

# **Emergency Operations Plan For The City of Sonora**

**PART I: BASIC PLAN**

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February 2014

# Sonora Emergency Operations Plan



## Letter of Promulgation-Sonora, California

Approval Date: February 3, 2014

To: Officials, Employees, and Citizens of Sonora, California

The preservation of life, property, and the environment is an inherent responsibility of local, state, and federal government. The City of Sonora has prepared this Emergency Operations Plan to ensure the most effective and economical allocation of resources for the maximum benefit and protection of the community in response to a significant emergency.

While no plan can completely prevent death and destruction, effective plans carried out by knowledgeable and well-trained personnel can and will minimize losses. This plan establishes the emergency organization, assigns tasks, specifies policies, and general procedures, and provides for coordination of planning efforts of the various emergency staff and service elements utilizing the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS).

The objective of this plan is to incorporate and coordinate all the facilities and personnel of Sonora into an efficient organization capable of responding to any emergency.

This emergency operations plan is an extension of the California Emergency Plan, and the Tuolumne County Emergency Operations/Services Plan. It will be reviewed, exercised periodically, and revised as necessary to meet changing conditions.

The City Council gives its full support to this plan and urges all officials, employees, and citizens, individually and collectively, to do their share in the total emergency effort of Sonora.

Concurrence of this promulgation letter reaffirms the earlier adoption of the Standardized Emergency Management System by Sonora. Upon adopting this plan, the county will concurrently be adopting the provisions of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). This emergency operations plan will become effective upon approval by the City Council.

Hank Russell  
Mayor  
City of Sonora

Date: 02-03-2014



RESOLUTION NO. 02-03-2014-B

A RESOLUTION OF THE SONORA CITY COUNCIL TO ADOPT THE CITY OF SONORA'S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

WHEREAS, The City of Sonora is committed to protecting the citizens and visitors of the City from the potential harm caused form natural or human caused disasters or emergencies;

WHEREAS, the preservation of life, property, and the environment is an inherent responsibility of local, state, and federal government;

WHEREAS, It is imperative that the City plan and prepare for an effective and timely response and recovery effort, should such emergencies or disasters occur;

WHEREAS, The department of Homeland Security and the California Office of Emergency Services (OES) require that every Operational Area (OA) operate under an approved Emergency Operations Plan (EOP);

WHEREAS, Tuolumne County has developed and adopted an EOP and the objective of the County EOP is to incorporate and coordinate all the facilities and personnel of Tuolumne County into an efficient organization capable of responding to any emergency;

WHEREAS, The City of Sonora has developed an EOP for the City which adopts Part II (Hazard Annexes) of the County's EOP;

WHEREAS, This Emergency Operations Plan is an extension of the Tuolumne County EOP and the California Emergency Plan. It will be reviewed, exercised periodically, and revised as necessary to meet changing conditions;

WHEREAS, Upon adopting this Plan, the City will concurrently be adopting the provisions of the National Incident Management System (NIMS);

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the City Council gives its full support to this plan and urges officials, employees, and citizens, individually and collectively, to do their share in the total emergency effort of the City and the County. It supersedes all previous city emergency plans.

PASSED AND ADOPTED as a Resolution of the City of Sonora, California, at a regular meeting of said City Council, held on February 3, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES: Hank Russell, Matt Hawkins, Ron Stearn, Bill Canning, Connie Williams

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

DATED: February 3, 2014

Hank Russell Mayor

Marijane Cassinetta City Clerk



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**SONORA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

**DISTRIBUTION LIST**

**City Locations**

City Hall  
Sonora Police Department  
Sonora Fire Department  
Sonora Public Works  
Sonora Website

**County Locations**

County Administration

**State Agencies**

California Mutual Aid Region IV

**EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN FOR TUOLUMNE COUNTY**

**CITY DISTRIBUTION LOCATIONS**

City Hall  
Sonora Police Department  
Sonora Fire Department





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## **SECTION I – INTRODUCTION**

### **A. PURPOSE**

This Emergency Operations Plan is constructed in order to clearly delineate the City's procedures and policies when responding to a significant disaster. This entails any emergency which could impact the health, safety, and property of the public within the operational area's limits. Emphasis is placed on saving lives, preserving property and minimizing the effects of the disaster. While emergency response and recovery activities are contingent upon the type and extent of the disaster, this plan is flexible enough to be used in all emergencies. In specific hazard annexes, the plan outlines the operational area response in greater detail for the following types of emergencies:

- Extreme Weather
- Flood/Dam Failure
- Geological Event:
  - Earthquake
  - Volcano
- Hazardous Materials
- Terrorism / Civil Disturbance
- Extreme Events/Weather
- Transportation Accident / Multi Casualty Incident
- Wildland Fire

### **B. OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this Plan are to:

- Protect the public and property in Sonora.
- Establish official policy for Sonora in response to emergencies utilizing the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the Standard Emergency Management System (SEMS), and the Incident Command System (ICS).
- Identify authorities and assign responsibilities for planning and response activities.



- Identify the scope of potential hazards which form a basis for planning.
- Identify other jurisdictions and organizations with which planning and emergency response activities should be coordinated.
- Determine the emergency organization structure which will manage emergency response for the City.
- Establish the City's policies for providing emergency information to the public.
- Outline preplanned response actions which will be taken by emergency personnel in the operational area to mitigate the emergency's effects.
- Describe the resources available to support emergency response activities.
- Outline the actions necessary to return the City to normal operations as soon as it's practical.
- Assist other jurisdictional area governments and communities through a successful recovery process.
- Establish responsibilities within the City for the maintenance of the overall emergency preparedness program.
- Outline the process for ordering and rendering mutual aid.
- Facilitate the continuity of government.

## **C. PLAN JURISDICTION**

This Plan encompasses the City of Sonora and the private agencies and businesses within the jurisdictional limits of the City. Copies of this plan are shared with Cal OES, the County of Tuolumne, and other local, state and federal agencies for informational and coordination purposes. If desired by those jurisdictions, this plan may be used as their specific plan upon proper modification and adoption.

## **D. PLAN ORGANIZATION**

- **Part I: Basic Plan**
- **Part II: Hazard Specific Plans**
- **Part III: Support Materials**



An abstract of each part is provided below:

➤ **PART I – Basic Plan**

The Basic Plan serves as an overview for elements of response which are common to all types of emergencies. Policies and objectives for the City are set forth in this section. Therefore, approval by the City Council is required.

➤ **PART II – Hazard-Specific Annexes**

The hazard-specific plans are more tactical in nature and changes are frequent, not requiring City Council approval. The City has elected to use the annexes contained in Part II of the Tuolumne County Emergency Operations Plan are as follows:

Annex A: Extreme Weather

Annex B: Flooding/Dam Failure

Annex C: Geological Event

- Earthquake
- Volcano

Annex D: Hazardous Materials

Annex E: Terrorism/Civil Disturbance

Annex F: Transportation Accident / Multi Casualty

Annex G: Wildland Fire

Each annex covers the planning elements specific to the type of emergency addressed.

➤ **PART III - Support Materials**

The third segment of this plan consists of support materials and references which by themselves are stand-alone documents. These materials are maintained independent of Parts I and II. The materials are intended to provide emergency personnel with information and data to support the City's emergency response and recovery efforts. As appropriate, references to the support materials are provided in Parts I and II of the Plan.

