

# Emergency Support Function (ESF) # 4

## Fire Fighting



### Preface

**Extremely large fires and those resulting from, or coinciding with, disaster events will place extraordinary demands on available resources and logistical support systems.**

**The purpose of Emergency Support Function 4 is to facilitate countywide coordinated use of fire department resources in fire prevention, suppression and control of urban, rural, and wildland fires and other hazardous emergencies.**

### Primary Agency

**Butte-Silver Bow Fire Department**

**Butte-Silver Bow, Montana**  
**Emergency Operations Center ESF # 4 – Fire Fighting**

**Purpose:**

1. Provides for the coordination of firefighting activities to ensure the safety of life and property within Butte – Silver Bow during emergency situations. Technical Rescue duties can be found in ESF # 9, Hazardous Materials duties can be found in ESF # 10, and Emergency Medical Services duties can be found in ESF # 17.
2. The purpose of Emergency Support Function 4 is to facilitate countywide coordinated use of fire department resources in fire prevention, suppression and control of urban, rural, and wildland fires and other hazardous emergencies.

**Primary:**

- **Butte-Silver Bow Fire Department**

**Support:**

- Big Butte Fire Volunteer Department
- Boulevard Fire Volunteer Department
- Centerville Fire Volunteer Department
- Floral Park Fire Volunteer Department
- Home Atherton Volunteer Fire Department
- Little Basin Creek Volunteer Fire Company
- Melrose Fire Volunteer Department
- Race Track Fire Volunteer Department
- Rocker Fire Volunteer Department
- Terra Verde Fire Volunteer Department
- Walkerville Fire Volunteer Department
- Law Enforcement Department
- 911 Communications Center
- A-1 Ambulance Company
- Developmental Disabilities Office
- Public Works Department
- NorthWestern Energy
- Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- American Red Cross/CBOs

**Likely Tasks:**

- Staff Fire Fighting Group within the Butte – Silver Bow EOC.
- Identify incident sites requiring firefighting services.
- Ensure operation of fire dispatch and reporting systems.
  - Provide alternate communication links if necessary.
- Coordinate mutual aid firefighting resources as necessary.

**Likely Tasks Continued:**

- Sources for resources can include:
  - Local, state, federal mutual aid.
  - State and Butte – Silver Bow EOC.
- Determine condition, status of City-County firefighting resources.
  - Make routine contact with fire stations during emergencies and after storm landfall.
  - Request damage report from each fire station to estimate neighborhood damages.
- Determine present and future need for firefighting and other on-scene resources:
  - Communications.
  - Search and rescue.
  - Emergency medical.
  - Heavy rescue.
  - Evacuation.
  - Mass casualty transportation.
  - Mobile shelter.
  - Transport of emergency responders and resources.
  - Other Logistics: food; water; emergency power; lighting; etc.
- Establish, maintain contact with State EOC through the Butte – Silver Bow EOC.
  - Provide information on damages, status of City-County firefighting systems.
  - Request additional firefighting resources, as needed.
- Determine if support is required to other jurisdictions:
  - Do not dispatch mutual aid until it is determined no threat exists in the City-County.
  - Assess City-County's ability to respond based on existing resources and possible threat to our community.

**State of Montana**

**Primary**

- Natural Resources & Conservation

**Support**

- MT National Guard (DMA)

**Actions:**

- Coordination of State firefighting activities

**Actions:**

- Support to wildland, rural, and urban firefighting operations
- Maintain liaison with all support departments and radio communication with field personnel.
- Determine present and future need for transportation resources.

**Federal Government**

**Primary**

- Department of Agriculture
  - Forest Service

**Support**

- Department of Commerce
- Department of Defense
- Department of Interior

**Actions**

- Management, coordination of federal firefighting personnel, equipment, supplies.
- Assist state, local rural, wildland urban firefighting operations.
- Detect, suppress fires on federal lands.
- Fire damage assessment.

Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan  
Emergency Support Function # 4  
**Fire Fighting**

**Primary Agency:** Butte-Silver Bow Fire Department

**Primary Coordinator:** Fire Chief- Butte Fire Department

**Support Organizations:** Big Butte Fire Volunteer Department  
Boulevard Fire Volunteer Department  
Centerville Fire Volunteer Department  
Floral Park Fire Volunteer Department  
Home Atherton Volunteer Fire Department  
Little Basin Creek Volunteer Fire Company  
Melrose Fire Volunteer Department  
Race Track Fire Volunteer Department  
Rocker Fire Volunteer Department  
Terra Verde Fire Volunteer Department  
Walkerville Fire Volunteer Department  
Law Enforcement Department  
911 Communications Center  
A-1 Ambulance Company  
Developmental Disabilities Office  
Public Works Department  
NorthWestern Energy  
Homeland Security and Emergency Management  
American Red Cross/Community Based Volunteer Organizations

**I. INTRODUCTION.**

**A. PURPOSE.**

Provide for the coordination of fire fighting, emergency medical services, and technical rescue activities to ensure the safety of life and property within the Butte – Silver Bow during emergency situations. Search and Rescue is formally addressed in ESF # 9, Hazardous Materials is addressed in ESF # 10 and Medical Service is addressed in ESF # 17.

**B. SCOPE.**

Provide City-County wide support services in the prevention, preparedness, detection and suppression of fires, emergency medical services, technical rescue operations, and other hazardous conditions, and in mobilizing and providing personnel, equipment, and other supplies.

**C. SITUATION.**

1. Emergency or hazardous conditions of a potentially disastrous scale, or conditions which are happening concurrently with any other emergency situation, will place high demands on the City-County Fire Departments. A major event may result in many urban, suburban, and wildland fires. A minor, major, or catastrophic event may severely damage the Fire Department infrastructure. City-County Fire Department response activities may be affected by lack of resources, damaged fire equipment, and disrupted communications.
2. The community of Butte-Silver Bow is protected by a combination fire department, which consists of a 32-member career fire department, which operates out of two stations.

The career fire department work a 24 hours on /72 hours off work schedule with a four-platoon system. The minimum staffing level for the career department is 6 members on duty at all times.

3. The City-County is also protected by (11) local volunteer fire departments, which are located throughout the community. Those departments are:
  - a. Big Butte
  - b. Boulevard
  - c. Centerville
  - d. Floral Park
  - e. Home Atherton
  - f. Little Basin Creek
  - g. Melrose
  - h. Race Track
  - i. Rocker
  - j. Terra Verde
  - k. Walkerville
4. All uniformed career members are certified as Emergency Medical Technicians–Basic at a minimum.

**D. POLICIES.**

City-County Fire Departments will exercise broad lawful authority to provide fire protection and other emergency services, including control and direction of activities at fire scenes, ordering evacuations in the vicinity of fires/emergencies, and taking actions necessary to extinguish or prevent the spread of fires.

## **II. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS.**

### **A. GENERAL.**

1. Emergency operations for the City-County Fire Departments will be an expansion of their normal daily responsibilities. Their primary responsibilities include fire control, Emergency Medical Services, rescue operations, and responding to hazardous material incidents. They will advise City-County government officials and emergency support personnel of hazards associated with hazardous materials, and the dangers associated with technological hazards and fire during emergency operations.
2. Existing emergency assistance agreements will generally be able to augment and satisfy a temporary increase in City-County needs. If City-County capabilities are exceeded, support may be available from state and federal fire service groups.
3. Protective equipment, instruments, and clothing to perform tasks in hazardous environments should be immediately available and properly maintained.
4. A listing of available fire department resources is maintained by the primary department in this Fire Fighting ESF and provided to HSEMA where copies are maintained.
5. When additional or specialized support is required, assistance can be obtained from neighboring counties, state and federal agencies, through the City-County's 911 Communications Center, or the EOC, if it is operational.
6. In an emergency scenario the Fire Department will be called upon to do much more than its typical response to fires and emergency medical calls. The Fire Department will assist with rescue and extrication of trapped persons; assess hazardous materials situations, as well as search, debris removal on primary roadways, evacuations, reconnaissance, traffic control and security.
7. The neighborhood fire station may become a community focal point and source of public information and assistance when normal communications are disrupted by an emergency.
8. The City-County will implement the Incident Command System (ICS) on an appropriate scale at the scene of every fire/rescue incident in the City-County. If fire or threat of fire is involved, the Fire Chief or his/her designated representative will be the incident commander.
9. During the critical phases of an emergency, fire stations will be comprehensively staffed as conditions permit. Communications will be established and maintained with the 911 Communications Center and the EOC.

**B. TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.****1. Pre–Emergency Tasks.**

- a. Primary and support departments will collaborate and coordinate with the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency to:
  - Maintain this Emergency Support Function (ESF).
  - Maintain inventories of resources and equipment and provide to HSEMA.
  - Participate in drills, exercises, and other ongoing training.
  - Provide fire prevention and other outreach programs.
  - Provide facility life safety code enforcement inspections.
  - Develop emergency action plans and checklists.
  - Maintain mutual aid agreements.

