



**GEORGIA**

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Emergency Support Function 3 (Public Works & Engineering) Annex  
to Georgia Emergency Operations Plan

**2023**



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# Record of Change

Change #	Date	Part Affected	Date Posted	Who Posted
1	2/15/2020	1.2- dams added	2/16/2020	Amy Rammo Kuhs
2	2/15/2020	1.2- verbiage added to include Safe Dams and expanded scope for responsibilities.	2/16/2020	Amy Rammo Kuhs
3	2/15/2020	3.2- Responsibilities revised to make current. Formatting changes.	2/16/2020	Amy Rammo Kuhs
4	2/15/2020	3.3- DOT Moved into Primary Agency section since they work so closely with DNR on roads and bridges.	2/16/2020	Amy Rammo Kuhs
5	2/15/2020	3.3- Georgia VOAD added along with responsibilities	2/16/2020	Amy Rammo Kuhs
6	2/15/2020	Cover Page- DOT Added to Primary Agency	2/16/2020	Amy Rammo Kuhs
7	7/6/2023	Updated format; updated content	7/6/2023	Dr. Ahmed Bakr

# Record of Distribution

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Plan #	Office/Department	Representative	Signature
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## 1.0 Introduction

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### 1.1 Purpose

This Annex supports the Georgia Emergency Operations Plan (GEOP) and complies with standards set forth in the National Response Framework. This document provides guidance to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of a disaster or emergency on Georgia's essential public infrastructure and services.

ESF-3 Public Works and Engineering coordinates the state's response to disasters during which there is a disruption or disconnection of essential services or infrastructure, including water systems, sewer systems, electricity, dams, public roadways, and public structures. This document is supported by several Appendices, Tabs, and Standard Operational Guidelines (SOGs).

### 1.2 Scope

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is responsible for public works and the coordination of safe water and sewer systems during disaster-related incidents to include drinking water, wastewater, and dams in Georgia. EPD also oversees the Safe Dams in Georgia.

During non-disaster times, the Watershed Protection Branch of EPD issues permits for local governments and industry to discharge treated wastewater, and to local governments, industry, farmers and subdivisions for surface water and groundwater withdrawals.

The Watershed Protection Branch responsibilities include:

- Ensuring that Georgia's public water systems are operating properly to supply safe drinking water to citizens.
- Working to control non-point sources of pollution, including erosion and sedimentation.
- Managing storm water discharge.
- Water quality monitoring and modeling of Georgia's waterways.

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) is tasked with engineering responsibilities and is charged with coordinating the repair, replacement, and restoration of public infrastructure (including public roadways and buildings) that have been damaged during a disaster. During normal operating periods, GDOT works on a variety of public transportation projects, including:

- Planning, constructing, maintaining, and improving the state's roads and bridges.
- Providing planning and financial support for other multi-modal transportation such as mass transit and airports.
- Providing airport and air safety planning.

## 2.0 Concept of the Operation

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### 2.1 General

Through continuous coordination, the Primary and Support Agencies work to ensure the following capabilities:

- Conduct pre-incident and post-incident assessments of public infrastructure.
- GDOT will prioritize and initiate recovery efforts to restore and repair damage to public infrastructure.
- GDOT will provide technical assistance, to include engineering expertise and construction management.
- Provide assistance and coordination for the development and implementation of intrastate and interstate mutual aid.
- DNR EPD will coordinate resources required for emergency repair of damaged public infrastructure and critical water facilities.
- GDOT conducts debris clearance along public roadways.
- GDOT will authorize and coordinate the closure of damaged state and local roadways.
- DNR EPD will coordinate the repair and restoration of damaged public water systems.
- GDOT will assist ESF-9 Search and Rescue with stabilizing or demolishing damaged public and private structures to facilitate search and rescue operations for the public's health, safety, and welfare.
- GDOT will initiate the emergency removal and sorting of debris from public and private property, and disposal of the debris at specified sites.
- DNR EPD will provide technical assistance and expertise regarding impacts to public infrastructure during a disaster, including flood mitigation, water management, structure integrity assessments, and impact assessments.

### 2.2 Plan Activation

When any ESF-3 primary or support partner is apprised of a threat or incident, they will contact the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS) State Warning Point with pertinent information.

