



# December 2024 Emergency Management Plan



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The Government of British Columbia and the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC are pleased to participate in the delivery of the project. We are committed to working with our industry partners to address issues of importance to the agriculture and agri-food industry in British Columbia. Opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter and not necessarily those of the Investment Agriculture Foundation or the Government of British Columbia



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# Table of Contents

List of Figures.....	4
<b>IN AN EMERGENCY: BCAC Emergency Response Flowchart .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><i>Initial 48-hour Action Plan Template.....</i></b>	<b>6</b>
Executive Summary .....	7
Introduction.....	8
Purpose of Plan.....	8
Scope of Plan .....	9
Plan Maintenance and Staff Training .....	9
<b>1.0 Emergency Preparedness and Mitigation .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>1.1 Mitigation and Preparedness Roles/Responsibilities .....</b>	<b>10</b>
BCAC.....	10
WALI.....	11
Member Associations .....	11
Producers.....	11
BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food (AF) .....	12
Other Agencies and Partners .....	12
<b>1.2 BCAC Preparedness/Mitigation Advocacy .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>1.3 Preparedness/Mitigation Outreach, Promotion and Engagement.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>1.4 BCAC Emergency Plan Maintenance.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>1.5 BCAC Emergency Management Training Outline .....</b>	<b>14</b>
Purpose of Training.....	14
Training Outline .....	14
Participants .....	15
Reference Materials.....	15
Delivery Schedule.....	15
Instructor .....	15
Delivery Mode.....	15
Evaluation .....	15
<b>2.0 Emergency Response Roles and Responsibilities .....</b>	<b>16</b>
BCAC.....	16
WALI.....	16
Member Associations .....	17
Producers.....	17
BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food.....	18
Governments of Jurisdiction .....	18

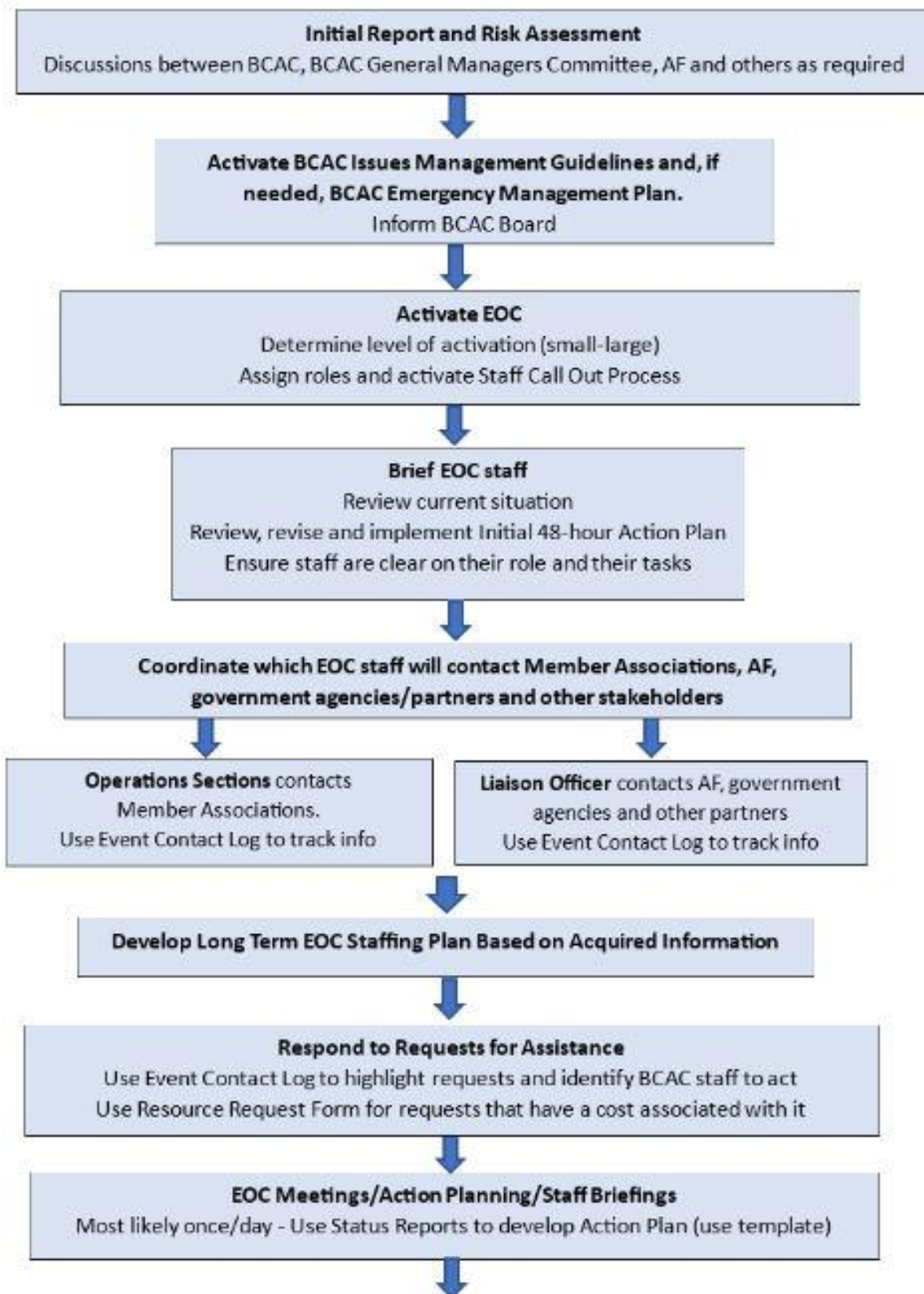
Other Agencies/Partners - EMCR, MOE, MOTI, CFIA etc. ....	19
<b>3.0 BCAC Response Process.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>3.1 Overall Agriculture Response Structure in BC.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>3.2 BCAC Response Structure .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>3.3 BCAC Emergency Response Flowchart .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>3.4 Initial Report, Risk Assessment and Activation of BCAC Responses.....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>3.5 Initial 48-hour Action Plan Template .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>3.6 BCAC Issues Management Guidelines.....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>3.7 EOC Staff Call Out and Initial Briefing .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>3.8 BCAC EOC Position Checklists .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>3.9 Managing Situational Information.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>3.10 Event Contact Log .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>3.11 Contacting Member Associations and Partners .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>3.12 Requests for BCAC Assistance.....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>3.13 Advocating for Emergency Support for the Agriculture Industry .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>3.14 Public Communications .....</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>3.15 Briefings .....</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>3.16 Developing Long Term Staffing Plan.....</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>3.17 Action Planning .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>3.18 Assess Psychosocial Support Needs for Agriculture Sector .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>3.19 Provide Support to WALI Programs .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>3.20 GoJ EOC Agriculture Coordinators Support .....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>3.21 Situation Reports (Sit Rep) .....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>3.22 Donation Management .....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>3.23 Advance Planning .....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>3.24 Demobilization .....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>3.25 Incident Review and Improvement Plan .....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>4.0 Recovery .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>4.1 Recovery Processes .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>4.2 Recovery Roles and Responsibilities .....</b>	<b>35</b>
BCAC.....	35
Member Associations .....	36
Producers.....	36
BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food.....	36
Governments of Jurisdiction .....	36

