



Cascadia Rising 16 State Lessons Learned

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John Ufford



Presentation Outline

Overarching Conclusions

Policy and Strategic Level Findings

After Action Recommendations

Strengths

Next Steps

Preparedness Initiatives



Cascadia Rising: Initial Findings (Draft)

Overarching Conclusions:

1. There is a need for citizens to prepare – exercise confirmed it could take several weeks for assistance to reach communities
2. Identified need for state and local government – agencies, emergency management, leadership – to complete comprehensive/coordinated response plans
3. Catastrophic response is fundamentally different than any response we have seen before:
 1. Response infrastructure damaged
 2. “Push” response required
 3. Massive response required
 4. Effective distribution of emergency supplies is critical to disaster survivors



Policy and Strategic Level Findings (Problem Areas)

- The state should urgently develop comprehensive catastrophic incident response plans
 - Current emergency planning does not address many aspects of catastrophic incident response and recovery at the state, state agency and local jurisdiction levels
- At a minimum, catastrophic level plans are needed for:
 - **Sheltering** - Evacuation - Search and rescue
 - **Public Health** - Fatality Management - **Transportation**
 - Infrastructure - **Energy Restoration** - **Communications**
 - Fuel Management - Resource Distribution - Responder support
 - Security - Movement Control - Air Operations
 - Assessments



Policy and Strategic Level Findings (Problem Areas)

- The state's transportation, communication, and energy networks which are essential to enable a catastrophic response and thus, saving and sustaining lives, will not function effectively after the incident
- There is a need to treat catastrophic disasters differently than more routine emergencies – like fires, floods, winter-storms. Must “push” resources rather than “pull”
- Many local jurisdictions in the state rely on the American Red Cross or other local volunteer organizations, for the essential task of mass sheltering and feeding. These organizations rely on local, regional and national resources that are impacted by the incident and requested by other states, hence reducing capacity to provide critical service within Washington.



Policy and Strategic Level Findings (Problem Areas)

- The state will experience large humanitarian impacts shortly following a CSZ rupture unless response is timely and effective
- Long term recovery plans need to be developed as they will speed restoration of normal activities



After Action Recommendations

1. Government needs to make emergency preparedness a critical priority
2. Resource state agencies to adequately conduct detailed catastrophic disaster planning and implement these plans in response
3. Develop state funding mechanism to support state, state agency and local jurisdiction preparedness activities
4. Accelerate implementation of Resilient Washington



After Action Recommendations

5. Encourage mitigation efforts to improve survivability of communications infrastructure that supports both public information and warning (TV/radio/internet)

6. Improve survivability of public safety communications infrastructure

7. Resource the development of interagency detailed actionable plans that support transportation (ESF 1), communications (ESF 2), mass care (mass evacuation, sheltering, feeding-ESF 6), public health (ESF 8), and energy (ESF 12) including establishment of supporting infrastructure



After Action Recommendations

8. Establish legal path to enable the governor to enact specific emergency waivers in the immediate aftermath of a catastrophic disaster to enable crisis standards of care

9. Review the direction of State Government Continuity of Operations Planning for a catastrophic event and improve the overall continuity of government planning



Cascadia Rising: Strengths

- Relationships, Teamwork, Flexibility
 - Operational Communications with County EOCs
 - Mission Assignment process
- Multi-agency Mass Care Task Force (MCTF) as pilot for Task Force problem solving
- WebEOC
- Continue State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) improvement projects
- Continue ongoing SEOC Training
- Continue to build on LEP progress



Cascadia Rising: Next Steps

- Publish and present the After Action Report
- Brief the Governor's Office
- Implement Resilient WA subcabinet
- Continue development of state catastrophic planning at the correct level of detail



State Preparedness Initiatives



State Preparedness and Outreach

- Preparedness Message Change
- Outreach Updates
 - Public Service Announcements
 - Amateur Radio Use in Cascadia Rising
 - Limited English Proficiency
- Ongoing Outreach
 - Map Your Neighborhood
 - Great Washington ShakeOut
 - Outreach Material and Information



Questions and Discussion

John Ufford
Preparedness Unit Manager
john.ufford@mil.wa.gov
253 512-7041