



## Georgia Emergency Operations Plan

# Emergency Support Function # 1 Annex **Transportation**



2015

## ESF Coordinator and Support Agencies

---

### **ESF Coordinator**

*Georgia Department of Transportation*

### **Primary Agency**

*Georgia Department of Transportation*

### **Support Agencies**

*Georgia Air Operations Branch  
Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia  
Georgia Building Authority  
Georgia Department of Administrative Services  
Georgia Department of Agriculture  
Georgia Department of Corrections  
Georgia Department of Defense  
Georgia Department of Driver Services  
Georgia Department of Education  
Georgia Department of Human Services  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
Georgia Department of Public Safety  
Georgia Emergency Management Agency/  
Homeland Security  
Georgia Regional Transportation Authority  
Technical College System of Georgia*

---

## 1.0 Introduction

---

### 1.1 Purpose

This ESF Annex supports the Georgia Emergency Operations Plan (GEOP) and complies with standards set forth in the National Response Framework (NRF), ESF#1: Transportation Annex. This document provides guidance to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of a disaster or emergency on Georgia's transportation infrastructure and networks. ESF#1 is designed to ensure seamless integration of key transportation resources and information for preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities to address an emergency or disaster. This document is supported by several Appendices, Tabs, and Standard Operational Guidelines (SOG).

### 1.2 Scope

The scope of operations for ESF#1 encompasses ground-based, maritime, and aviation-based transportation infrastructure support in an emergency or a disaster. The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) assumes primary responsibility for the coordination of maritime and ground-based multi-modal transportation resources.

---

## 2.0 Concept of Operations

---

### 2.1 General

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

- Designate Primary and Alternate Emergency Coordinators. The designees shall represent the agency in an emergency or disaster and provide operational support in the State Operations Center when requested.
- Sustain operational readiness through regular contact with primary and support agencies.
- Participate in planning meetings and exercises.
- Develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) to support emergency and disaster operations.
- Ensure adequate levels of training for staff that support ESF#1.
- Ensure that support agencies will have staff available for operational support.
- Monitor the transportation infrastructure and act as the principle source of information for threats or incidents to the infrastructure.
- Coordinate the movement and flow of maritime and ground traffic into and out of impacted areas for effective transport of relief supplies, personnel, and equipment.
- Identify, procure, prioritize, and track transportation resources that are requested to support or are utilized for emergency or disaster operations.
- Conduct impact assessments within impacted areas.

- Coordinate with ESF#3 – Public Works and Engineering to ensure that transportation infrastructure is adequate to meet transport needs.
- Coordinate with ESF#3 – Public Works and Engineering on restoration operations for transportation infrastructure.
- Coordinate with ESF#7 – Resource Support in the provision of transportation resources to support commodities transport into impacted areas.

## **2.2 Activation – ESF#1**

Any threat or incident requiring the activation of this Annex may be detected from a variety of sources. When an ESF#1 partner is made aware of a threat or incident, they will contact the GEMA/HS Communications Center with pertinent information.

During an emergency or disaster, the ESF#1 Coordinator will serve as the principle point of contact for operations associated with ESF#1. The ESF Coordinator will oversee all ESF#1 operations and reports to the SOC Chief. If a disaster warrants SOC activation, some or all of ESF#1 may be activated. The scope, scale, and magnitude of the threat/incident will dictate the relevant support agencies that will be requested for support.

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, GA VOAD and NGOs 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 (EMAC) or federal government assistance.

The ESF#1 Coordinator serves as the point of contact for requests for assistance for ESF#1 that are received by the GEMA/HS State Operations Center (SOC). The ESF#1 Primary Agency Emergency Coordinator then ensures mission assignment completion through direct support or by delegation to the appropriate support agency.

## **2.3 Organization**

The ESF#1 Coordinator is the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Within the GEMA/HS SOC, the GDOT Primary/Alternate Emergency Coordinator will serve a dual role as the ESF#1 Coordinator and the Primary Agency Emergency Coordinator for maritime and ground-based transportation operations.

The GEOP ESF#5 – Emergency Management contains information on the provision of assets and resources through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), private-

sector or nongovernmental organization (NGO) procurement procedures, and requests for assistance to FEMA.

## **3.0 Assignment of Responsibilities**

The assignment of responsibilities section establishes the organizations and agencies that will be relied upon to respond to a disaster or emergency situation. This section also includes tasks that these organizations and agencies are expected to perform.

### **3.1 ESF Coordinator**

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) serves as the coordinator for ESF#1 and conducts ESF planning, preparedness, response and recovery activities.

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

- Plans and coordinates preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities pertaining to transportation.
- Conducts regular ESF#1 meetings and conference calls.
- Supports and participates in planning meetings and exercises relating to ESF#1.
- Maintains ongoing contact with ESF#1 primary and support agencies.
- Ensures that ESF#1 Primary and Support Emergency Coordinators maintain operational readiness by taking requisite GEMA/HS SOC training courses.
- Acts as a liaison between ESF#1 and external entities.
- Directs requests for assistance to the appropriate ESF#1 primary agencies.
- Directs unmet requests for assistance to ESF#5 – Emergency Management.
- Provides information on status, threats, impacts, and restoration of transportation infrastructure and services in conjunction with ESF#3.
- Provides updates on the status of ESF#1 mission assignments to ESF#5, the Planning Section Chief, and other entities external to ESF#1.
- Generates information to be used in briefings, situation reports, and incident action plans.
- Oversees the provision of transportation assets in coordination with ESF#7 to support the movement of evacuees in accordance with the State of Georgia Catastrophic Evacuee Support Plan.