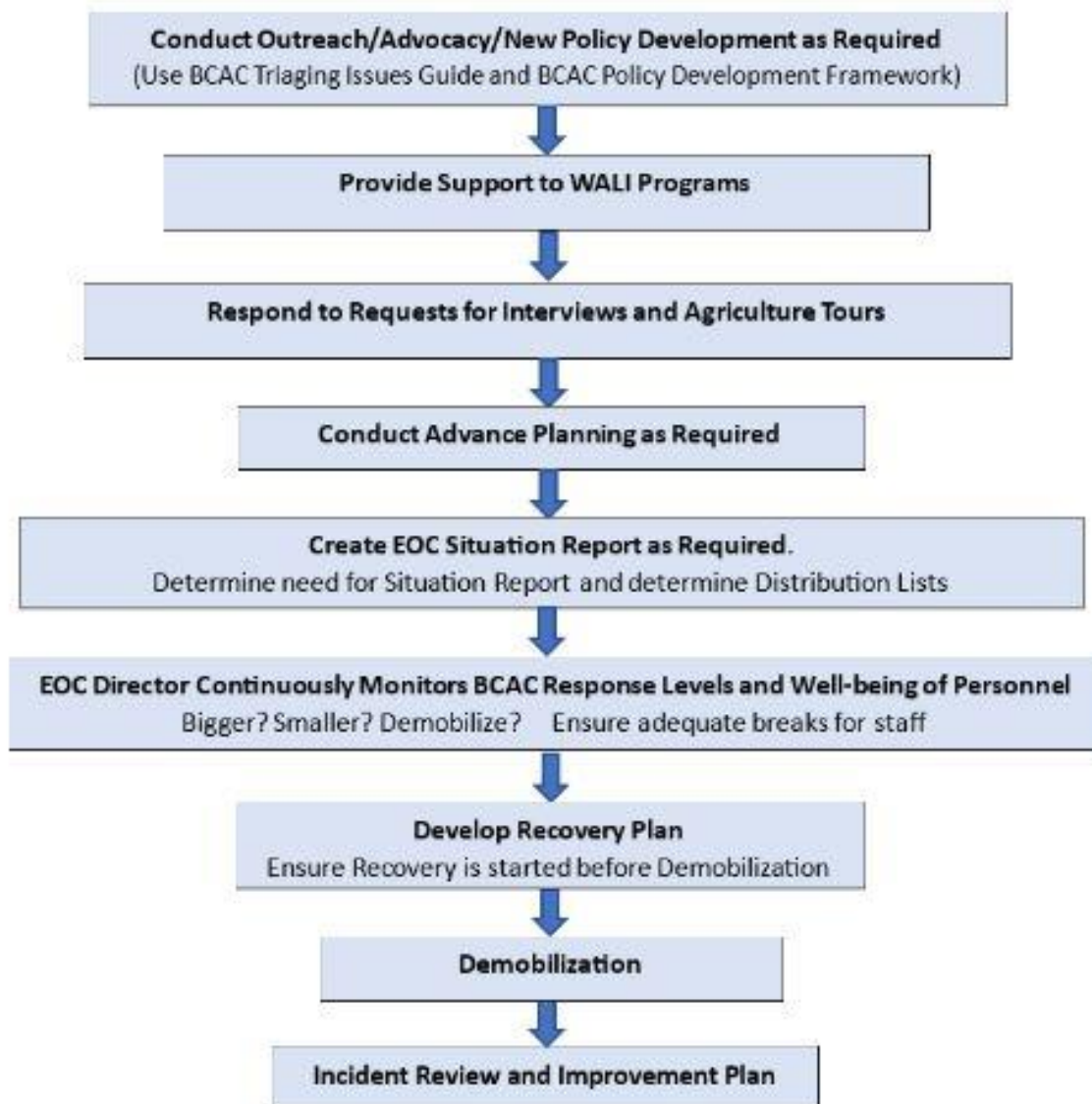
<b>Appendix 1. Acronyms .....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Appendix 2. Glossary .....</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Appendix 3. BC Emergency Response Overview.....</b>	<b>46</b>
<i>Emergency Response Structures .....</i>	<i>46</i>
<i>Incident Command System .....</i>	<i>48</i>
<i>BCEMS Response Goals .....</i>	<i>48</i>
Agriculture Examples for BCEMS Response Goals: .....	49
<i>Evacuation Stages .....</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Emergency Support Services (ESS).....</i>	<i>50</i>
<b>Appendix 4. Key Entities and Their Role in All Phases of Emergency Management .....</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Appendix 5. Overview of Key Agriculture Emergency Processes in BC .....</b>	<b>56</b>
<i>Agriculture Coordinator Role in Government of Jurisdiction EOC .....</i>	<i>56</i>
<i>Livestock Relocation .....</i>	<i>56</i>
<i>Temporary Access or Passes (to Areas Under Evacuation Order) .....</i>	<i>56</i>
Temporary Access .....	57
Remaining On-Farm .....	57
<i>Rancher Liaison Program.....</i>	<i>58</i>
<i>Access to Feed Program.....</i>	<i>58</i>
<i>Deadstock Disposal .....</i>	<i>58</i>
<b>Appendix 6. Government of Jurisdiction Emergency Response Powers (Under the <i>Emergency and Disaster Management Act [EDMA]</i>).....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Appendix 7. BCAC Emergency Response Tools .....</b>	<b>61</b>
<i>Contact Lists (Reference where these are located) .....</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>Initial 48-72 Hour Action Plan .....</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>Event Contact Log .....</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>Forms and Templates .....</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>Position Checklists (insert links to each checklist) .....</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>Emergency Event Mapping and Information .....</i>	<i>61</i>