**2. General Emergency Tasks.**

- a. Primary and support agencies will:
  - When notified of an emergency situation, send response teams/personnel, equipment, and vehicles to the emergency site, staging areas, or other location, as appropriate.
  - Manage fire/rescue resources, direct fire operations, rescue injured individuals during emergency operations, and determine the need, as appropriate, for evacuation of the immediate area in and around the emergency scene.
  - Report an initial damage assessment to the EOC when it is activated.
    - Report the need for rescue, the numbers of deceased or injured, damage to buildings, public facilities such as roads and bridges, and utilities.
    - Advise if an event exceeds local capabilities.
  - Implement evacuation orders due to unsafe buildings, fire danger, hazardous materials, or any other reason identified by competent authority.
  - Coordinate with law enforcement, the Butte – Silver Bow EOC and the State ECC, as appropriate in the evacuation of people at risk in the evacuation area.
  - Alert all emergency response organizations of the dangers associated with technological hazards and fire during emergency operations.
  - When requested, Fire Chief or designee reports to the Butte – Silver Bow EOC, when the EOC has been activated during an emergency.
- b. Mutual Aid Fire–Rescue Departments.
  - Provide personnel, equipment, supplies and other resources necessary to assist in fire suppression activities unless the response would place their jurisdiction in jeopardy.
  - Do not dispatch personnel or equipment to an emergency unless

requested by the 911 Communications Center or the EOC.

- Assume their appropriate role in the Incident Command System and/or provide incident command support as requested by the incident commander or, if the Incident Command System has not been established, initiate the Incident Command System as appropriate to manage the incident.
- Triage, stabilize, treat, and decontaminate the injured as appropriate.
- Establish and maintain field communications and coordination with other responding emergency teams and hospitals.
- Assist in the evacuation of patients from affected hospitals; nursing homes or other special needs facilities.
- Maintain records of cost and expenditures and forward them to the ESF Primary Agency.
- Participate with the Joint Information Center operations as assigned.

**3. Specific Emergency Concepts and Responsibilities.**

**a. Butte Fire Department is the primary department for ESF # 4 Fire Fighting:**

- Respond to requests for fire, rescue, and pre-hospital medical care; begin mobilization of resources and personnel, and prepare to activate.
- Conduct situation assessments and develop strategies and tactics to stabilize incidents.
- Coordinate fire department resources and the provision of heavy equipment support of fire department operations.
- All emergency activities will be managed and controlled using the Incident Command System.
- Maintain records of cost and expenditures to accomplish this ESF and forward them to the EOC Finance/ Administration Section Chief.

**b. Law Enforcement Department:**

- Assist with determining the most viable transportation networks to, from and within the emergency area and regulate the use of these transportation networks.
- Enforce orders of fire officers and implement/enforce evacuation orders, when necessary.
- Provide law enforcement and traffic control in support of Fire Department actions.
- Provide situational information to the ESF primary department when a significant change in the transportation infrastructure is found.
- Assist Fire Department in restricting access to unsafe buildings or areas.
- Manage re-entry process into evacuated area(s) according to procedures in the Evacuation Strategy (Published separately).
- Provide frequent updates to the Operations Section Chief at the EOC as to the status of the transportation infrastructure and security.
- Record costs and expenditures; forward to this ESF Group Supervisor.

- c. **Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency:**
- Monitor situation for Crisis Action Team or Emergency Operations Center activation.
  - Provide coordination and staff support for Incident Command.
  - Provide emergency public information function.
  - Assist with logistical needs, mass care, and shelter requirements.
- d. **American Red Cross/Community Based Organization/Volunteer Disaster Organizations:**
- Provide mass care for injured at major fire scenes.
  - Support fire services actions by providing individual assistance, and shelter staffing/setup.
  - Support fire services actions by providing assistance to emergency responders as requested.
- e. **911 Communication Center:**
- Provide radio system infrastructure support.
  - Provide repair and maintenance of radio equipment.
  - Record costs and expenditures and forward them to this ESF's Group Supervisor.
- f. **A-1 Ambulance Company:**
- Provide vehicles and personnel for emergency medical transportation purposes.
  - Provide medical transport in support of transportation operations.
- g. **Developmental Disabilities Office:**
- Coordinate emergency response issues of individuals with special needs concerns as they relate to this ESF.
  - Coordinate with ESF # 14 staff to establish, if needed, contact information for special needs individuals. Ensure that telephone operators are given up-to-date information regarding instructions for special needs individuals and that procedures are in place for relaying requests from the public.
  - Ensure ESF # 15, Public Information, has received all relevant information regarding actions that special needs individuals within the City-County are to take, and that such information is released to the media through ESF # 15.
- h. **Public Works:**
- Position traffic control devices (i.e., barricades, covers, etc.) as per Fire Department instructions.