The Job Action Sheets provide direction to emergency workers in the implementation of the concepts and policies applicable to each type of



emergency. They provide guidance on how, when, and by whom emergency actions are performed and give information and references necessary to support emergency workers in their tasks.

Examples of the types of documents found in Part III, Support Materials includes:

- Key Contact Lists (Confidential numbers-limited distribution)
- Sonora Resource Lists (vehicle and equipment)
- Sonora Recovery Plan
- Family Support Plan
- Job Action Sheets
- Emergency Alerting System and Sample Messages
- Sample legal documents pertaining to emergency declarations, evacuations and curfews.
- Animal Support Plan
- Multi Casualty Plan

Note: Position specific plan holders may include additional reference materials, i.e. the Finance Section Chief may add pertinent budget documents.

### **E. Plan Coordination**

All major emergencies result in response by more than one jurisdiction. Therefore, the City must assure that program development is coordinated with surrounding jurisdictions. Response during emergency must also be coordinated.

Plan development and response coordination is required with the following agencies/jurisdiction:

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)
- Tuolumne County Fire Department/CAL FIRE
- Adjacent Districts
- Adjoining Counties



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## **SECTION II - AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES**

### **A.**

#### **Authorities**

##### **Federal Authorities:**

- Homeland Security Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD8): National Preparedness 2011
- Homeland Security PPD 8 National Preparedness Goal 2011
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988 (Amended Public Law 93-288)
- Federal Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-288)
- Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950 (Amended Public Law 920)
- Public Law 84-99 of the Flood Control Act of 1944
- Code of Federal Regulations (44CFR201.6) Part 201.6, 204 (3-5) – Disaster Mitigation Act
- California Government Code (Chapter 7, Div. 1, Title 2) Section 8550 et seq.- California Emergency Services Act

##### **State Authorities**

- California Government Code (Chapter 7, Div. 1, Title 2) Section 8550 et seq.-California Emergency Services Act
- California Code-Chapter 7: California Emergency Services Act (8550.-8668.)
- State of California Emergency Plan 2009
- California Disaster Assistance Act 2010
- State Natural Disaster Assistance Act Program 2010
- California Natural Disaster Assistance Act (Government Code Chapter 7.5 of Division 1 of Title 2)
- California Health and Safety Code, Division 20, Chapter 6.5, Sections 25115 and 25117, Chapter 6.95, Section 2550
- California Code of Regulations (Title 19, Division 2, Chapter 1) SEMS Regulations
- Government Code Section 8607(a) SEMS Guidelines



- California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement 2010
- Governor's Executive Order S-02-05
- Orders and Regulations Promulgated by the Governor to Take Effect upon the Existence of a State of War Emergency.

## **Local Authorities**

Sonora Municipal Code Chapter 8.30

## **B.**

### **References**

The following is a listing of references used in the development of this emergency plan:

- California Emergency Plan, 1998
- California Emergency Resources Management Plan
- California Fire and Rescue Operations Plan
- California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan 2009
- California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement 2005
- California Emergency Medical Services Authority Multi-Causality Incident Guidelines
- Sonora Community Wildfire Protection Plan 2004
- Sonora Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan 1996
- Sonora Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan 2004
- Federal Response Plan 2003
- Fire Service Emergency Management Handbook, FEMA 1985.
- FIRESCOPE Field Operations Guide - ICS 420-1
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



**SECTION III - COMMUNITY PROFILE**

**Geography:**

Sonora is located in the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in the heart of California’s gold country. The City was incorporated in 1851 and serves as the county seat for Tuolumne County. Sonora is the only incorporated city within the County. Sonora was named after the miners from Sonora, Mexico who settled the City in 1848. While gold mining was the driving force of the City, it quickly evolved into the commercial, government and cultural center for the region that it is today. Many of the City’s existing buildings, especially in its Historic Business District, still date back to the 1800’s, attracting thousands of tourists annually.

The City is located at 1800 ft. elevation and its steep terrain is heavily wooded. According to the United States Census Bureau, Sonora has an area of 3.1 square miles 99.55% of which is land and 0.45% of it is water. As of the 2012 the census, the City population is 4,903.

However, as the County Seat and commercial center for the County of Tuolumne, and with the multitudes of tourist who annually visit Sonora, the City’s daily population can swell to over 25,000.

In addition to the single family residential areas, the City provides services to one elementary school (688 students), one high school (1000 students), one continuation high school (60 students), one K-10 grade private school (73 Students) six preschools (120 children), one hospital and numerous medical facilities that have a daily population of 1,600, two convalescent homes, one skilled nursing facility, one assisted living facility, one County jail, three shopping centers, the historic downtown area and five low income apartment complexes.

	<b>Sonora</b>	<b>Tuolumne</b>
Land area in square miles (2010)	3.1	2,220.88
Persons per square mile	1,582	24.90

**Sonora City Residents:**

Population: 4,903

The population fluctuates on a daily basis. The City is the commercial hub and the County seat for Tuolumne County. Monday thru Friday there is a 400% daily increase in population, increasing the daytime population to over 25,000.



Median resident age: 39.7 (2010)  
Tuolumne County median age: 29.2  
Persons 65 years and over: 16.6%

**Racial Distribution in Sonora:**

White Non-Hispanic Alone (82.3%)  
Hispanic or Latino (11.1%)  
Two or more races (3.0%)  
Black Non-Hispanic Alone (1.9%)  
American Indian and Alaska Native alone (0.7%)  
Asian alone (1.0)

**Housing:**

City of Sonora owner-occupied  
houses and condos: 1,066  
Renter-occupied apartments: 1,280

**Average household size:**

Owner owned: 2.35  
people  
Renter Occupied: 1.72  
people

**Estimated median house or  
condo value in 2011:**

Owner Occupied:  
\$160,000

**Occupied housing units in  
2011:**

Sonora: 2,346  
Owner occupied: 1,066  
Renter occupied: 1,280

**SECTION IV - HAZARD OVERVIEW**

**A. EXTREME WEATHER**

The planning area has a history of extreme weather. These events can have significant impacts on the health and safety of the population and cause major property and infrastructure damage. These types of events include: extreme cold/freezing, heavy snow fall/winter storms, wind storms, drought, and thunder storms. The duration of these events, with the exception of drought, is most typically short term. Listed below are the primary dangers associated with these events:

- Threat to life and danger to public health
- Damage/loss of personal property or crops/livestock
- Utility failures
- Interruption of the transportation network
- Interruption of communication systems

**Table IV- 1: Samples of Extreme Weather Events in or around Sonora**

DATE	EVENT DETAILS
February of 1938	<b>Heavy Snowfall</b> - A very cold storm delivered 48 inches of snow at Soulsbyville, which has an elevation of 3000 feet.
Winter of 1969	<b>Heavy Snowfall</b> - A series of cold storms dropped 8 inches of snow on the City of Sonora, elevation 1800 feet. The snow stayed on the ground for a full week as a cold front moved in behind the last storm. The County came to a standstill as the limited number of snow plows were unable to keep the roads open.
August of 1987	<b>Lightning</b> - After months of dry weather, a dry lightning storm moved through the higher elevations of the County starting numerous fires in the Stanislaus National Forest. These fires eventually merged together into one large fire that caused millions of dollars in damage to timber resources and structures.
February of 1999	<b>Freeze</b> – A large winter storm impacted central California during the afternoon of February 7 <sup>th</sup> . The storm slowly moved southward during the day on the 8th. The storm finally picked up speed and rapidly moved through the region on the 9th, with very old air in its wake. Snow levels in the Southern Sierra Nevada and Tehachapi Mountains dropped to 1500 feet, even lower near Yosemite. Damage from freezing temperatures was extensive.
March of 2011	<b>High Winds</b> - With the season rainfall accumulations of nearly 60 inches, a late season storm, accompanied by extremely high winds, caused nearly \$750,000 in damages across the county. Damages to the flume systems, road ways, electrical distribution system and tree damage to numerous residences resulted in a request for a Federal Disaster Declaration.