### **3.2 Primary and Support Agencies**

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

- Coordinates all requests for assistance for multi-modal transportation resources.
- Monitors the transportation infrastructure during evacuations and provides regular reports on traffic volumes.
- Enacts one-way lane operations to support mass evacuations, in conjunction with ESF#13 – Public Safety and Security.
- Coordinates the abatement of construction and maintenance projects for transportation infrastructure during an emergency or disaster.

- Coordinates the issuance of regulatory waivers and exemptions for oversized and overweight vehicles.
- Enacts effective traffic demand management by a variety of methods, including variable message signs and the deployment of Highway Emergency Response Operator (HERO) units.
- Oversees the closure of federal and state routes and bridges during hazardous conditions or upon the threat of hazardous conditions.
- Identifies, procures, prioritizes, and tracks transportation resources that are requested to support or are utilized for emergency and disaster operations.
- Assists state agencies, local jurisdictions, and volunteer organizations with evacuation and transport of supplies and equipment.

#### **Georgia Air Operations Branch**

- Coordinates and prioritizes all requests for assistance for fixed wing or rotary aircraft within the state during disasters.
- Establishes Aviation Support Operations Center as an extension of the State Operations Center when applicable, in coordination with local, state and federal partners and with the State Aviation Support Operations Center Plan.
- Coordinates and manages Aviation Support Operations Center (s) as necessary to manage state, local and federal aircraft operating within a disaster area without adequate normal airspace de-confliction capabilities.
- Coordinates requests for aviation transportation assistance from all other ESFs, local jurisdictions and state partners in disasters.
- Provide aerial reconnaissance of roads during emergencies and disasters as requested to determine traffic conditions and road infrastructure damage.

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

- Provides personnel and vehicles as needed for response operations.

#### **Georgia Department of Agriculture**

- Provides personnel and fuel as needed for response operations.

#### **Georgia Department of Corrections**

- Provides fuel, maintenance services, vehicles, and personnel as needed for response operations.

#### **Georgia Department of Defense**

- Provides aircraft, fuel, mobile communications, vehicles and personnel as needed for response operations.

#### **Georgia Department of Driver Services**

- Provides facilities, communications, technical assistance, and personnel as needed for response operations.

### **Georgia Department of Education**

- Provides personnel and vehicles as needed for response operations.

### **Georgia Department of Human Services**

- Provides personnel and vehicles as needed for response operations.

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

- Provides boats and aircraft, as well as mobile communications, personnel, and vehicles as needed for response operations.

### **Georgia Department of Public Safety**

- Monitors interstate highways and other routes during evacuations and provides regular reports on traffic volume.
- Secures critical transportation facilities and infrastructure.
- Provides security for response personnel during operations.
- Assists with enactment of one-way lane operations and traffic management during mass evacuations.

### **Georgia Building Authority**

- Provides personnel and vehicles as needed for response operations.

### **Georgia Emergency Management Agency/ Homeland Security**

- Provides communications networks.
- Coordinates emergency response operations among local, state, federal, private and non-governmental entities.

### **Georgia Forestry Commission**

- Provides personnel and vehicles as needed for response operations.

### **Georgia Regional Transportation Authority**

- Provides vehicles as needed for response operations.

## **3.3 Direction, Control, and Coordination**

This section describes the framework for all direction, control, and coordination within the State of Georgia and other states.

### **3.3 A: ESF Coordination within State Operation Center**

ESF#1 will report all activities to the ESF#5 Situation Unit for inclusion in the development of incident action plans and situational reports. All public information reports regarding ESF#1 activity will be coordinated with ESF#15 – External Affairs.

When ESF#1's activated, the Georgia Department of Transportation, with assistance from supporting departments and agencies, assesses and responds to requests for

assistance with the management and/or maintenance of transportation infrastructure and networks, and planning or technical assistance from impacted local, state or federal agencies or other ESFs.

In addition to the SOC, ESF#1 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 particular incident requiring the activation of the GEOP.

### **3.3 B: Coordination of EMAC Request**

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 Operations Director, Deputy Operations Director and Finance Director of GEMA/HS. The GEMA/HS Logistics Program Manager is the designated contact (DC) for EMAC. In the absence of the Logistics Program Manager, 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.

ESF#1 will coordinate all EMAC requests with the GEMA/HS EMAC DC or the SOC Logistics Section Mutual Aid Unit, when the SOC is activated. 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, 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.

### **3.3 C: ESF Activation, Exercise & Improvement Planning**

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#1 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#1 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.

### **3.3 D: Development of Standard Operating Guides**

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#1 will meet as necessary to develop, review and refine SOGs that discuss specific operational processes and procedures.

### **3.3 E: Development of Resources Capability List**

In conjunction with ESF#7 – Resource Support, ESF#1 – Transportation 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).

## **4.0 ESF Annex Development and Maintenance**

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.