## List of Figures

<i>Figure 1. Overall agriculture emergency response framework in B.C. ....</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Figure 2. BCAC emergency response organization chart. ....</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Figure 3. Initial 48-hour Action Plan.....</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Figure 4. BCAC Issues Management Plan. ....</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Figure 5. Position Checklist for BCAC Comms Manager. ....</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Figure 6. Event Contact Log Template.....</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>Figure 7. BCAC Policy Development Process Steps.....</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Figure 8. BCAC Emergency Response Action Plan.....</i>	<i>31</i>
<i>Figure 9. BCAC Situation Report Template. ....</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>Figure 10. BCAC Improvement Plan Template. ....</i>	<i>34</i>
<i>Figure 11 Response levels for emergency management.....</i>	<i>46</i>
<i>Figure 12 The six Emergency Management Climate Readiness Regions .....</i>	<i>47</i>

## IN AN EMERGENCY: BCAC Emergency Response Flowchart





## Initial 48-hour Action Plan Template

The BCAC EOC Director can use the **Initial 48-hour Action Plan Template (Appendix 7)** to organize the first steps and determine initial BCAC EOC objectives.

BCAC Initial 48-Hour Action Plan Template (List of actions to focus on in the first 48 hours) NOTE: some objectives may not be able to be completed in 72 hours Delete and revise objectives as appropriate				
BCAC Tracking #				
Event Name	Date Created	Operational Period	Operational Period End	End Date
Operational Period	Operational Period	Operational Period	Operational Period	Operational Period
<b>List Objectives and Tasks for Operational Period</b>				
1) Upon Notification Gather Situational Info				
• Contact Member Associations (starting through the Central Manager, Community, AF, and other stakeholders) not already in contact to obtain situational information about the event. Determine what other support Member Associations and AF need from BCAC. Develop contact lists for key people and resources. Use list of emergency contacts in Incident EOC or the BCAC.				EOC Director (BCAC EOC)
• Determine if the BCAC Issues Management Guidelines are sufficient for Incident Period 1 of the Action Plan or if the BCAC Emergency Management Plan has to be activated as well (Step 2 and onward of the Action Plan).				EOC Director/Other (BCAC EOC Coord. Manager)
• Inform Board of directors and what actions are being taken.				EOC Director
<b>2) Activate BCAC Issues Management Guidelines</b>				
• Determine category of incident based on emergency-specific context, community communications personnel before taking any action.				Info Officer (Comm. Manager)
• Follow Action Steps in Issues Management Guidelines.				Info Officer
• Contact with all in response their messaging and consider how to avoid conflicting messaging.				Info Officer
• Ensure all public communications are approved by Communications team.				Info Officer
• Ensure Internal Procedures for Issues Management are followed (see Issues Management Guidelines).				Info Officer
<b>3) Coordinate Member BCAC Emergency Response (Activation of BCAC Emergency Management Plan)</b>				
• Call out BCAC staff and provide initial briefing.				EOC Director (BCAC EOC)
• Review the Action Plan template for the situation. These will be the BCAC Emergency Guidelines for the first 48 to 72 hours. Determine staffing needs for the event. Call out and assign staffing plan. Update staffing plan as needed. Confirm staff roles.				EOC Director/Planning (BCAC EOC, Dir. of Policy)
• Ensure communications systems work - remote access to BCAC WiFi, Zoom, etc.				Logistics (BCAC EOC)

Draft Template Updated Sept 1, 2024



## Executive Summary

The purpose of the BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) Emergency Management Plan (the Plan) is to provide a framework for the BCAC Board and staff to lead/support an industry wide approach before, during and after emergency events.

Governments of Jurisdiction (regional districts, municipalities and First Nation communities) drive the emergency management process in BC, with support from the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness and other provincial government ministries. BC uses the BC Emergency Management System (BCEMS) to ensure a coordinated and organized approach to emergencies in the public or private sectors. The approach is adaptable to specific needs of each event. The BCAC Emergency Management Plan outlines how BCAC engages with and supports the government response, and carries out specific activities to assist the agriculture industry in all phases of emergency management.

