THE NEED FOR REGIONAL MASS EVACUATION PLANNING

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Overview

1. Complexities of Mass Evacuation
2. Regional 2003 Evacuation Planning
3. Sutter and Yolo County Perspective
1. Regional Evacuation Planning Effort 2003
   a. Recognized the need for regional evacuation planning
   b. Large Region: 11 counties, State OES Inland Region, Valley Division CHP, and Caltrans Districts 3 & 10
   c. Basic Concepts and Preliminary Work Completed in 2003
   d. Plan was not Implemented

2. Subsequent Local Actions
Coordination for Large Scale Movement is Complex and Involves a lot of Partners

a. CHP
b. Caltrans
c. Local Fuel Providers
d. Commercial Real Estate Agents
e. Levee Maintaining Agency Representatives
f. County/City Office of Emergency Services
g. Local Police and/or Sheriff Offices
h. Local Fire Districts
i. Local Charities
The BIG Differences and Challenges of Mass Evacuations

1. Large scale movement across county lines makes normal incident command protocols unworkable

2. Highly complex operation

3. Essential practical actions and equipment purchases must be made in advance

4. Joint planning among numerous jurisdictions over a large area

Oroville Evacuation, Feb. 2017
Responsibilities of Counties/Cities Remain:

1) Ordering evacuation
2) Managing movement and sheltering within their jurisdiction
Inland Region Evacuation Planning Assumptions

- **Responsibilities of Counties/Cities Remain:**
  1) Ordering evacuation
  2) Managing movement and sheltering remain within their jurisdiction

- **But the Region would implement and control large scale movement across county lines**
  1) Manage movement and evacuee movement assistance
  2) Manage regional shelter plan and operations

- **Evacuation movement would be in all directions and on all trafficable highways**
Establish Regional Operational Control

Regional Evacuation Management Team

- Would have operated from a Caltrans traffic management center
- Manage Mass Traffic Movement
- Identify Shelter Locations with Local Partners
Evacuation Control and Assistance Points (ECAPS)

ECAPs Would Need to Be Pre-Identified

- Located at County Lines to Facilitate Movement

- 23 ECAPs have:
  1. Road signs for nearest open shelter
  2. Fuel trucks to provide emergency fuel
  3. Tow trucks to clear blockages
  4. Ambulances
  5. Traffic control personnel

Oroville Evac. Feb. 2017
Practical Issues - Fuel

- **No Plan in Place**
  Everyone heads for the local gas station

- **Can 5-gallon fuel cans help emergency refueling in a mass evacuation?**

- **Equipment to refuel cars from large fuel tenders is not readily available**

- **Pre-plan and stage fuel truck attachments**

An evacuation order prompted by the erosion of the emergency spillway at Oroville Dam produced lines of vehicles on Bogue Road at Highway 99, coming out of Yuba City. Andy Furillo - The Sacramento Bee
**Provide Updated Information to Public**

- Shelters will fill up and new ones will open in a dynamic rapidly changing situation.

- Evacuees will need information on location of ECAPs.

- Low-frequency radio transmitters managed by Regional Management Team.
Regional Shelter Plan

1. Two Zones in a Stricken Area: **Active Zone** and **Preparation Zone**

2. Regional Management Team and Local Shelter Team Select Shelter Locations

3. Regional Management Team passes information to ECAPS for Distribution to the Public
Subsequent Local Actions

Evacuation Maps  Mobile Radio Transmitters  Fueling Attachments
Background Summary

- Successful mass evacuation will require coordinated planning from multiple jurisdictions over a large region
  - Caltrans, CHP, LMA Representatives, Etc.
- Leadership from the State
- Complexities of evacuation planning must not be underestimated
- Where do we go from here?
What Has Happened Since Oroville?

Agencies Develop Conflicting Plans:

- State’s Oroville Dam Evacuation Planning
- Northern California Catastrophic Flood Response Plan with an Evacuation Component
- Local Flood Response Planning with Evacuation Maps
- Various counties are either developing or updating their own evacuations plans
New Plan Examples

Northern CA Catastrophic Flood Response Plan

Oroville Evacuation Plan
What Is Happening Now Regionally?

Mutual Aid Regional Advisory Committees (MARAC)

- Established through legal authority
- Regions 3, 4, and 5 are attempting to revive the Inland Region’s 2003 Regional Evacuation Planning Effort
- Promotes close coordination in advance of a disaster or emergency with local agencies (Cal OES and Locals)
Communication and Coordination Between Partners

• Maintaining Relationships with Neighbors and Response Partners
  - Eliminate silo planning

• Cross-functional education for different elements of response (response planners, engineers, LMAs, etc.)

• Understanding Emergency Planning Concepts
  • Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS)
  • National Incident Management System (NIMS)
What Do We Want To Do Regionally In The Future

More Emphasis on:
• Regional, Multi-jurisdictional Planning  
  (Advance the MARAC Process)
• Identifying Changes in Law to Optimize Response
• Allocating Funding Resources to the Regional Planning

Less Emphasis on:
• Event-specific Modeling
• Isolated, Single-agency Plans
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THANK YOU