If a disaster warrants SOC activation, some, or all of ESF-3 may be activated. The scope, scale, and magnitude of the threat/incident will dictate which primary agencies will assign personnel to the SOC, and the relevant support agencies that will be requested for support.

When ESF-3 is activated, the Georgia DNR, with assistance from supporting departments and agencies, assesses and responds to requests for assistance with the management and/or maintenance of public infrastructure and systems, and planning or technical assistance from impacted local, state, or federal agencies or other ESFs.

During an emergency or disaster, the ESF-3 Coordinator will serve as the principle point of contact for operations associated with ESF-3. The ESF-3 Coordinator will oversee all ESF-3 operations and reports to the SOC Manager.

## **3.0 Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities**

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### **3.1 ESF Coordinator**

The Georgia DNR serves as the coordinator for ESF-3 and will assume primary responsibility for coordination among ESF-3 Primary and Support agencies.

### **3.2 Primary Agency Assignment of Responsibilities**

#### **Georgia Department of Natural Resources**

- Coordinate with appropriate agencies to insure operational readiness.
- Develops and maintains Standard Operating Procedures.
- Provides overall guidance concerning water supply matters, sewage treatment, and sewage disposal in conformance with regulatory requirements and with an overriding consideration for the protection of public health.
- Ensures essential needs for water are identified, along with measures for the conservation, distribution, and use of water.
- Ensures its divisions and district offices provide personnel, supplies, equipment, and facilities at the request of the ESF-3 Coordinator.
- Develops policies for conservation, distribution, and use of water.
- Establishes and enforces sewage treatment and disposal standards.
- Participates in and/or conducts exercises and tests.
- Establishes priorities to repair damaged water and sewer systems, and coordinates the provision of temporary, alternate, or interim sources of water and sewer service.
- Offer technical assistance to Dam owners
- Identifies supporting products and services such as casing, pipes, pumps, valves, generators, cables, staff, and transportation to facilitate industry response.
- Implements requirements for water priorities and allocations.
- Assists water suppliers with obtaining specialized personnel, equipment, and transportation to repair or restore water systems.
- Provides technical assistance on water and sewer systems.
- Monitors repair and restoration of water and sewer systems.
- Maintains coordination with support agencies and organizations for emergency priorities, repair, and restoration.
- Monitor restoration operations until services are restored.
- Coordinates public information and provides updates for ESF-15 External Affairs.
- Maintains financial records on personnel, supplies, and other resources utilized, and reports expenditures to GEMA/HS upon request.
- Coordinate with appropriate agencies and organizations to ensure operational readiness of engineering services.

#### **Georgia Department of Transportation**

- Provides damage assessment information to the SOC Manager.
- Identifies and coordinates ESF staffing requirements appropriate to the emergency.



- Processes requests for state public works and engineering assistance by providing recommendations of assistance from support agencies and presenting the most feasible recommendations to the SOC Manager for possible mission assignment.
- Collects information from support agencies and provide reports concerning emergency support operations in accordance with applicable procedures.
- Develops, maintains, and distributes this Annex in coordination with the GEMA/HS Planning Section.
- Removes or assists in the removal and disposal of debris, as appropriate, to provide emergency access to disaster areas or to assist in eliminating health and safety problems associated with debris.
- Prioritizes and performs emergency repairs to the state highway system.
- Provides status of state transportation systems in the disaster area.
- Assists local governments with emergency repairs to roadways to restore essential travel in the disaster area when it is appropriate.
- Provides, as necessary, technical expertise and personnel to save lives; protect health and safety; assist with clearance of debris in damaged areas; temporarily designate or construct access routes (roads, streets, bridges, ports, waterways, airfields and facilities) necessary for rescue personnel; provides technical assistance and evaluation for demolition of unsafe structures; provides engineering services, construction management and inspection services; and initiates emergency contracting as necessary.

### **3.3 Support Agency Assignment of Responsibilities**

#### **American Red Cross**

- Provides field personnel as needed for response operations.
- Shares damage assessment information as appropriate.

#### **Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia**

- Provides engineering equipment, laboratory services, personnel, and vehicles as needed for response operations.

#### **Georgia Building Authority**

- Provides personnel and expertise as needed for response operations.
- Provides site plans for all public structures impacted by significant damage.

#### **Georgia Department of Administrative Services**

- Provides available and obtainable public works and engineering resources in support of the ESF-3 missions.
- Provides public works and engineering technical and specialty support and coordination.
- Advises and/or assists in damage assessment for impacted structures.
- Assists in the locating of construction resources.
- Provides advisement regarding contract development, inspections, and management.