Key objectives include:

- Effectively advocating for the needs of all of agriculture, with support from industry associations.
- Supporting Member Associations as needed.
- Guiding how Member Associations interact.
- Providing public communications on behalf of the BC agriculture sector.
- Establishing agriculture resilience for the long term through awareness and advocacy.
- Supporting recovery from emergency events that affect agriculture.
- Supporting foreign agriculture workers affected by emergency events.

Key Tools, Forms and Documents (see Appendix 7):

Initial 48-Hour Action Plan	Position Checklists	Response Forms	Event Contact Log
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Emergency situations are unfamiliar to everyone and no one person has all the answers. Managing an emergency response works best when it is based upon established Plans, solid networks and relationships, and a supportive, collaborative response environment built on respect.

This Plan is written to cover the basic information around BCAC's role in all phases of emergency management, the emergency management system in BC and the various entities that contribute to supporting producers and the agriculture sector before, during and after emergency events. Over time, there may be new staff and Board members who are unfamiliar with previous emergency work, and it is hoped that this Plan will put everyone on the same page with useful information and tools to keep BC's agriculture sector resilient.

## Introduction

Agriculture systems are complex with many interactions from production to the tables of consumers. Emergency events can cause significant impacts on farm and throughout the supply chain, and may impact food security.

The BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) recognizes their role in leading/supporting an industry wide, all-encompassing emergency management approach that coordinates with and supports their Member Associations. This approach aligns with BC's emergency management system and the prominent role that Governments of Jurisdiction (GoJs) have in supporting the producers within their area.

The Plan was developed through the support of the BCAC Oversight Group established to develop and manage the broad agriculture sector emergency response structure project.

### Committee Members:

Danielle Synotte – BCAC and Committee Chair  
Christine Koch – BC Pork Producers Association and BC Poultry Association  
Kelly Coughlin – BC Horse Council  
Kevin Boone – BC Cattlemen's Association  
Lisa Acres – BC Cattlemen's Association  
Heather Higo – BC Honey Producers Association  
Morgan Sangster – BC Dairy Association  
Melisa Tesche – Interior Horticulture Groups

### Ex Officios:

Graham Knox – BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food (AF)  
Ian Cummings – BC Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR)  
Reg Steward – AgSafe BC  
Wendy Bennett – AgSafe BC

## Purpose of Plan

The purpose of the BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) Emergency Management Plan (the Plan) is to provide a framework for the BCAC Board and staff to lead/support an industry wide approach before, during and after emergency events.

### This includes:

- Effectively advocating for the needs of all of agriculture, with support from industry associations.
- Supporting Member Associations as needed.
- Guiding how Member Associations interact.
- Providing public communications on behalf of the BC agriculture sector.

- Establishing agriculture resilience for the long term through awareness and advocacy.
- Supporting recovery from emergency events that affect agriculture.
- Supporting foreign agriculture workers affected by emergency events.

The legal authority for response to emergency events falls with the Government of Jurisdiction (GoJ) with support from the Province as required. The BCAC Emergency Management Plan outlines how BCAC engages with and supports the government response, and carries out specific activities to assist the agriculture industry in all phases of emergency management.

## Scope of Plan

This is an all-hazard Plan which includes impacts from natural hazards and human/technological hazards.

Common natural hazards that may be encountered in BC include wildfires, floods, extreme weather, landslides, droughts, windstorms, earthquakes, and avalanches. Tsunamis and volcanic eruptions are also potential natural hazards. Natural biological hazards such as pandemics, reportable animal diseases, and significant plant diseases can also impact agriculture in BC.

Electrical and telecommunication disruptions, financial disruption, cyber attacks, civil disruption, hazardous material spills, dam failure, terrorism, deployment of weapons of mass destruction and nuclear accidents are examples of other potential human-induced hazards that can affect supply chains and production.

Emergency Management is a continuous process consisting of four interconnected phases:

1. Mitigation - identify, prevent, eliminate, or reduce the risk and impact of hazards.
2. Preparedness – establish knowledge, capability and capacity to anticipate, respond to and recover from the adverse effects of an emergency.
3. Response - respond to an emergency, including preventing and reducing the adverse effects of the emergency
4. Recovery – of people, communities, businesses, objects or sites of heritage value, the environment from an emergency, with a goal to reduce the risk of and increase resilience to future emergencies.

Collaboration with Governments of Jurisdiction (GoJs), the Province and other agencies/partners results in a more coordinated and effective process through all four emergency management phases.

BCAC has roles in each of these phases and this plan describes specific responsibilities for BCAC as well as other entities, and related actions/considerations to address each phase. These are described further in Sections 1 - 4.

## Plan Maintenance and Staff Training

See Sections 1.4 and 1.5 which provide details on maintaining the BCAC Emergency Management Plan and organizing staff training.

## 1.0 Emergency Preparedness and Mitigation

The first two phases of emergency management are Mitigation and Preparedness.

**Mitigation** measures identify and remove or reduce hazards so as to prevent emergencies from occurring, or reduce, to the extent reasonably practicable, the scale, scope and adverse effects of an emergency that may occur.

Examples include hazard mapping and modeling, land-use planning (zoning/bylaws/policies), construction techniques (building/landscaping requirements, fire perimeters), seismic retrofitting, construction/maintenance of dikes, insurance, and incentive programs to promote mitigation techniques.

**Preparedness** measures are taken for the purpose of establishing the knowledge, capability and capacity to anticipate, respond to and recover from the adverse effects of an emergency.

This can include: emergency and business continuity planning, developing resource lists, establishing standing agreements with key vendors, staff training, exercises, and public/partner education and volunteer management.