**A. FLOOD/DAM FAILURE**

**Flood**

Flooding while infrequent has occurred in Sonora particularly during the winter and springtime following heavy periods of rainfall when excessive runoff causes streams and tributaries from the Sonora and Woods Creeks to overrun their banks. The physical geography of the City impacts their flood potential.

Flooding is one, of two most likely hazards to occur within the City of Sonora.

- At 1800-foot elevation, the city is identified on the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps as having two zones. Zone A identifies Woods Creek and the area adjacent to Woods Creek as a flood zone. Zone X identifies the remainder of the City as a non-flood zone.
- There are two seasonal creeks that run through the City, Sonora Creek and Woods Creek.
- The watershed contributing the majority of the runoff that feeds Sonora and Woods Creeks is generated in the unincorporated areas surrounding the City.
- The most likely major impact would be from debris blocking one of the creeks with a sudden release causing the built up water to escape the creek banks downstream.
- The area of greatest risk for flooding, resulting from the sudden release of runoff in Sonora Creek is the portion of the creek that runs from South Washington Street to the West end of the Mother Lode Fair Grounds.
- The area of greatest risk for flooding, resulting from the sudden release of runoff in Woods Creek is the portion of the creek that runs from North Washington Street to Stockton Road.

Past flood/storm events of significance for the County are delineated in the table below (partial list):

**Table IV-2: Samples of Significant Floods in Sonora**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT DETAILS</b>
Winter of 1887	The earliest record rainfall amount found in the Union Democrat indicates that 67 inches of rain fell. No damages were noted.
December 1964	The County Board of Supervisors declares a state of emergency based on localized flooding within the County.
Winter of 1969	A series of cold storms dropped 8 inches of snow on the City of Sonora, elevation 1800 feet. The snow stayed on the ground for a full week as a cold front moved in behind the last storm. The County came to a standstill as the limited number of snow plows were unable to keep the roads open. Flooding

## Sonora Emergency Services Plan (insert city seal here)

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	was reported as snow melted.
February of 1986	Early season storms completely saturated the soils. A fast moving rain storm in February caused Sonora Creek to overbank flooding the Mother Lode Fairgrounds.
March of 1995	The Governor of California requested federal assistance after the County Board of Supervisors declares a state of emergency based on localized flooding within the County.
February of 1999	The morning of February 9 <sup>th</sup> , at a rain cell impacted Sonora producing enough rain between 9:30 am and 1:00 pm to cause Woods Creek to overflow the banks. The event caused flash flooding in Sonora and Jamestown.
April of 2006	An April 11, the Board of Supervisors passed an Emergency Resolution proclaiming the existence of a local emergency due to a series of winter storms that had “caused conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property because of localized flooding in the County of Tuolumne”. In Sonora proper, Sonora High School was flooded as Sonora Creek overbanked.
March 2011	With the season rainfall accumulations of nearly 60 inches, a late season storm, accompanied by extremely high winds, caused nearly \$750,000 in damages across the county. Damages to flume systems, roadways, electrical distribution system and tree damage to numerous residences resulted in a request for a Federal Disaster Declaration.

**A. GEOLOGICAL EVENT**

**Earthquake**

An earthquake is the result of a sudden release of energy in the earth's crust that creates seismic waves. Earthquakes manifest themselves by shaking oftentimes displacing the ground. If the earthquake's epicenter is located offshore, the seabed may become displaced engendering a tsunami. Earthquakes have been known to trigger landslides and in rare instances volcanic activity.

**Earthquake Activity in Sonora:**

Historically, earthquake activity in Sonora is significantly below the California state average. In fact, it has one of the lowest earthquake risks in the State. However, it still remains 735% greater than the overall U.S. average.

A total of 4 historical earthquake events with recorded magnitudes of 3.5 or greater occurred in or near Sonora this past century.

**Table IV.3: Sonora Earthquake History 1930-2011**

<b>Distance (miles)</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Magnitude</b>	<b>Depth (km)</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>
49.6	June 25, 1933	6.1	N/A	38.08	-119.33
40.8	August 9, 1983	4	2	37.9	-119.49
44.3	August 10, 1975	4	N/A	37.37	-119.99
42.6	June 10, 1965	3.5	N/A	38.2	-119.5

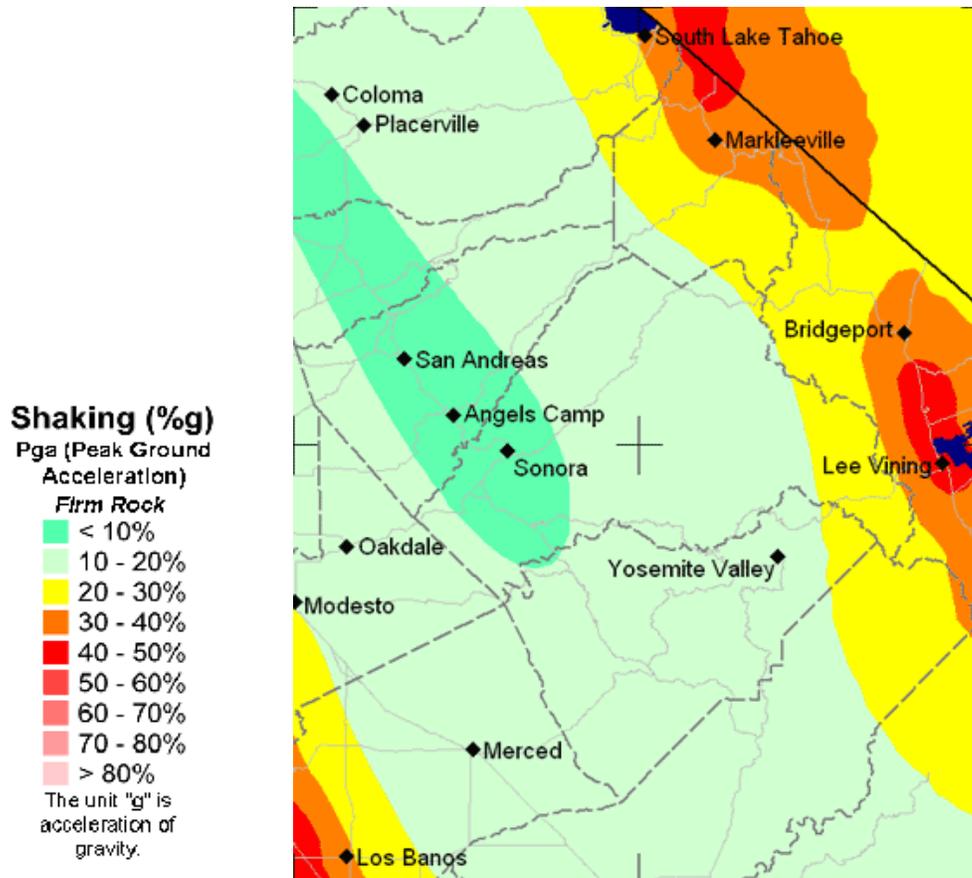


Figure IV.1: Sonora and Neighboring Areas Peak Ground Acceleration

Problems that may occur as a result of light-to-heavy damaging earthquakes include:

- **Building Collapse**-particularly un-reinforced masonry structures causing mass injuries and need for rescue and evacuation.
- **Liquefaction**-the process by which saturated, unconsolidated soil or sand is converted into a quicksand like suspension during an earthquake.
- **Landslides**- the down-slope movement of soil and rock along hillsides and mountain regions.
- **Major Fires**
- **Hazardous Materials Releases**
- **Utility Disruptions**
- **Communication Disruptions** leading to command and coordination problems

- **Roadway and Transportation System Interruptions**
- **Hospital Disruptions**

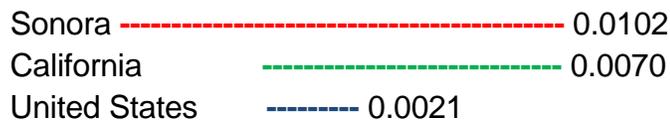
Tsunamis are not a concern for this City because of its significant distance to the Pacific Ocean.

Both direct and indirect consequences of a major earthquake will severely stress the resources of the City and will require a high level of self-help, coordination and cooperation. Outside assistance from other local, regional, state, federal and private agencies may be delayed by more than 72 hours, depending upon the regional severity of the earthquake.

**Volcano**

Volcanoes are openings, or ruptures, in the earth's crust, which allow hot magma, volcanic ash and gases to escape from below the surface. Six volcanoes are found in close proximity to Sonora making the areas volcano index higher than the Country's and the State's.

**Volcano Index:**



The volcano index value is calculated based on the currently known volcanoes using USA.com algorithms. It is an indicator of the possibility of a region being affected by a volcanic eruption. A higher volcano index value means a higher chance of being affected.

**Table IV-4: Volcanoes Located In or Near Sonora**

Distance (miles)	Name	Region	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation (foot)	Type	Status	Last Eruption
65.5	Mono Lake Volc Field	US-California, United States	38	-119.03	2121	Cinder cone	Tephrochronology	Last known eruption 1700-1799
67.5	Mono Craters	US-California, United States	37.88	-119	2796	Lava dome	Radiocarbon	Last known eruption A.D. 1-1499
69.1	Inyo Craters	US-California, United States	37.692	-119.02	2629	Lava dome	Radiocarbon	Last known eruption A.D. 1-1499
70.3	Red Cones	US-California, United States	37.58	-119.05	2748	Cinder cone	Holocene	Undated, but probable Holocene eruption
76.8	Long Valley	US-California, United States	37.7	-118.87	3390	Caldera	Pleistocene-Fumarol	Quaternary eruption(s) with the only known Holocene activity being hydrothermal
100.1	Steamboat Springs	US-Nevada, United States	39.375	-119.72	1415	Lava dome	Pleistocene-Fumarol	Quaternary eruption(s) with the only known Holocene activity being hydrothermal

**Dangers Associated with Volcanoes**

Lava flows rarely move faster than walking speed, so one can usually outrun and avoid them. However, buildings, roads and trees can be destroyed by the crushing weight and burning temperature of a lava flow.

Poisonous gases present a health risk from volcanoes. During an eruption, volcanoes can release vast amounts of poisonous water vapor, carbon dioxide and sulfur dioxide. Volcanic ash and dust contribute to respiratory problems. Ash movement is subject to the normal jet stream effects of air masses moving in general from west to east. This reduces the risk of a significant ash event from affecting Sonora.

## **D. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

A hazardous material is any substance, natural or man-made, that may be harmful to life or to the environment. Hazardous material incidents may occur at fixed facilities where as required by law, most likely, the occupants have filed site specific emergency response contingency and evacuation plans. Incidents may also occur along land, water or air transportation routes as a result of aircraft or other transportation accidents. Improper use of agricultural chemicals and illegal dumping will also pose a hazardous materials risk.

Hazardous material incidents differ from other emergency response situations because of the wide diversity of causative factors and the pervasiveness of the potential threat. Circumstances such as the prevailing wind and geographic features in the vicinity of emergency incidents are relevant factors that may greatly increase the danger.

The threat of a major hazardous material incident in the planning area would be likely derived from one of the following sources:

- Industrial/Agriculture
- Transportation
- Utilities – propane
- Clandestine dumping

### **Industrial/Agriculture**

Sonora currently has one area designated as light manufacturing and other sites throughout the City identified as using hazardous materials in quantities that require filing a Business Emergency Response Plan with Tuolumne County Environmental Health. The primary hazardous materials used in the City are motor vehicle fuels, Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) and Liquid Oxygen.

**Diesel fuel and Gasoline** are combustible and flammable fuels both are heavier than air and both are easily ignitable depending on temperatures, dew point and humidity levels. These fuels pose fire and explosion risks as well as health risks. See the Department of Transportation Emergency Response Guidebook for additional information.

Dangers associated with **LPG** include: 1) It's extremely flammable 2) it's heavier than air and follows geographical features as it settles along the ground 3) Health issues including but not limited to asphyxiation. See the Department of Transportation Emergency Response Guidebook for additional information.

**Liquid Oxygen** Although liquid oxygen doesn't burn, it is a strong oxidizing agent that poses a serious fire and explosion risk because it enhances the burning characteristics in most common combustible materials. Most combustible materials will ignite and/or

burn in oxygen atmospheres, forming irritating and toxic gases. Containers or cylinders may rupture violently due to over-pressurization, if exposed to fire or excessive heat for a sufficient period of time. Oxygen gas is heavier than air and will collect and persist in pits, hollows, depressions, and other confined or low-lying areas. See the Department of Transportation Emergency Response Guidebook for additional information.

In addition to the above listed hazardous chemicals, radiological materials are used within the County for medical testing and research. They are used under closely controlled conditions.

### **Transportation Related Hazardous Materials:**

#### **Transportation-Highway**

Highways 120, 49 and 108 are the major transportation routes through this County. As none of these State Routes are Interstates, the likelihood of a significant quantity of hazardous materials being routinely transported through the County is low.

#### **Transportation-Airport**

One airport exists in close proximity to Sonora, **Columbia Airport**. This airport supports electronic component manufacturers and aircraft repair shops. Thus, solvents, etching agents, stored fuel, and radioactive materials may be encountered.

#### **Utilities-Propane**

Natural gas service to the area does not exist therefore the use of propane tanks and bottles are very common.

Propane is a colorless compressed gas with a faint odor at high concentrations. Fuel grades contain mercaptans which have a disagreeable odor. Propane is extremely flammable. The gas is heavier than air and may spread long distances. As a result, distant ignition and flashback are possible. It is also a simple asphyxiant which means the gas may reduce oxygen available for breathing. When there is rapid evaporation of liquid from cylinder, frostbite may occur.

