



# Communications

Teller County Emergency Operations Plan - Annex F

November 18, 2021

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The following Annex provides a Communications template (ICS Form 205) in the event of a large-scale emergency or disaster in Teller County.

Rapid dissemination of warning and emergency information about an imminent or occurring emergency is critical to protecting life, safety, and health during an emergency. The Communications Annex should provide clear, concise, and accurate information on the radio transmission and receiving frequencies that will be used by the pre-identified agencies. Nothing in this Annex dictates that this Communications Plan can't be changed, updated, or altered after the first operational period and as Incident Action Plans (IAP's) are developed.

## **SITUATION & ASSUMPTIONS**

### **SITUATION**

When the public is threatened by an immediate or potential emergency situation, it is essential that timely communications be accomplished to protect the public.

Hazards vary in both predictability and speed of onset. The time available for developing a Communications Plan is prior to incident and response personnel need to be trained in how to turn their radios to the proper frequencies when needed. Effective public response relies on responder education measures taken prior to an emergency.

### **ASSUMPTIONS**

A warning period will be available for most emergency situations although the amount of lead-time will vary from hazard to hazard. Proper use of a Communications Plan will save lives, reduce injuries, and protect property.

Certain hazard-specific emergencies may require automatic emergency alerting, warning and notification of the general public and emergency response organizations.

## **CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

The County will endeavor to release timely and accurate emergency information to the public concerning emergency preparedness, response, and recovery in a cooperative effort with the media. Given Teller County agencies are primarily dispatched by three Dispatch/Communications Centers, each Center will coordinate warnings with Pueblo Interagency Dispatch Center and Colorado State Patrol and surrounding county Dispatch Centers when appropriate.

Consideration must be given to the time sensitive nature of the information and the audience to afford adequate saturation. These means are vehicles of sharing information relevant to hazards, threats to public safety and risk reduction.

The concept of warning typically includes the activation of all or part of the emergency management organization and communicating with the general public and organizations such as schools, industry, employers, etc. to ensure that they are aware of a dangerous situation.

Teller County also supports R.A.C.E.S., A.R.E.S. and M.A.R.S. radio capabilities. There is a radio room located at the Cripple Creek EOC, the Woodland Park Library and there are quarterly drills that are conducted by these groups to ensure back up communications capabilities. All members of these groups are trained and qualified in the groups and the positions that are necessary to communicate across the county, state and nation.

**ATTACHMENT A SAMPLE COMMUNICATIONS PLAN**

<b>INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN</b>			<b>Incident Name</b> TELLER COUNTY ALL HAZARDS INCIDENT		<b>Date/Time Prepared</b> November 1, 2021		<b>Notes</b>  In general, communication is directed from the field; however, dispatch can move operations to another talk group or channel as needed		
<b>Channel</b>	<b>Function</b>	<b>Channel Name / Talk group</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>RX Freq N or W</b>	<b>RX Tone/NAC</b>	<b>TX Freq N or W</b>	<b>Tx Tone/NAC</b>	<b>ZONE</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
1	COMMAND	TELLER MAC	COMMAND					C	County/City Coordination
2	LAW	TCSO TAC	SHERIFF OPS					C	Tactical Law OPS
3	LAW	WPPD TAC	CITY PD OPS					C	Tactical Law OPS
4	LAW Coordination	TCSO WEST	LAW Coordination					C	County/City Law OPS
5	SEARCH & RESCUE	TCSO POSSE	SAR/FIRE/LOGS					C	POSSE Operations
6	EAST END FIRE	FD TAC	FIRE OPS					C	East End Fire Operations
7	AIRPORT	MAOPS	Airport Operations					C	Airport Command/Operations
8	WEST END FIRE	NNFD	WEST END FIRE OPS					C	West End Fire Operations
9	PUB WORKS	MC RB 2	MC PW OPS					C	County/City Public Work OPS
10	PUBLIC HEALTH	MMH	PUBLIC HEALTH OPS					C	Medical Health Coordination
11	City PWKS	MPWK	CITY PW					C	City/County Public Work OPS
12	EOC COORDINATION	WRIC A	REGIONAL EOC COORDINATION					C	Regional EOC Coordination
13	MUTUAL AID COORDINATION	SW MAC 13	MUTUAL AID COORDINATION					C	Mutual Aid Coordination
14	FIRE MUTUAL AID	SW MAC 14	FIRE					C	Mutual Aid Fire OPS

15	<b>LAW MUTUAL AID</b>	<b>SW MAC 15</b>	<b>LAW</b>					<b>C</b>	<b>Mutual Aid Law OPS</b>
16	<b>EMS MUTUAL</b>	<b>SW MAC 16</b>	<b>EMS</b>					<b>C</b>	<b>Mutual Aid EMS OPS</b>
<b>VHF</b>									
	<b>Command</b>	<b>SW MONT MAC</b>	<b>East Law/Fire/EMS</b>					<b>A</b>	<b>East County Command</b>
	<b>Command</b>	<b>SW MONT MAC</b>	<b>West Law/Fire/EMS</b>					<b>A</b>	<b>West County Command</b>
	<b>Tactical</b>	<b>MC/VLAW31W</b>	<b>Law MAC</b>					<b>A</b>	<b>National Law Mutual Aid</b>
	<b>COMMAND</b>	<b>VFIRE21W</b>	<b>FIRE</b>					<b>A</b>	<b>National Fire Mutual Aid</b>
Prepared By (Communications Unit)					Incident Location				
					County	State	Latitude	N Longitude	W