### 1.1 Mitigation and Preparedness Roles/Responsibilities

This section identifies specific roles and responsibilities of BCAC, Member Associations, producers and other key entities for the mitigation and preparedness phases related to agriculture emergency events. More details around specific advocacy roles and outreach are covered respectively in Sections 1.2 and 1.3.

#### BCAC

- Advocate for agriculture needs and voice concerns related to emergency management mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. (See specific list in Section 1.2)
- Provide feedback on regulation development for the new *Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA)*, including Disaster Financial Assistance for agriculture (currently does not recognize income realities on farm).
- Provide info to producers about on-farm emergency planning and preparedness resources.
- Recruit, train and provide list of Ag Coordinators to Governments of Jurisdiction (GoJs). Engage with GoJs. Identify Mentors who can be available to assist Ag Coordinators.
- Promote PremisesID – consider printing on Farmer ID cards.
- Farmer ID Card Program.
- Work with GoJs and the Provincial Government to develop criteria for a pre-identification program that enables producers to remain during Evacuation Orders.
- Enhance public awareness of the value of agriculture to BC.
- Advocacy and public communications on the importance of biosecurity to agriculture.
- Encourage preparedness and collaboration by Allied Trades.

- Communicate with members on what emergency preparedness/mitigation actions are being taken by BCAC.
- Work with the Federal Government around revision to policies to support temporary foreign workers (TFWs) during emergencies (e.g. policies that prevent impacted workers from working elsewhere during/after emergency events).

## WALI

- A subsidiary company of BCAC. Supports BC farmers and ranchers by working with governments to develop labour policies that benefit both farmers and workers. WALI works with Member Associations to find solutions for temporary foreign worker (TFW) program related issues. Producers apply for Temporary Foreign Workers through Employment and Social Development Canada. BC Ministry of Health and Employment and Social Development Canada are currently reviewing regulations relating to worker housing. Also engages with Service Canada.

## Member Associations

- Engage with their producers to determine what emergency mitigation and preparedness activities would be of greatest value.
- Promote awareness, facilitate on farm preparedness (e.g. training).
- Provide information to producers: 'one stop shop' for on-farm emergency plans, preparedness.
- Support/facilitate producers to participate in GoJ programs that "pre-identify" or "pre-authorize" farmers and ranchers to use temporary access/passes during emergency events. Track who is "pre-certified".
- Promote mitigation measures for individual producers and GoJs. Provide input into specific mitigation programs, e.g. for specific watersheds.
- Advocacy around biosecurity.
- Encourage preparedness by relevant Allied Trades.
- Promote Premises ID. Engage in Info sharing agreements with Province.
- BCCA coordinates funds with the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) for the Rancher Liaison Program.
- Coordinate/support Ag Coordinator recruitment etc. with BCAC.
- Promote public awareness of agriculture contributions.
- Participate in emergency training/exercises.
- Provide information on trends, issues to anticipate future risks.
- Communicate with members on emergency preparedness actions by the association.
- Develop psychosocial support information.
- Develop inventories of equipment and supplies for response needs.

## Producers

- Identify and address specific on-farm risks.
- Develop and Implement on-farm plans, preparedness.
- Develop inventories of equipment and supplies for response needs.
- Register for PremisesID.
- Implement biosecurity programs.

- As per WorkSafeBC regulations, all employers are expected to plan, prepare, and train their employees for all emergencies.
- Have a plan to address and support visitors to on farm sale facilities and agritourism operations, including clients using on-farm accommodations.
- Encourage GoJ to consider programs that “pre-identify” or “pre-authorize” farmers and ranchers to remain on their property during Evacuation Orders. Apply and get “certified” when available.
- Identify risks within local area, e.g. watershed, and collaborate in development of mitigation measures.
- Inform their Associations about what mitigation and preparedness activities are required at the regional, Provincial and Federal level.
- Support Identification of suitable people to assist as Ag Coordinators in the EOC.

### BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food (AF)

- Provides resources for farmers/ranchers on emergency management and climate change adaptation.
- Emergency Management Branch conducts outreach to GoJs.
- Operates PremisesID Program and agriculture GIS mapping.
- Provides policy guidance to the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) for legislation/policy development.
- Offers cost-shared business risk management programs for income and production losses.
- Negotiates federal/provincial agriculture policy framework which can include funding for emergency preparedness and mitigation.
- Provides plant and animal health diagnostics.
- Receives reports of reportable and notifiable diseases.
- Extension services and information on emergency preparedness and climate adaptation.

### Other Agencies and Partners

In the preparedness and mitigation phases of emergency management, BCAC advocates for agriculture needs, provides awareness and enhances collaboration with many other entities. See Appendix 4 a summary of key entities and their roles related to all phases of emergency management.

Over time, engagement of entities will shift depending on current BCAC priorities.

## 1.2 BCAC Preparedness/Mitigation Advocacy

BCAC staff, Board Members and Committees can engage in the following areas of advocacy to support greater resiliency for the agriculture sector in BC (not a complete list). Note that priorities will change over time and reviews of recent emergency events can determine which key priorities require focus.

BCAC can encourage/advocate for:

- GoJ elected officials to support farms and ranches in their jurisdiction during emergencies (including use of Ag Coordinators in their EOCs).