#### **Clandestine Dumping**

Illegal dumping of hazardous waste (for example from clandestine methamphetamine lab solvents) can occur on both public and private property. Historically, this has not been a significant problem in the city. As the costs and restrictions increase for legitimate hazardous waste disposal sites, it can be anticipated that illegal dumping of hazardous materials will increase proportionately. Of special concern is the impact of illegal dumping into the municipal sewer systems and the associated impacts on the waste water treatment plants.

## **E. TERRORISM/CIVIL DISTURBANCE**

For planning purposes, these two types of emergencies have been combined. Since these events are crime scenes, they are initially the primary responsibility of local law enforcement until it can be determined if federal laws have been violated. When the latter occurs, the FBI assumes responsibility. Given the variety of events that could unfold, it is difficult to predict the extent of the emergency and the impact on the local community.

### **Civil Disturbance**

The spontaneous disruption of normal, orderly conduct and activities in urban areas, or an outbreak of rioting or violence that is of a large nature is referred to as civil disturbance or disorder. Civil disorder is a demonstration of popular unrest that may manifest itself in acts of violence and destruction against property and human life. Civil disorder can be spurred by specific events, such as large sporting events or criminal trials, or can be the result of long-term disfavor with authority. The threat to law enforcement and safety personnel can be severe and bold in nature. Securing of essential facilities and services is necessary. Looting and fires can take place as a result of perceived or actual non-intervention by authorities in the City.

The Police Department assumes the primary role in the management of a Civil Disturbance Emergency.

### **Terrorism**

Terrorism involves a struggle between competing principles and ideologies below the level of conventional war. Principal targets include military personnel and facilities, commercial establishments, government buildings and property, and/or any location large numbers of people congregate.

The effects of terrorist activities can vary significantly, depending upon the type, severity, scope, and duration of the activity. Terrorist activities may result in disruption of utility services, property damage, injuries and the loss of lives.

The City of Sonora, when compared with major metropolitan areas, is a low population area, with moderate population density which subsequently gives the City a lower terrorism risk. Terrorist actions may include biological, chemical, incendiary, explosive, nuclear/radiological, or electronic (such as software system) attacks.

### **Biological Agents of Terrorism**

A bioterrorism attack is the deliberate release of viruses, bacteria, or other germs used to cause illness or death in people, animals, or plants. These agents are typically found in nature, but it is possible that they could be altered in order to increase their ability to cause disease, become more resistant to current medicines, or spread more easily

amongst animals or humans. Biological agents can be spread through the air, through water, or in food. Terrorists may use biological agents because they can be extremely difficult to detect and do not cause illness for several hours to several days. Some bioterrorism agents, like the smallpox virus, can be spread from person to person and some, like anthrax, cannot.

Local healthcare providers must be knowledgeable of and prepared to address various biological agents of terrorism, including pathogens that are rarely seen in the United States. High-priority disease/biological agents known as Category A Biological Agents include:

- Anthrax (*Bacillus anthracis*)
- Botulism (*Clostridium botulinum* toxin)
- Plague (*Yersinia pestis*)
- Smallpox (*Variola major*)
- Tularemia (*Francisella tularensis*)
- Viral Hemorrhagic Fever (*filoviruses and arenaviruses*)

These **Category A** microorganisms pose a risk to national security because they:

- Can in most cases be easily disseminated or transmitted from person to person
- Result in high mortality rates and have the potential for major public health impact
- Might cause public panic and social disruption, and
- Require special action for public health preparedness.

The Police Department assumes the primary role, initially, until the event is confirmed to be terrorism related, at which point, the FBI assumes responsibility.

## **F. TRANSPORTATION ACCIDENT/MULTI CASUALTY**

A multi casualty incident is one which involves a sufficient number of injured persons to overwhelm the first responding medical resources or an incident involving a significant medical hazard to a large population.

### **Transportation-Highway**

There is one North/South highway in the City: Highway 49 and one East/West highway adjacent to the Southern portion of the City.

**State Route 49** (SR 49) is a north–south state highway that begins at Oakhurst, Madera County, in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, where it diverges from State Route 41. It continues in a generally northwest direction, weaving through the communities of

Goldside and Ahwahnee, before crossing into Mariposa County. State Route 49 then continues northward through the counties of Tuolumne, Calaveras, Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Nevada, Yuba, Sierra, and Plumas, where it reaches its northern terminus at State Route 70, in Vinton.

**State Route 108**, also known as **Highway 108**, is a numbered state highway in California. SR 108 runs generally northeast across central California from downtown Modesto near the SR 99/SR 132 interchange, crossing the Sierra Nevada at Sonora Pass, to U.S. Route 395 near the Nevada state line.

### G. WILDLAND FIRE

Outbreaks of wildfire occur routinely during Tuolumne's dry season threatening human life, wildlife and property. These large, damaging fires are predominantly caused by vehicle and equipment use and arson. The local topography contains rugged terrain including many steep canyons, some of which are inaccessible. Severe fire weather occurs on 35% of the days during the fire season in much of the County. This, coupled with the rugged terrain and the high hazard fuels, increases the probability that large damaging fires will occur.