### **Georgia Department of Agriculture**

- Provides engineering and contracting services, and the procurement of equipment to assist in emergency debris removal; demolition; temporary protection of roads and bridges; and temporary protection of essential public facilities, water supply, and sanitation services.
- Provides food services as needed for response operations.
- Provides laboratory services as needed for response operations.

### **Georgia Department of Community Affairs**

- Provides spatial resources and mapping services, including existing land use maps and aerial photography.
- Coordinates the acquisition of public works and engineering resources among intrastate/interstate mutual aid, compact agreements, and GEMA/HS.

### **Georgia Department of Corrections**

- Provides manpower as available to assist with debris removal and the clearing of public access areas.
- Provides transportation assets to assist in debris removal.

### **Georgia Department of Defense**

- Provides laboratory services as needed for response operations.

### **Georgia Department of Labor**

- Provides worker safety advice assistance, and policy support for debris removal, building demolition, and other activities in support of ESF-3.

### **Georgia Department of Public Health**

- Provides situational awareness regarding water and wastewater needs at critical health care facilities.
- Provides septic tanks as needed for response operations.

### **Georgia Environmental Finance Authority**

- Provides personnel as needed for response operations.

### **Georgia Forestry Commission**

- Provides debris removal equipment and services as needed for response operations.
- Provides equipment and personnel as needed for response operations.

### **Georgia Power**

- Coordinates restoration of power to public health facilities, water and wastewater plants, and other critical public facilities.

### **Georgia Public Service Commission**

- Acts as a liaison for public and private water, sewer, communications, and utilities coordinating groups.

- Obtains initial and updated damage reports for utility infrastructure from public and private agencies and organizations.
- Obtains emergency repair and restoration plans from public and private agencies and organizations.
- Obtains and distributes infrastructure repair status reports.

#### **Georgia State Finance and Investment Commission**

- Provides project management expertise and personnel as needed for response operations.

#### **Georgia Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster**

- Provides teams of trained volunteers to carry out canvassing, needs assessment, information distribution, debris clearance, temporary roof repair, elimination of specified health/safety hazards, and other response and recovery activities in disadvantaged communities and for special needs residents.

#### **Georgia Rural Water Association**

- Provides Technical and Resource Assistance to Water and Wastewater Systems. Assist small and medium size water and wastewater systems with damage assessments, and sample collection.

## **4.0 Direction Control, and Coordination**

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### **4.1 Information, Collection and Dissemination**

ESF-3 will report all activities and information to the ESF-5 Situation Unit for inclusion in the development of Incident Action Plans and Situational Reports. All public information reports regarding ESF-3 activities will be coordinated with ESF-15 External Affairs.

### **4.2 Communications and Documentation**

In addition to the SOC, ESF-3 may provide personnel to field operations established in Georgia, including but not limited to: Joint Field Offices (JFO), Joint Information Centers (JIC), Disaster Recovery Centers and any other incident facility established to meet operational demands for each incident requiring the activation of the GEOP.

The GEMA/HS Planning Section has provided standard operating guide development templates and planning assistance to all ESFs listed in the GEOP. All ESFs will strive to develop operationally ready SOGs for inclusion in the GEOP. ESF-3 will meet as necessary to develop, review and refine SOGs that discuss specific operational processes and procedures.

### **4.3 Administration, Finance, and Logistics**

Resource requirements will be primarily determined by affected county Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Directors, working in concert with assigned GEMA/HS Field Coordinators and the emergency coordinators of affected state agencies.

Resource Requests flow from the County EMA Director (or the GEMA/HS Field Coordinator acting on his/her behalf) or state agency to the SOC. Existing state resources, intrastate mutual aid, donations, Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) and Non-Governmental Organizations provide the initial source of personnel, vehicles, equipment, supplies and services to fulfill resource requests.

Resource Requests that exceed the capability of these sources may be fulfilled through state purchasing and contracting, interstate mutual aid or federal government assistance.

The ESF-3 Coordinator serves as the point of contact for requests for assistance for ESF-3 that are received by the GEMA/HS SOC and is responsible for delegating mission assignments to the appropriate ESF-3 partner agency. The partner agency then ensures mission assignment completion through direct support or by delegation to the appropriate support agency.