- Development of Agriculture Emergency Plans by GoJs.
- Involvement of agriculture representatives in GoJ/agency training and exercises.
- Funding for incentive programs to support/promote mitigation techniques for agriculture.
- Increased hazard mapping and modeling.
- Effective business risk management tools for producers (multi-peril crop/index-based/revenue insurance).
- Access to affordable and effective insurance for farmers/ranchers.
- FireSmartBC accreditation program for producers to remain on property during Evacuation Order.
- Recognition of agriculture values during emergencies (BCWS etc.).
- Clarification on how agriculture is defined as Critical Infrastructure.
- Recognizing agriculture activities as “Essential Services”.
- Effective provincial monitoring of flood protection works by local dike authorities and issuance of orders to address critical dike safety issues.
- The opportunity to provide feedback on agriculture considerations when building codes are updated.
- Mitigation measures (regulations, funds, etc.) to proactively mitigate effects of extreme weather/support greater agriculture resilience to emergency events (flood protection, wildfire prevention, land loss, surface and ground water access, drought planning, protection of farm infrastructure, etc.).
- Availability of more regionally relevant information and increased extension activities to increase agriculture resilience (e.g. reduce soil degradation/soil management for improved water retention capacity and drainage, water management, stabilization of river banks (hedgerows, buffer strips, tree shelters), maintaining grasslands, protecting wetlands, cover crops, agroforestry etc.).
- Better monitoring, modeling, and forecasting systems (extreme weather events, drought, flooding) for agriculture.
- More development of preparedness/mitigation resources and training for farmers/ranchers.
- Compensation or credits for farmers/ranchers who provide carbon capture, stormwater absorption (dispersion and infiltration), biodiversity values, etc.

### 1.3 Preparedness/Mitigation Outreach, Promotion and Engagement

BCAC can raise awareness and provide information in the following areas to promote greater agriculture sector resiliency in BC (not a complete list):

- Agriculture’s contribution to food security in BC (public, all levels of government).
- Emergency and business continuity planning on farm and for Allied Trades.
- Work with AF to promote the use of insurance to producers.
- The value of engaging agriculture representatives in training and exercises, and encouraging agriculture participants.
- Public awareness around impacts to agriculture from an emergency event, and good news stories, follow up from events, etc. Get ahead on awareness around donation management.

- Promote the use of insurance and business risk management tools by producers.

## 1.4 BCAC Emergency Plan Maintenance

The BCAC Executive Director is responsible for ensuring that BCAC is well prepared for an emergency event by keeping this Emergency Plan updated. Note that specific response roles for all BCAC staff are described in Section 3 and in Position Checklists (Appendix 7). The BCAC Executive Director will:

- Manage the preparedness activities of BCAC such as reviewing and updating the BCAC Emergency Management Plan and emergency response tools (e.g. resource lists). Ensure the BCAC Emergency Response Plan and associated documents are coordinated with Member Associations and AF's response plans.
- Respond to emergency management requests in non-event times from Member Associations.
- Maintain contact information for emergency response.
- Maintain BCAC response documents on the \_\_\_\_\_ Drive, sending out reminders of how to log onto the drive periodically.
- Organize Emergency Management training and exercises for BCAC staff.
- Review and report training and exercise results to the BCAC Board.
- Prepare a draft training budget during non-event times for approval by the BCAC Board.
- Manage and report on Emergency Management expenses incurred during non-event times to the BCAC Board.
- Be one of the contact persons in the case of an emergency event.
- Initiate the call out of BCAC staff for a response when directed by the Executive Director.
- After a response, arrange After Action Incident Reviews and report out to the BCAC Board.

## 1.5 BCAC Emergency Management Training Outline

The BCAC General Manager will oversee emergency training of BCAC staff and Board members.

### Purpose of Training

To prepare BCAC personnel to use the processes, procedures and tools outlined in the BCAC Emergency Management Plan and other BCAC documents during an emergency event.

### Training Outline

1. Overview of the Emergency Management System in BC including review of ICS Principles.
2. Review how BCAC interacts with the BC response system.
3. Outline specific roles and responsibilities of positions within BCAC. Review how the positions and processes in the BCAC response mirror positions and processes in a standardized EOC.
4. Review processes used in the BCAC during an emergency.
5. Utilize the tools used by BCAC.
6. Describe strategies for worker care (BCAC staff and Member Associations).



## Participants

Anyone who may have a role in the BCAC response. This may be BCAC staff, WALI staff, Board members, affiliates or others.

## Reference Materials

- BCAC Emergency Response Plan
- BCAC Issues Management Guide
- BCAC Triaging Policy Issues
- BCAC Executive Committee Terms of Reference
- BC Emergency Management System Guide

## Delivery Schedule

- Initial orientation session - 4 hours.
- Yearly refresher – 3 hours (could review the material and/or conduct an exercise utilizing a scenario to walk through).

## Instructor

The BCAC General Manager could be the instructor. Ideally, they would have taken JIBC EOC Essentials training to ensure alignment with the provincial response structure that is used for emergency response.

## Delivery Mode

This training would ideally be in person although it could also be done by video conference. The training could be a mixture of information presentation, activities, and relevant scenarios (with personnel assuming their role).

## Evaluation

There would no formal evaluation (no tests). It would be an attendance only course.

Additional Courses that would be beneficial for BCAC staff. These are Justice Institute of BC online courses that are not that long (2.5-3 hours) or expensive (\$50):

- EMRG-1100 Introduction to Emergency Management in Canada
- EMRG-1200 Introduction to EOC

## 2.0 Emergency Response Roles and Responsibilities

Emergency Response consists of measures taken for the purpose of responding to an emergency, including preventing and reducing the adverse effects of the emergency. This section covers emergency response roles and responsibilities of BCAC, Member Associations, producers, the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food (AF) and Governments of Jurisdiction (GoJs). Appendix 4 includes details on the response roles of other agencies and partners.

Section 3 covers specific information on the BCAC Response Process and how BCAC interacts with the provincial emergency response framework in BC. An overview of the BC emergency response framework is provided in Appendix 3.