- Clear roads for emergency vehicles.
- Support firefighters with heavy equipment resources.
- Control water utilities as requested.
- Perform building demolitions.
- Assist with maintaining water flow as requested.
- Record costs and expenditures and forward them to this ESF's Group Supervisor.

i. **NorthWestern Energy:**

- Provide logistical support and specialized resources to support fire operations.
- Manage power utilities in support of firefighting operations.

**C. ROLE OF BUTTE-SILVER BOW EOC.**

1. When the EOC is activated, the EOC Manager may activate and staff the Fire Fighting ESF # 4 group as a part of the EOC Operations Section to coordinate all fire fighting activities. The Fire Fighting Group is responsible for directing and coordinating all available local government personnel, equipment and supplies available to carry out requirements for fire departments. The Fire Fighting Group will make requests through the EOC Manager to the state ECC for additional resources when all local and regional mutual aid fire department resources have been exhausted.
2. Fire department personnel will be alerted according to prescribed departmental/agency/organization policy. The operational priorities for personnel will be assigned by the ESF Lead Agency Fire Chief or designee. All personnel will report to their pre-designated locations unless otherwise directed by their supervisor at the time they are notified of the emergency. Pre-designation of duties and responsibilities will facilitate a reduction in response time.
3. The Fire Fighting Group will establish and maintain lines of communication in the EOC during major response operations to facilitate coordination of activities and resources.
4. The Fire Fighting Group likely tasks are found in the City-County box on the tab page of this section.

**D. LIFE SAFETY ASSESSMENT.**

An initial EOC priority is to gather as much intelligence about the extent of damage as soon as possible. The primary source for this will be the field response units feeding information to the fire dispatch center. As soon as possible, Fire Department personnel will report the need for rescue, the number injured and fatalities, damage to buildings, public facilities such as roads and bridges, and utilities. These reports will be compiled by dispatch and immediately communicated to the EOC duty officer.

**E. EVACUATION.**

1. Fire Department officials will implement evacuation orders due to unsafe buildings, fire danger, hazardous materials, or any other reason identified by competent authority. Fire Department officials will take lawful actions necessary to save lives and property.
2. Evacuation orders will be coordinated with the EOC to ensure the evacuees are moved to an appropriate shelter, and the needs of special populations and individuals are provided for. (see Evacuation Strategy-published separately)

**F. FIELD OPERATIONS.**

1. Emergency actions may include:
  - Once notified of an emergency situation, sending response teams/personnel, equipment, and vehicles to the emergency site, staging areas, or other location, as appropriate.
  - Identifying an Incident Commander (IC) and establishing an Incident Command Post (ICP). Assign appropriate personnel to IC staff.
  - Performing IC duties at the emergency scene.
  - When requested, send a senior representative to the EOC, when the EOC has been activated during an emergency.
  - Notifying the EOC of the situation if the original notification did not come from the EOC.
  - Managing fire/rescue resources, direct fire operations, provide emergency medical services, rescue injured people during emergency operations, and determine the need, as appropriate, for evacuation of the immediate area in and around the emergency scene.
  - Assisting, as appropriate, in the evacuation of people at risk in the immediate area in and around the emergency scene.
  - Alerting all emergency response organizations of the dangers associated with technological hazards and fire during emergency operations.
2. Fire Department personnel will establish inner and outer perimeters to secure an emergency scene. A strict policy of limited access to the emergency area will be rigidly enforced to ensure the safety and well being of the community. All movement into and out of the secured area(s) will be requested and approved through the established command post(s). Additional details concerning response actions required by fire personnel are found in department SOGs published under separate cover.
3. Security will be provided for essential facilities if required, and law enforcement will assist Fire Department in restricting access to unsafe buildings or areas.
4. Hazardous Materials Response.
  - a. Fire Department personnel responding to a hazardous material incident will ensure that they have a full understanding of the Incident Commander's

assessment of the situation and that they take full and proper precautions to protect themselves.

- b. Only personnel having proper training should be deployed to a hazardous material incident.
5. Water rescue operations require specialized equipment and training. The Fire Department standard operating procedures and guidelines must be followed by all personnel participating in a water rescue event.