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) is a national mutual aid agreement between the 50 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia. It is based on 13 Articles which have been enacted into state law by each state. In Georgia, EMAC is addressed in the O.C.G.A., Title 38, Chapter 3, Article 5.

States may only request assistance via EMAC when their governor has declared a state of emergency. EMAC requires that the state requesting assistance reimburse the state that provides the assistance. The Director of GEMA/HS is the EMAC Authorized Representative (AR) for the State of Georgia. The AR is tasked with the authority to commit and accept resources through EMAC partnerships. The AR may delegate this authority to the Logistics Section Chief, Deputy Logistics Section Chief, and Finance Section Chief of GEMA/HS. The GEMA/HS Logistics Section Chief is the Designated Contact (DC) for EMAC. In the absence of the Logistics Section Chief, the agency has identified alternate Designated Contacts. The DC is commonly referred to as the EMAC Coordinator. The DC coordinates EMAC operations and prepares the official EMAC Request for Assistance (commonly referred to as the REQ-A). When completed, the REQ-A becomes a contract between the requesting and assisting states for the provision of assistance in accordance with EMAC. When the SOC is activated, the Logistics Section Mutual Aid Unit coordinates and manages EMAC missions. This unit will be initially staffed with GEMA/HS personnel but will likely be augmented by trained EMAC personnel from other states as soon as possible. This unit is also referred to as an EMAC "A" Team.

When the SOC is activated, the ESF-3 will coordinate all applicable EMAC requests with the GEMA/HS EMAC DC or the SOC Logistics Section Mutual Aid Unit. No resource (personnel or equipment) may deploy to another state via EMAC until the REQ-A has been approved and signed by the ARs of the requesting and assisting states, and they have been provided a copy of the REQ-A, have been briefed and prepared for the mission. To facilitate obtaining any assistance Georgia may need via EMAC, state ESFs should identify their shortfalls in capability and where resources may be obtained to provide this capability. This may be accomplished via informal coordination with sister agencies in other states to determine if the needed resource is available for potential deployment to Georgia, its location, and the point of contact for

the resource. Such information is critical in expediting a request for assistance via EMAC. For more information on EMAC, contact the GEMA/HS EMAC Designated Contact at 404-635-7200.

In conjunction with ESF-7 Logistics, ESF-3 Public Works and Engineering will develop, review, refine, and maintain lists of all resources currently available and under the control of the primary or support agencies listed in this plan. The development of these lists may be completed by several organizations and professional groups, which currently operate within this ESF. These resource lists should be compliant with the resource typing standards outlined in the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

## **5.0 Plan Evaluation, Maintenance and Revision**

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### **5.1 Evaluation**

GEMA/HS systematically coordinates and conducts event debriefings and compiles after action reports for any incident that calls for the activation of all or any portion of the GEOP. ESF-3 shall participate in this process when applicable. After Action Reports will document areas for improvement, resource shortfalls and corrective action planning requirements which will be incorporated into the GEOP, its annexes or ESF SOGs when applicable

GEMA/HS conducts all exercises within the structure provided by the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP). ESF-3 will participate in all exercise activities when applicable and will follow the HSEEP process to include active participation in planning and evaluation meetings, workshops, and conferences.

### **5.2 Maintenance and Revision**

This Emergency Support Function Annex will be reviewed every two years and updated as required. In addition, the document shall be evaluated for recommended revisions and corrective measures as an integral part of the Agency Exercise or Event After Action Reports/Improvement Plans, as well as internal reviews that will follow the issuance of any Governor Executive Order or passage of legislation impacting the Agency.

## **6.0 Authorities and References**

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The authority for the Georgia Emergency Operations Plan is based on Official Code of Georgia, Title 38, Section 3, Articles 1 through 3, known as the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981, and is compliant with the National Incident Management System and supports the National Response Framework.

O.C.G.A. § 38-3-1, to § 38-3-10, establishes legal authority for development and maintenance of Georgia's Emergency Management Program and organization, and defines the emergency powers, authorities, and responsibilities of the Governor and Director of GEMA/HS. Moreover, the State's Emergency Services and Disaster Laws

require that state and local governments develop and maintain current Emergency Operations Plans (EOP) to be prepared for a variety of natural and human caused hazards. Executive Orders by the Governor supplement the laws and establish specific planning initiatives and requirements.