### BCAC

- Develop and maintain situational awareness.
- Communicate with and support Member Associations when needed and coordinate with other councils (Allied Trades).
- Conduct Advance Planning in terms of anticipated situations, impacts and requirements of the agriculture industry and how BCAC can support.
- Provide GoJ EOCs with a list of people who have taken Ag Coordinator training along with a short resume on each person (resume provided by the person) in order to assist GoJ in finding suitable people for their EOC to support their farmer/rancher residents.
- Advocate for needs of all of agriculture, with support from Member Associations, to deal with unintended consequences and cut red tape.
- Raise broad issues to the Province. e.g., problems with supply chain, transportation, agriculture as critical infrastructure (an essential service) in relation to access permits etc.
- Assist with coordination of messaging with AF and Member Associations.
- Provide public communications at a broad level, e.g., overall agriculture impacts, impacts to workers, animal welfare, impacts to Allied Trades, supply chain disruptions, transportation issues, donation management, challenges of volunteers on farms etc.
- Donation management.

### WALI

- Maintains communication with WALI partner agencies (Employment and Social Development Canada, foreign consulates) , employers and temporary foreign workers (TFWs).
- Provides information to employers and temporary foreign workers during emergencies.
- Ensures the employer portal has up to date emergency information
- Implements plans to support WALI programs.
- Communicates WALI response activities to the rest of the BCAC staff and to member associations.
- Conducts advance planning in terms of Identifying how the emergency will impact the temporary foreign worker program and response actions to resolve issues with the temporary foreign worker programs during the emergency event.

- Ensures crucial WALI business continuity priorities are actioned and assigns resources to ensure those priorities

### Member Associations

- Develop situational awareness, raise awareness of issues, advocate for member needs, e.g., transportation, supply chains.
- Communicate with industry members (farms and ranches) about situation, resources, programs, and responsibilities, e.g. farm workers, animal welfare, environment, biosecurity, carcass disposal etc.
- Support their producers/ranchers based on requests for assistance from the producers and ranchers.
- Conduct Advance Planning in terms of anticipated situations, impacts and requirements of the sector, and support needed.
- Represent sector in GoJ EOC as subject matter experts.
- Support members around animal welfare issues and requirements, i.e., records management.
- Provide access to vets.
- BCCA supports the Rancher Liaison Program with BCWS. The Rancher Liaison reaches out and supports affected ranchers.
- Promote coordination and directly assist in addressing supply chain disruptions.
- Spokesperson(s) for the agriculture industry that is impacted, provides technical knowledge, provides credibility.
- Support EOC Ag Coordinators with information.
- Communicate to members about psychosocial supports and provide peer support personnel.
- Donation management.

### Producers

- Maintain situational awareness of the threat, as well as their operation (inventory, location of animals and equipment, water supply, power supply etc.).
- Implement emergency plan and take responsibility for their family, farm workers, visitors/agritourists, animal welfare, environmental impacts, biosecurity, carcass disposal.
- Provide information and identify needs by communicating with Industry Association, GoJ EOC, AF and Range staff.
- Request support from EOC via Ag Coordinator for livestock relocation or other needs.
- Provide local situation updates and insights to Rancher Liaison, as appropriate.
- Participate in temporary access processes as applicable.
- Assist other producers in region and outside of region by transporting/hosting livestock, providing extra feed, sharing equipment etc.
- May provide fire suppression support to BCWS or other supports if trained/recruited.
- Access psychosocial supports as required, provide peer support if applicable.
- Be a trained spokesperson, coordinated through Industry Association.
- Ensure ready access to insurance documents.
- Register with your GoJ Emergency Support Services if you are under evacuation.

## BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food

- Staff provide support to EOCs and Ag Coordinators, via PREOCs.
- Coordinate delivery of EMCR Livestock Policy 2.01 for livestock relocation.
- Maintain Ag Response Portal.
- Provide coordination linkage with EMCR to address needs and issues.
- Can raise agriculture issues to senior government levels and Premier.
- Can assist with coordination of other provincial government resources, expertise and support as required to address needs and issues.
- Provide GIS maps.
- Provide information to the agriculture sectors.
- Regulate some livestock diseases. Monitor and diagnose livestock and plant diseases.
- Provide news releases and media updates.

## Governments of Jurisdiction

### *Local Authorities*

Under EDMA, the following are defined as Local Authorities: a municipality, regional district, Nisga'a Nation and treaty First Nations. These entities may<sup>1</sup>:

- Declare a state of local emergency (SOLE)
- If a SOLE is declared, may exercise response powers by emergency instrument (bylaw, resolution, law etc.) to:
  - Identify essential supplies, equipment, services, property or facilities, and control pricing and distribution.
  - Authorize or require individuals to provide a service that the person is qualified to give.
  - Provide necessities.
  - Access any personal property and land.
  - Authorize the entry or prohibit entry into structures and land.
  - Authorize or require the alteration, removal or demolition of any trees, crops, structures or landscapes.
  - Authorize or require the construction, alteration, removal or demolition of works.
  - Require the owner of a structure to assess damage.
  - Authorize the evacuation of individuals or animals, or both, from the area.
  - Authorize the removal of personal property from the area.
  - May arrange for:
    - the adequate care and protection of evacuated individuals or animals, or both.
    - the adequate protection of personal property that has been removed.
  - Control or prohibit travel, events, permitted/licensed activities and carrying on a business.
- Issue Evacuation Alerts and/or Evacuation Orders.
- Provide Reception Centres and emergency shelter to support basic human needs for community members, or those from other communities.

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<sup>1</sup> This is a very high-level summary. See Appendix 6 for further details.

- Engage with NGOs to enhance capacity.
- Be responsible for temporary access to areas under Evacuation Order.
- Support relocation of livestock.
- Provide information to community members.
- Coordinate with EMCR for information, resources etc.
- Perform mitigative works to reduce impacts.
- Operate an Emergency Operations Centre.

