

presidential disaster declaration when there is an immediate threat to life.

Demobilization is the safe and orderly return of resources to their original status and location. Resources must be tracked and documented to ensure effective financial reimbursement.

Recovery Cycle

Recovery is a shift in operational tempo from immediate lifesaving and property conservation to assistance for individuals, households, critical infrastructures, and businesses. A short-term recovery is a period that immediately follows response activities. A long-term recovery may take several years and is not within the NRF template.

NRF Roles and Responsibilities

The NRF prescribes key roles and responsibilities for all partners at the local, tribal, state, and federal levels. It is significant that the framework also delineates roles for NGOs and private-sector entities.

Local Roles

At the local level, elected or appointed officials and administrative department heads are responsible for the welfare and safety of the community. These officials are not involved in tactical decisions, but instead are responsible for laws, policies, and budgets that are the foundation of preparedness efforts. These officials must work with their respective community and local businesses to ensure effective decisions are made. During emergency operations, the responsibilities of elected/appointed officials are as follows:

- Clearly state organization/jurisdiction policy.
- Evaluate effectiveness and correct deficiencies.
- Support a multiagency approach.

The emergency manager is a key appointed official responsible for implementing the planning and preparedness policies of senior officials. The emergency manager is responsible for developing and maintaining the local comprehensive emergency plan, maintaining a close relationship with response agencies, and conducting training and exercises that complement and support the community's emergency plan. Developing effective mutual-aid and assistance agreements and conducting public education and awareness programs are additional duties. During emergency operations, the emergency manager serves

as the commander of the local Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Local agency directors are responsible for maintaining their agency capabilities at a high level of readiness and training to ensure an effective response and interagency coordination within the emergency management structure.

Individuals and households have a shared responsibility for emergency preparedness that must complement emergency response efforts. Households should partner with public officials to accomplish the following:

- Remove hazards within homes and surrounding property.
- Maintain a home emergency kit and critical supplies.
- Monitor communications related to public emergencies.
- Serve in volunteer support entities.
- Participate in citizen emergency response training.

Tip

Local roles are a key facet of the NRF and include citizen and local government responsibilities.

State, Tribal, and Territorial Responsibilities

State, tribal, and territorial entities are responsible for supporting local response and recovery activities. The key state official is the governor, who is responsible for the general welfare and safety of the local governments and citizens within a state. The governor commands the National Guard and assigns missions for disaster operations. Governors have a coordination role with other states and the federal government for allocating resources and are responsible for filing a federal disaster declaration to obtain financial assistance. The director of the state emergency management agency works directly with the governor to ensure coordination among state agencies and effective allocation of response resources to local governments needing assistance.

Tip

State roles in the NRF are managed by the governor, who commands the National Guard and has a coordinating role with federal agencies.