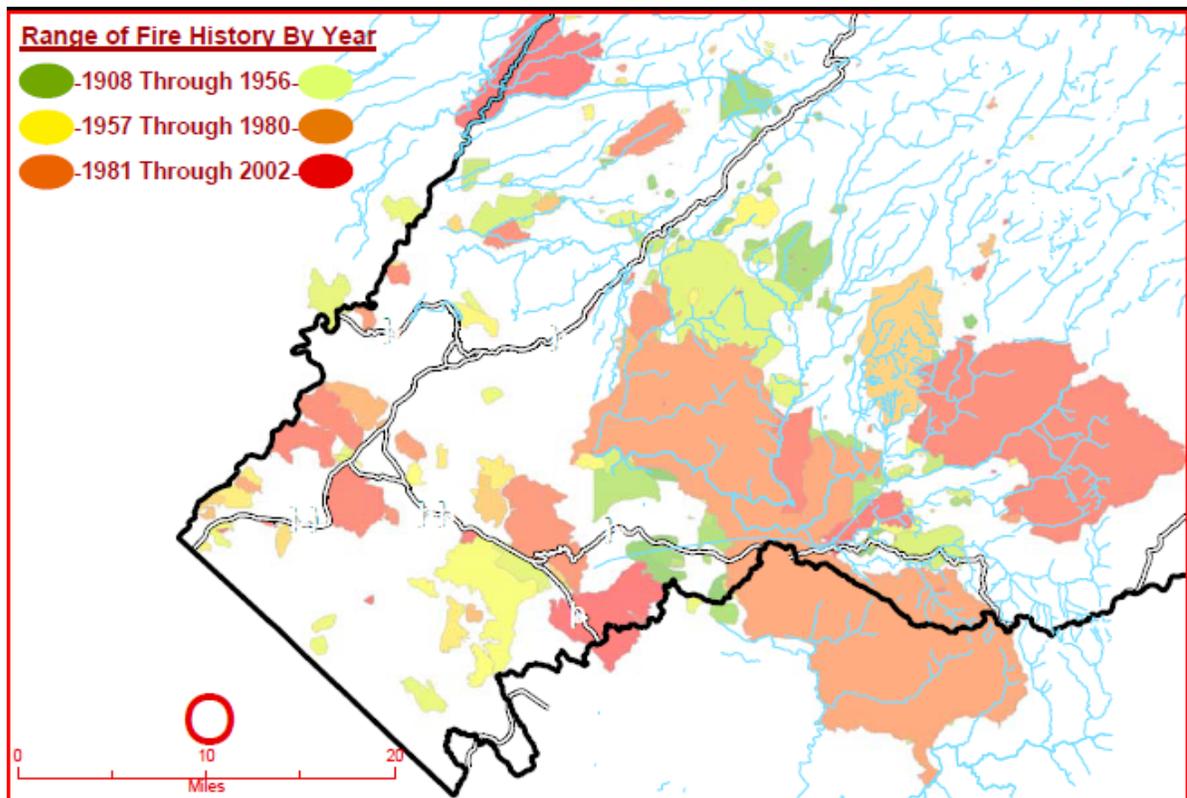


Figure IV-3: Fire History Map of Sonora

## **Sonora Emergency Services Plan** (insert city seal here)

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Wildland fires can wreak havoc not only on homes, recreational and commercial values, but also on nature in general by destroying fragile habitat and threatening rare and endangered species. Water, telephone and power utility companies have lost millions of dollars through both the direct and indirect effects of forest fires. Wildfires also cause damage to scenic and aesthetic values in rural areas. Almost every community in the County has been threatened by wildfire. The greatest hazard, based on the fuels, weather and topography, exists on the east side of the Highway 49 corridor. Tuolumne County has made the top 20 list of the largest California Wildfires twice since 1987.

**Table IV-5: Samples of Significant Fires in Tuolumne County since 1987**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT DETAILS</b>
August 1987	Stanislaus Complex Fire (Lightning) 145,980 acres, 28 structures and 1 death
August 1996	Ackerson Fire (Lightning) 59,153 acres.
August 1996	Rogge Fire 23,200 acres.
August 1996	Experanza Fire 3,000 acres.
August 1996	Keystone Fire 7,000 acres.
August 2009	Knight Fire 6,130 acres
August 2011	Motor Fire 4,000 acres
July 2013	Rim Fire 256,895 acres

## **SECTION V - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

### **A. OVERVIEW**

Sonora will manage emergencies using both the Standard Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS). These are modular emergency management systems designed for incidents involving a multi-jurisdictional response. They provide effective direction and control of an emergency from the time of notification, through all its stages, until the situation de-escalates to a point where emergency resources are no longer required.

At the Federal level, these two management systems are folded into the National Incident Management System (NIMS), which includes additional components for Emergency Preparedness, Communication and Information Management and Joint Information Sharing. The intent of this system is to have a coordinated approach to disaster management at the national level, before, during, and after the event.

## **A. STANDARDIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SEMS)**

In an emergency, governmental response is an extraordinary extension of responsibility and action, coupled with the normal day-to-day activities associated with governing. Any emergency event of major consequence will more than likely overwhelm local government resources, requiring assistance from a multitude of agencies. The Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), which has been adopted by Sonora, establishes a state-wide standard response structure and basic protocols to be used by all agencies in both emergency response and recovery to a major event. Its authority and structure can be found in Chapter 1 of Division 2 of Title 19 of the California Code of Regulations.

Fully activated, the SEMS consists of five levels: field response, local government, operational areas (countywide), OES Mutual Aid Regions, and state government.

## **A. INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM**

ICS consists of several components. When applied together, the following provide the basis for effective emergency management:

- Common terminology
- Modular organization
- Integrated communications
- Unified command structure
- Consolidated action plans
- Manageable span-of-control
- Pre-designated incident facilities
- Comprehensive resource management

The modular aspect of ICS establishes a dynamic emergency organization based on the resources needed to support all phases of an emergency. The organization's staff will be integrated from the top down. If a situation escalates, additional resources can be brought into the organization, and likewise, when the situation de-escalates, resources can be released when they are no longer needed.

## **A. OPERATIONAL AREA EMERGENCY ORGANIZATION**

By ordinance, the Mayor is designated as the Director of Emergency Services and will provide policy guidance to the Assistant Director of Emergency Services, the City Administrator and the Emergency Services Coordinator. Upon activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), either the Assistant Director or the Emergency Services Coordinator will assume the position of EOC Director.

Depending upon the type of emergency as described in Section II – Hazard Specific Annexes, the highest ranking on-duty Police or Fire Officer will act as the Incident Commander (IC) at the onset, working in the field. Upon activation of the Emergency Operations Center, the EOC Director assumes overall command of the event and the field Incident Commander relinquishes command. (He or she may remain as a deputy EOC Director until command is stable and the arriving EOC Director has been briefed). When the Incident Management Organization is mobilized, the EOC Director is supported by six functional groups/sections.

The functional ICS groups/sections are:

- Admin/Policy Group
- Command Staff
- Operations Section
- Planning Section
- Logistics Section
- Finance Section

The Command staff includes the EOC Director and a support staff of the Liaison, Public Information, and Safety Officers. The Section Chiefs comprise the General Staff which is the management core under the EOC Director. The Section Chiefs may initiate functions as needed to support Section Operations.

**Note:** Large, complex incidents may require the use of one or more Incident Commanders, typically positioned on the scene of field events, to manage operations in the field. These field IC's will report to the EOC Director who, with advice and guidance from the Director or Assistant Director of Emergency Services will be responsible for establishing goals and objectives and prioritizing resources.

### **E. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

This section outlines the general responsibilities of the functional Incident Management Organization groups/sections. *(See attached Organization Chart)*

#### **1. Admin/Policy Group**

This group is headed by the Director or Assistant Director of Emergency Services and consists of the remaining council members, the City Administrator, Legal Counsel and the Emergency Services Coordinator. The group provides legal and long range policy to the EOC Director.

## **2. Emergency Operations Center Director**

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Director has responsibility for all emergency operations. Personnel authorized to act in the capacity of EOC Director are as follows:

- City Administrator (or designee)
- Emergency Services Coordinator

The EOC Director's responsibilities include:

- Directing the Command Staff and General Staff
- Developing and implementing strategic decisions
- Approving the order and release of resources
- Activating ICS elements
- Ensuring planning meetings are conducted
- Approving and authorizing implementation of Incident Action Plans
- Determining information needs and informing the Command Staff
- Reviewing and authorizing the release of information to the news media and public
- Ensuring the general welfare and safety of Incident Management organization personnel
- Approving the plan for demobilization and recovery

## **3. Incident Commander**

At the onset of an emergency event, the Incident Commander assumes command, coordination and management of the overall incident operations. Responsibilities include development, implementation and review of tactics and strategic decisions and the development of initial Incident Action Plans. Upon activation of the EOC, the IC reports to the EOC Director.

## **4. Safety Officer**

The Safety Officer is responsible for monitoring and assessing hazardous and unsafe situations, both in the field and in the EOC, and developing measures for assuring personnel safety. The Safety Officer will make recommendations to the Incident Commander to correct unsafe acts or conditions. The Safety Officer will provide input in the development of Incident Action Plans regarding safe operations conduct.

