaster Legal Service
DOLA	Colorado Department of Local Affairs
DRC	Disaster Recovery Center
D-SNAP	Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
DUA	Disaster Unemployment Assistance
EAS	Emergency Alert System
EM	Emergency Management
EMAC	Emergency Management Assistance Compact
EMS	Emergency Medical Service
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FCO	Federal Coordinating Officer
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
GEEERC	Governor's Expert Emergency Epidemic Response Committee
GETS	Government Emergency Telecommunication Service

| Acronym	Definition
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
HIPPA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HMGP	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
HMP	Hazard Mitigation Plan
IA	Individual Assistance
IAP	Incident Action Plan
IC	Incident Commander
ICS	Incident Command System
IDA	Initial Damage Assessment
IHA	Individuals and Households Program
IMAT	Incident Management Assistance Team
IMT	Incident Management Team
IP	Improvement Plan
IPAWS	Integrated Public Alert and Warning System
JFO	Joint Field Office
JIC	Joint Information Center
JIS	Joint Information System
MAC	Multi-Agency Coordination
MHz	Megahertz
NAWAS	National Warning System
NCR	North Central Region
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NRCC	National Response Coordination Center
NSSE	National Special Security Event
NTSB	National Transportation Safety Board
NWS	National Weather Service
OEM	Clear Creek County Office of Emergency Management
OWS	Outdoor Warning Sirens
PA	Public Assistance
PDA	Preliminary Damage Assessment
PIO	Public Information Officer
P-POD	Pharmaceutical Point of Dispensing
RRCC	Regional Response Coordination Center
RSS	Receipt, Storage and Staging
SBA	Small Business Administration
SCFD	Scientific and Cultural Facilities District
SCO	State Coordination Officer
SNS	Strategic National Stockpile

Acronym	Definition
SOC	Security Operations Center
THIRA	Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
UASI	Urban Area Security initiative
UC	Unified Command
US	United States
USC	United States Code
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
US DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
VIC	Victim Information Center
VOAD	Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
VOIP	Voice Over Internet Protocol
WEA	Wireless Emergency Alerts
WPS	Wireless Priority Service
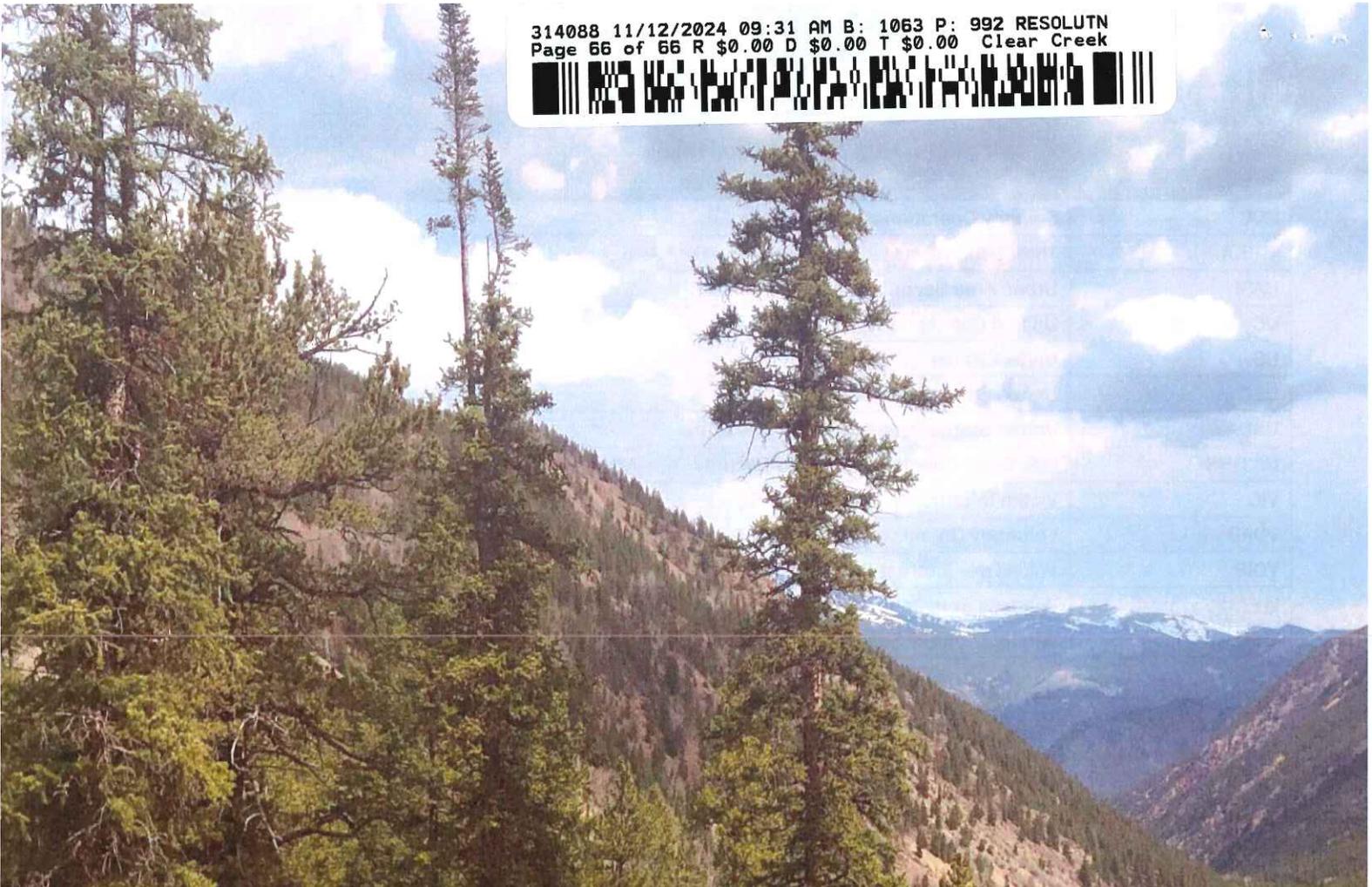
FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please contact the Clear Creek County Office of Emergency Management at (303) 679-2320 for more information on this plan or for additional emergency management and preparedness material related to Clear Creek County.

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