

Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS)

EMERGENCY PLAN CROSSWALK

Part I - Overview

1. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide emergency planners with guidance to assist them in ensuring that existing, or recently developed emergency plans address the fundamentals of SEMS. This material is intended as an interim document to be used while the existing Multi-hazard Functional Planning Guidance document is revised or replaced over the next year.

2. SEMS Background

As a result of the 1991 East Bay Hills Fire in Oakland, Senate Bill 1841 was passed by the legislature and made effective January 1, 1993. The law is found in Section 8607 of the California Government Code. The intent of this law is to improve the coordination of state and local emergency response in California. The SEMS Regulations took effect in September of 1994.

3. SEMS Deadlines

By December 1, 1995 all local governments within a county geographic area shall be organized into a single operational area and the county board of supervisors shall be responsible for its establishment. SEMS compliance regulations must be developed on or before December 1, 1995. Local governments must use SEMS by December 1, 1996 in order to be eligible for state funding of response-related personnel costs pursuant to activities identified in California Code of Regulations, Title 19, §2920, §2925, and §2930.

4. SEMS Components

The SEMS will integrate several of the state's emergency response components:

- The Incident Command System, the nationally used standardized emergency management system for field level response
- Multi-agency or inter-agency coordination

- Mutual Aid
- Operational Areas
- Operational Area Satellite Information System (OASIS)
- A common EOC structure compatible with ICS (Management, Operations, Planning/Intelligence, Logistics, and Finance/Administration)

Part II - Crosswalk

The following items should be reflected in emergency plans and procedures to conform with the Standardized Emergency Management System as described in §8607 of the Emergency Services Act.

Item	Page and Section
1. Review documents that provide the legal basis for emergency planning for their conformance to SEMS requirements, and modify as required.	_____
2. Include "official" recognition that the agency or jurisdiction has adopted SEMS. This could be in a letter of promulgation, a resolution, or ordinance.	_____
3. Reference documentation indicating participation in, or establishment of, the Operational Area.	_____
4. Provide a description of tasks associated with each SEMS function (i.e., Management, Operations, Logistics, Plans/Intelligence, Finance/Administration)	_____
5. Include a basic SEMS organizational chart and description (in matrix format) of what agencies could perform each of the five SEMS functions.	_____
6. Describe the coordination links between your adjacent SEMS levels (field, local, operational area, region and state).	_____
7. Address the use of multi/inter-agency coordination in resource allocation and the decision-making process.	_____
8. Provide a fundamental checklist for each of the five SEMS functions.	_____

Note: If you are developing an emergency plan, the inclusion of the items mentioned above along with consideration of the SEMS Guidelines and Approved Course of Instruction, will help meet the SEMS preparedness, response and reporting requirements.