**G. MUTUAL AID.**

1. Automatic Aid agreements exist with the following:
  - The Butte-Silver Bow Fire Department has mutual aid agreements with the following entities; The city of Walkerville, Anaconda-Deer Lodge County, Jefferson County and Beaverhead County.
2. Mutual aid agreements exist with the following statewide partnership:
  - The Butte-Silver Bow Fire Department is also a member of the Montana Fire Service Mutual Aid Organization.
3. Mutual aid agreements also exist with:
  - The Butte-Silver Bow Fire Department is also an annual signatory to a Cooperative Wildland Fire Protection Plan; an agreement between all of the fire service providers within Butte-Silver Bow and the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation as well as the United States Forest Service-Beaverhead/Deer Lodge National Forest.

**III. ATTACHMENTS AND REFERENCES.**

**A. ATTACHMENTS.**

1. Fire Fighting (ESF # 4) Checklist.
2. Fire Department District Map

**B. REFERENCES.**

1. Montana Fire Service Mutual Aid Organization.
2. Cooperative Wildland Fire Protection Plan: Annual Operating Plan.
3. Butte-Silver Bow Evacuation Strategy.
4. Butte-Silver Bow Joint Information Center Plan.
5. Emergency Operations Center Operating Guide.

6. Butte-Silver Bow Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

**C. PROVISIO.**

This support annex has been prepared in accordance with the standards of the National Incident Management System and other Federal and State requirements and standards for emergency plans applicable as of the date of the plan's preparation.

The plan provides guidance only; it is intended for use in further development for response capabilities, implementation of training and exercises, and defining the general approach to incident response. The actual response to an incident is dependent on:

1. The specific conditions of the incident, including incident type, geographic extent, severity, timing, and duration;
2. The availability of resources for response at the time of the incident;
3. Decisions of Incident Commanders and political leadership; and
4. Actions taken by neighboring jurisdictions, the State, and the Federal Government.

These and other factors may result in unforeseen circumstances, prevent the implementation of plan components, or require actions that are significantly different from those described in the plan.