**5. Information Officer**

The Information Officer is responsible for formulating and releasing information about the emergency to the news media and the general public. In large-scale emergency situations additional staff may be required in order for this function to operate effectively. The Information Officer's responsibilities include:

- Gathering and disseminating emergency information
- Obtaining Incident Commander approval for the release of information
- Coordinating the release of emergency information to the public and news media with other agencies
- Responding to special requests for information

**6. Liaison Officer**

The Liaison Officer serves as the primary contact for outside agencies. In some situations, the Information Officer and the Liaison Function may be handled by one person. The Liaison functions include:

- Gathering and disseminating emergency information pertaining to other agencies and jurisdictions impacted by the event
- Identifying contacts and communication links with outside agencies and organizations
- Providing information to and responding to requests from interagency and intra-agency contacts

**7. Operations Section**

This Section is headed by the Operations Section Chief who is a member of the General staff. The Section is responsible for the following operations:

- Providing and coordinating law enforcement services, including assisting other law enforcement agencies in traffic management
- Providing and coordinating public works services, including providing and placing barricades and signs for traffic management activities
- Providing and coordinating fire protection services
- Providing and coordinating emergency medical services for the City
- Establishing and managing staging areas.
- Ensuring the general welfare and safety of section personnel.
- Coordinating with the Red Cross to provide shelter and welfare for the general public.

The Law Enforcement Branch, Fire Services Branch, Public Works Branch, Shelter Welfare Branch, and Medical Branch are examples of functions which will operate under the direction of the Operations Section Chief.

**8. Planning Section**

This Section is headed by the Planning Section Chief who is a member of the General Staff. The Section is responsible for obtaining, evaluating, disseminating and using information concerning the developing status of the emergency. This information is needed by the Incident Management Organization to have an understanding of the current situation and develop appropriate courses of action to effectively manage the emergency response.

The Resources Unit, Situation Unit, Documentation Unit, and Technical Specialist are examples of functions which will operate under the direction of the Planning Section Chief.

**9. Logistics Section**

This Section is headed by the Logistics Section Chief who is a member of the General staff. The Section Chief, with assistance from several units, is responsible for providing the Incident Management Organization with logistical needs such as facilities, communications, equipment, and supplies. The Chief is also responsible for ensuring the general welfare and safety of section personnel.

The Equipment Unit, Communications Unit, Facilities Unit, Food Unit, and Supply Unit are examples of functions which will operate under the direction of the Logistics Section Chief.

**10. Finance Section**

Headed by the Finance Section Chief, who is a member of the General staff, this Section is responsible for all financial and cost aspects associated with the emergency. The Chief manages and is assisted by four units; the Time Unit, Procurement Unit, Cost Unit, Compensation and Claims Unit.

**Table V-1: Sonora EOC  
Primary Emergency Management Functions and Staff Positions**

The staff positions listed below is for **guidance purposes**; other qualified staff may fill these functional positions or multiple positions may be filled by one person as deemed necessary.

<b>FUNCTION</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITIES</b>
<b>Director of Emergency Services (DES)</b>	Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide policy consult.</li> <li>• Emergency Declarations</li> </ul>
<b>Assistant Director Emergency Services</b>	City Administrator	Liaison between DES and Incident Commander/EOC Director. In complex incidents, may serve as EOC Director.
<b>Emergency Services Coordinator (ESC)</b>	Appointed by the Assistant Director of Emergency Services	Supports the DES and the CAO
<b>Emergency Operations Center Director</b>	City Administrator, Emergency Services Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Direct the Command Staff and General Staff</li> <li>•Develop/implement strategic decisions</li> <li>•Approve the order and release of resources</li> <li>•Activate ICS elements</li> <li>•Ensure planning meetings are conducted</li> <li>•Approve/authorize implementation of Incident Action Plans</li> <li>•Determine information needs and inform the Command Staff</li> <li>•Review and authorize the release of information to the news media and public</li> <li>•Ensuring the general welfare and safety of Incident Management Organization personnel</li> <li>•Approve the plan for demobilization and recovery.</li> </ul>
<b>Incident Commander</b>	Fire Chief, Police Chief, designated Police and Fire Department personnel, and others as appointed by the City Administrator	Manage and coordinate incident tactical operations in the field, consistent with the Incident Action Plan and applicable incident response guidelines.
<b>Public Information Officer</b>	Appointed by EOC Director	Gather and disseminate

## Sonora Emergency Services Plan (insert city seal here)

	*For large scale events, this function should be handled by more than one individual.	emergency information to the news media and general public upon approval by IC. Provide updated information to the Incident Management Organization.
<b>Liaison Officer</b>	Appointed by EOC Director  *For large scale events, this function should be handled by more than one individual	Gather and disseminate emergency information to impacted agencies and jurisdictions. Identify contacts and communication links with outside agencies and serve as their primary contact. Respond to special requests for information including interagency and intra-agency contacts.
<b>Operations Section Chief</b>	City Fire Chief or Fire Captains Police Chief or Sergeants. City Department Heads or supervisory staff	Manage and coordinate incident tactical operations, from the EOC, consistent with the Incident Action Plan and applicable incident response guidelines.
<b>Planning/Intelligence Section Chief</b>	City Fire Chief or Fire Captains Police Chief or Sergeants. City Department Heads or supervisory staff	Responsible for collecting, evaluation and disseminating information about the incident and current status.
<b>Finance Section Chief</b>	Finance Director or as appointed by the City Administrator	Responsible for financial and costs aspects of the incident that are not part of other incident functions.
<b>Logistics Section Chief</b>	Appointed by EOC Director	Provide facilities, personnel, equipment, materials and services; ensure general welfare and safety of section personnel.
<b>Safety Officer</b>	Fire Captain or Appointee by EOC Director	Assess and monitor hazardous and unsafe situations; develop measures for assuring personnel safety; make recommendations to the IC to correct unsafe acts or conditions; provide input in the development of Incident Action Plans regarding safe operations conduct.
<b>Legal Officer</b>	Legal Council	Provide legal counsel to the Emergency Services Director and other response staff.

## **SECTION VI - CONCEPTS OF OPERATION**

This section outlines the concepts under which the City will respond to emergencies. Although the City's response is contingent upon the type and magnitude of the crisis, many elements of response are similar.

### **A. BASIC ELEMENTS OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

Some of the basic elements of emergency response common to all types of emergencies include the following:

- Event recognition
- Notification of response personnel
- Mobilization of response personnel
- Activation of emergency response facilities and resources
- Situation Reporting and Assessment
- Public alerting and information
- Protective action determination and implementation
- Re-entry and recovery

A response to a major emergency will involve all the above elements. The type and magnitude of the emergency will determine the level of response necessary.

Some emergencies can be preceded with a build-up period lasting from hours to days, which if recognized provides advanced warning to the population groups which might be affected. In certain instances, all of the emergencies addressed in the plan could be preceded by events that could be recognized as advance warning. These slowly building events allow the emergency organizations and resources to be mobilized and prepare for emergency response. In other instances, emergencies can occur with little or no advance warning. This will require emergency organizations and resources to be mobilized just prior to or after the onset of the event.

Since emergency preparedness involves planning for worst-case events, Sonora must be prepared to respond promptly and effectively, and be able to access mutual aid resources if the response effort requires assistance beyond the City's capabilities.

Disasters often occur across jurisdictional boundaries and therefore require cooperation between participating agencies and/or governing bodies. Therefore, the City of Sonora has elected to follow the Hazard-Specific Annexes in Part II of the Tuolumne County Emergency Operation Plan. These Hazard-Specific Annexes provide the detailed concepts of operations for each type of emergency identified.