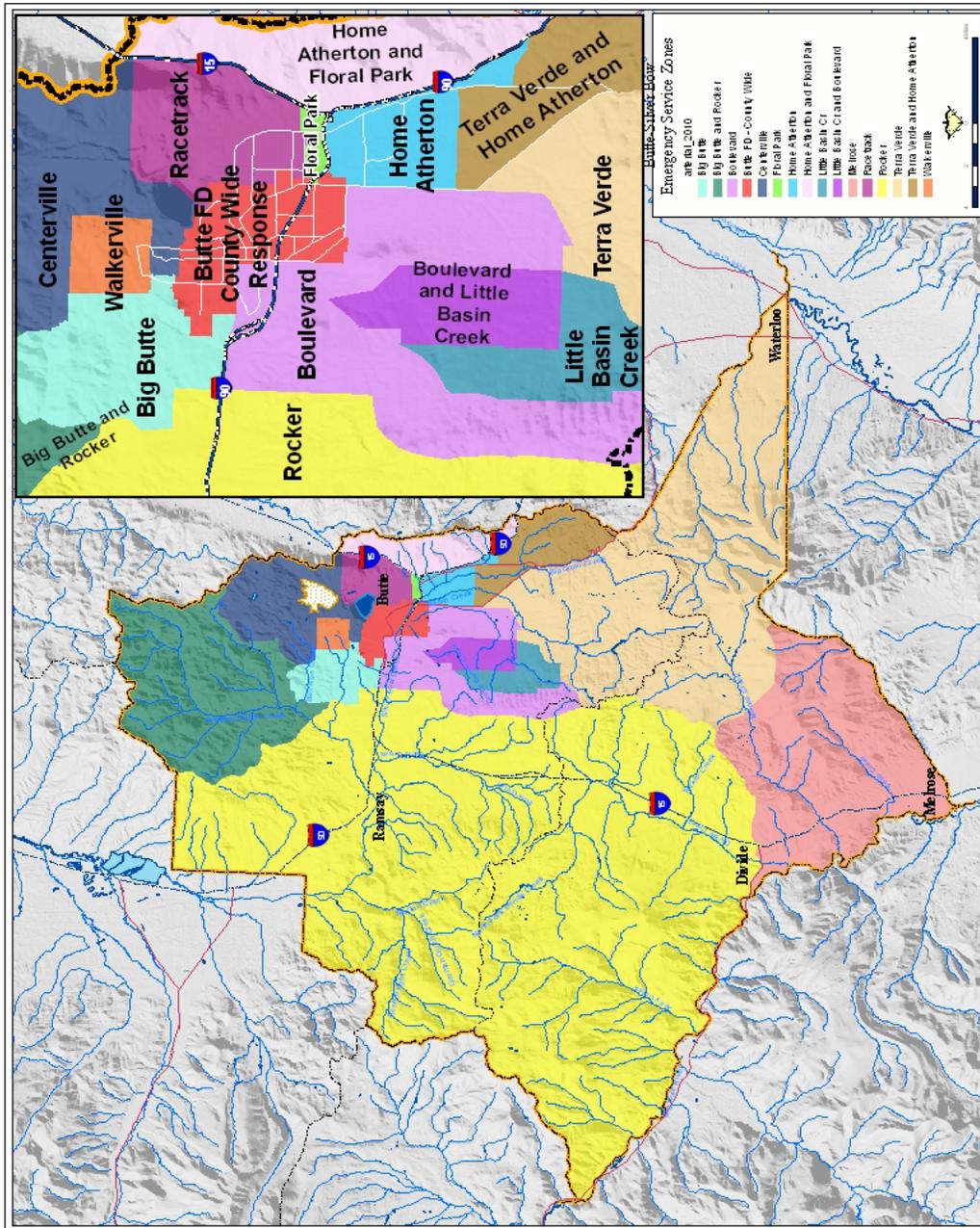
*Attachment 1*

**FIRE FIGHTING (ESF # 4) CHECKLIST**

<p><b>Pre-Emergency</b></p>	<p>Coordinate with the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Maintain this Emergency Support Function (ESF).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Maintain inventories of resources and equipment.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Participate in drills, exercises and other ongoing training.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Develop emergency action plans and checklists.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Maintain mutual aid agreements.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provide fire prevention and other outreach programs.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Emergency</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> When notified of an emergency situation, send response teams/personnel, equipment, and vehicles to the emergency site, staging areas, or other location, as appropriate.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Manage fire/rescue resources, direct fire operations, rescue injured people during emergency operations, and determine the need, as appropriate, for evacuation of the immediate area in and around the emergency scene.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Report initial damage assessment to EOC when activated.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Report the need for rescue, the numbers of dead or injured, damage to buildings, public facilities such as roads and bridges, and utilities. (Compiled by dispatch and communicated to the EOC.)</li> <li>- Advise if an event requires notification of the State EOC.</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Implement evacuation orders due to unsafe buildings, fire danger, hazardous materials, or any other reason identified by competent authority.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinate with Butte – Silver Bow EOC, as appropriate in the evacuation of people at risk in the evacuation area.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Alert all emergency response organizations of the dangers associated with technological hazards and fire during emergency operations.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> When notified, report to the Butte – Silver Bow EOC.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Emergency Operations Center (EOC)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Staff Fire Fighting Group within the Butte – Silver Bow EOC Operations Section.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Identify incident sites requiring firefighting services.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure operation of fire dispatch and reporting systems.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide alternate communication links if necessary.</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Determine condition, status of City-County firefighting resources.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Make routine contact with fire stations during emergencies and after storm landfall.</li> <li>- Request damage report from each fire station to estimate neighborhood damages.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Determine present and project future need for firefighting and other on-scene resources:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Communications.</li> <li>– Search and rescue.</li> <li>– Heavy rescue.</li> <li>– Evacuation.</li> <li>– Mobile shelter.</li> <li>– Transport of emergency responders and resources.</li> <li>– Other Logistics: food; water; emergency power; lighting; etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Assure incident commanders receive needed resources when available.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinate acquisition of needed mutual aid firefighting resources as necessary.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sources for resources can include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Local, state, federal mutual aid.</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish, maintain contact with other EOCs through the EOC Commander as appropriate:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Provide information on damages, status of City-County firefighting systems.</li> <li>– Request additional firefighting resources, as needed.</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Determine if support is required to other jurisdictions:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Do not dispatch mutual aid resources until it is determined those resources are not needed in the Butte – Silver Bow.</li> <li>– Assess City-County's ability to respond based on existing resources and possible threat to our community.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Recovery Actions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conducts post-incident reviews to evaluate cause and performance.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provides estimates for damages, repairs, and other costs incurred.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Participates as member of Recovery Team as requested.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Recommends prevention, protection, and mitigation and redevelopment projects.</li> </ul>

Attachment 2  
**FIRE DEPARTMENTS' DISTRICT MAP**



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