**B. MUTUAL AID CONCEPTS**

It shall be the policy of Sonora to utilize mutual aid as the primary means to extend personnel and resources for the City Emergency Organization. Mutual aid procedures should be consistent with the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement, California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan, California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, and the Tuolumne County Master Mutual Aid Agreement and current Operational Details.

Mutual aid, like the Incident Command System, is provided under the broad direction of the requesting jurisdiction and under the direct control of the aiding jurisdiction/agency. All assisting agencies that support this plan should work in cooperation with other local, state, federal and private agencies in an effort to maximize resources and minimize damages. It is further understood that an event having regional impacts may severely delay the receipt of mutual aid resources necessitating cooperation and sharing amongst neighboring jurisdictions.

**C. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT**

A major disaster could result in great loss of life and property, including the death or injury of key government officials. Concurrently, there could be partial or complete destruction of established seats of government, and the destruction of public and private records essential to continued operations of government and industry. Maintaining the continuity of government is essential to a timely and effective recovery.

In the aftermath of a major disaster, law and order must be preserved and essential government services must be maintained. This is best accomplished by civil government. To this end, it is particularly essential that local units of government continue to function.

**1. Temporary EOC and City Seat of Government**

The following locations are established as The Emergency Operation Centers for the planning area. (Note: These locations may be adjusted or changed depending on the specific circumstances of the event).

**City Emergency Operations Center (EOC)**

Initial: City Hall  
94 North Washington Street  
Sonora, CA 95370

Primary: Sonora City Fire Department  
201 South Shepherd Street  
Sonora, CA 95370

Second Alternate: County EOC  
18440 Striker Court  
Sonora, CA 95370

**City Seat of Government:**

Primary: City Hall  
94 North Washington Street  
Sonora, CA 95370  
209.532.4541

First Alternate: Sonora Fire Department  
201 South Shepherd Street  
Sonora, California 95370  
209.532.7432

Second Alternate: Opera Hall  
250 South Washington Street  
Sonora, California 95370  
209.588.1263

**2. Official Records and Vital Records**

The City Clerk is responsible for the safekeeping of the City's Official Records

**3. Lines of Succession**

Article 15 of Section 8635 of the California Government Code establishes a method for reconstituting the local governing body. As used in this article, "unavailable" means that an officer is killed, missing, or so seriously injured as to be unable to attend meetings and otherwise perform his duties. The following standby officers are designated should the primary officer be unavailable:

**Director of Emergency Services (Mayor, Council Members):**

Mayor Pro Tem  
Assistant Director of Emergency Services

**Assistant Director of Emergency Services (City Administrator):**

Police Chief  
Community Development Director

**Emergency Services Coordinator:**

Appointed by the Assistant Director of Emergency Services

**Sonora Department Heads:**

Each political subdivision may provide for the succession of officers who head departments having duties in the maintenance of law and order or in the furnishing of public services relating to health and safety.

For other City department, each department head may delegate their succession authority to personnel within their department for emergency response purposes. Should this not occur, department head succession will fall to those directly in the line of authority beneath the department head's position. However, the City Administrator has the authority to appoint department head successors of their choice for emergency response purposes.

**SECTION VII: EMERGENCY RESOURCES**

**A. EMERGENCY FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES**

The Support Materials Section (Part III) of this plan provides a description of Sonora's emergency facilities and resources. It also provides guidance in the activation and operation of the City EOC, which is located at 201 South Shepherd Street in Sonora, and is placed in service by the Emergency Services Coordinator.

The Emergency Services Coordinator directs the City's Departments (Police, Public Works, Fire and others) to establish and maintain emergency equipment, supplies, facilities and communications systems for use in disaster situations. Emergency vehicles, equipment inventory and a listing of available supplies are found in Part III –Support Materials of this Plan.

**SECTION VIII: PROGRAM MAINTENANCE**

**A. EMERGENCY SERVICES PROGRAM**

An Emergency Services Program has been established (Sonora Municipal Ordinance Chapter 8.30) to oversee and coordinate disaster preparedness measures in the City. The City Administrator, as Assistant Director of Emergency Services, has the responsibility for the organization, administration, and operation of the Sonora Emergency Services Program, subject to the direction and control of the Director of Emergency Services.

The City Administrator shall appoint an Emergency Services Coordinator to administer the Emergency Services Program. The appointed coordinator shall be responsible for the day to day operations of the Emergency Services Program.

## **B. PLAN AND PROCEDURE MAINTENANCE**

The Emergency Services Coordinator is responsible for the preparation and maintenance of the City's Emergency Service Plan also known as an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).

The Basic Plan (Part I) sets objectives and policy for the City and therefore changes require the approval of the City Council. Parts II and III, Hazard Specific Annexes and Support Documents, are tactical and reference documents and contain information which changes frequently. The Emergency Services Coordinator will also be directly responsible for reviewing updates in Tuolumne County Emergency Operations Plan's Hazard Specific Annexes which will occur without the need for Board of Supervisors and/or Council approval. The Emergency Services Coordinator will also be directly responsible for updates to Part III, Related Support Materials.

Department Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's), specific to the disaster annexes (i.e. Earthquake or other emergencies) shall be developed, maintained and updated on a regular basis by each department, for approval by the Emergency Services Coordinator. Each department shall send an updated copy of their SOP's to the Program Coordinator.

## **C. OPERATIONAL AREA COMMITTEE**

An Operational Area Committee has been established. (Tuolumne County Codified Ordinance Chapter 2.40.090) The Committee consists of the following:

- County Director of Emergency Services
- Emergency Services Area Coordinator
- City of Sonora Emergency Services
- California Highway Patrol
- City of Sonora Police Department
- Sonora Sheriff's Department
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
- City of Sonora Fire Department
- A representative of each of the Special Districts included in this agreement
- Community Resource Agency
- United States Forest Service

- Medical/Health Area Coordinator
- Human Services Agency Director
- Pre-Hospital Medical Services
- Columbia College
- A representative from the School Districts
- A representative from Sonora Community Hospital

The Operational Area Committee will be chaired by the OES Coordinator. It will be the mission of this committee to review and establish emergency services policies and procedures, assess and conduct cooperative training courses, and develop effective communications systems. The Operational Area Committee will meet as often as necessary to accomplish its mission and goals.

### **D. EMERGENCY RESOURCES MAINTENANCE**

The Emergency Services Coordinator shall direct City Departments to establish and maintain emergency equipment, supplies, facilities and communications systems for use in disaster situations.

The Support Materials Section (Part III) of this plan provides a description of Sonora's emergency facilities and resources.

### **E. TRAINING**

It is the policy of Sonora to participate in disaster drills or exercises on a regular basis on a particular County emergency response plan. The OES Coordinator will develop and administer the drills or exercises. The primary purpose of these events will be to evaluate and improve the particular emergency response plan that the event is based on. The exercise or drill should also provide a beneficial training and learning experience to all its participants.

All actions during the exercise will be observed and recorded by a multi-department/jurisdictional evaluator group made up of the departments participating in the exercise. A general "no fault" discussion and review will follow the exercise. This will afford department members and the evaluator group with an opportunity to jointly comment on perceived strengths, weaknesses and needed improvements on the particular emergency response plan exercised. An evaluator group meeting will follow the review for the purpose of developing an After Action Report. These recommendations should then be submitted to the OES Coordinator within 30 days after the actual exercise.