#### *Non-Treaty First Nations*

- EDMA recognizes the inherent right of self-government of Indigenous peoples includes authority to make laws in relation to emergency management.
- EDMA also recognizes the importance of Indigenous advice, input and stewardship activities in emergency management.
- The Minister responsible for EDMA may enter into coordination and/or statutory power agreements with Indigenous Governing Bodies.
- Indigenous Governing Bodies may operate their emergency program on their own or in partnership with other Governments of Jurisdiction (GoJ).
- There are over 200 non-treaty First Nations in BC. and while not all participate in agriculture activities, many communities or their members are involved in the cultivation of plants and raising of farm animals, as well as the management of traditional harvest areas. Horses also have cultural significance.
- Non-treaty First Nations often establish an Emergency Operations Centre during significant emergency events and use similar emergency response approaches to local authorities. Communities are often small, with 200-400 members. As a result, capacity can be a challenge. The First Nations' Emergency Services Society (FNESS) is a resource to support EOC response work.

#### *Other Agencies/Partners - EMCR, MOE, MOTI, CFIA etc.*

See Appendix 4 for details on the response roles of other agencies and partners.

### 3.0 BCAC Response Process

This section provides the framework for the BCAC response to any emergency event. Each emergency event is different and the collective knowledge and experience of all those involved must be used to formulate the best response. This framework outlines possible steps and processes for BCAC to consider and customize to suit the situation. Not all components may be needed on a response and the order may be different.

#### 3.1 Overall Agriculture Response Structure in BC

When an emergency occurs, Governments of Jurisdiction (GoJs) provide support to on-site response activities through an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness BC (EMCR) and other provincial agencies such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (AF) support community EOCs through various EOCs such as a Provincial Regional EOCs (PREOCs) and Ministry EOCs (MEOC). BCAC contributes to the response by supporting its Member Associations at the provincial level.

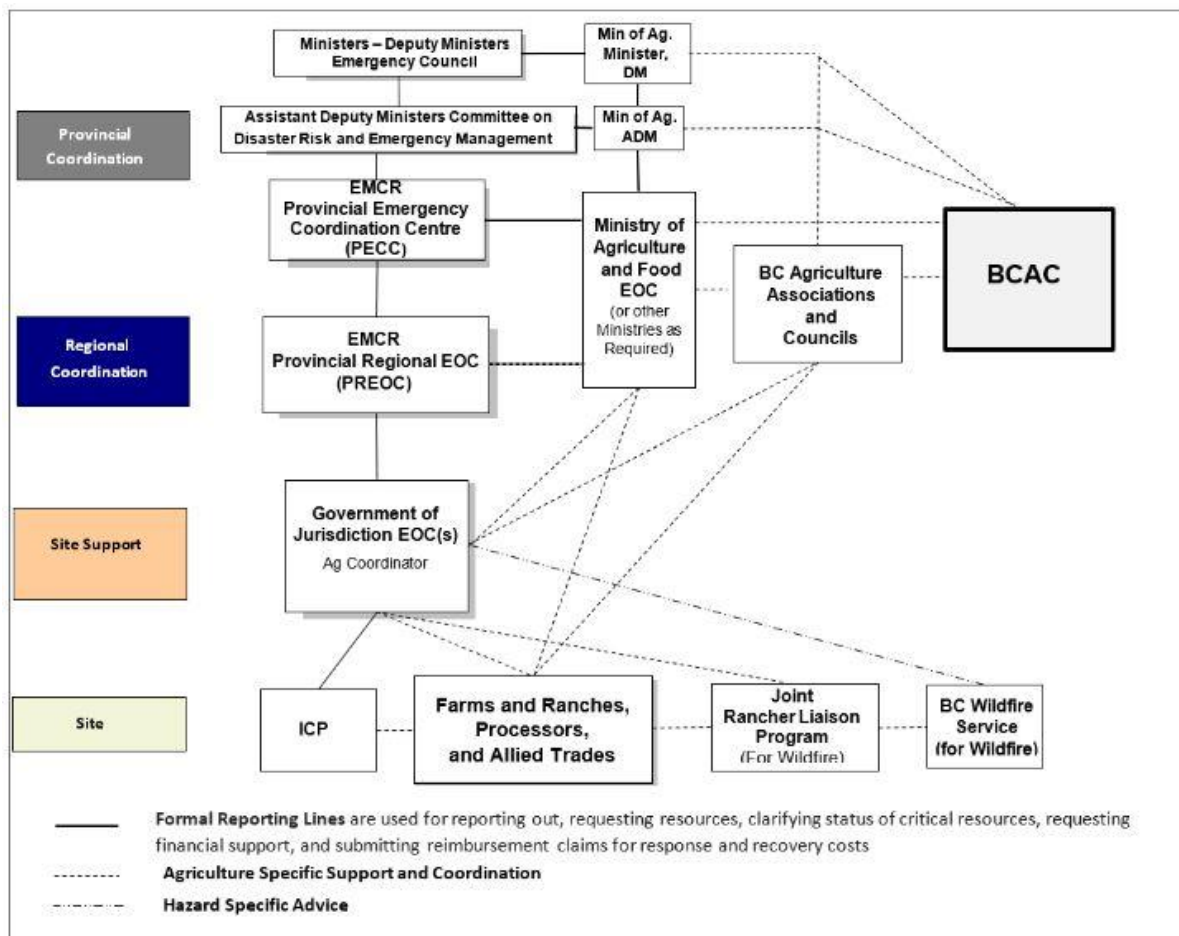


Figure 1. Overall agriculture emergency response framework in B.C.

### 3.2 BCAC Response Structure

BCAC will be adopting a simplified Emergency Operations Center (EOC) response structure.

Figure 2. BCAC emergency response organization chart.

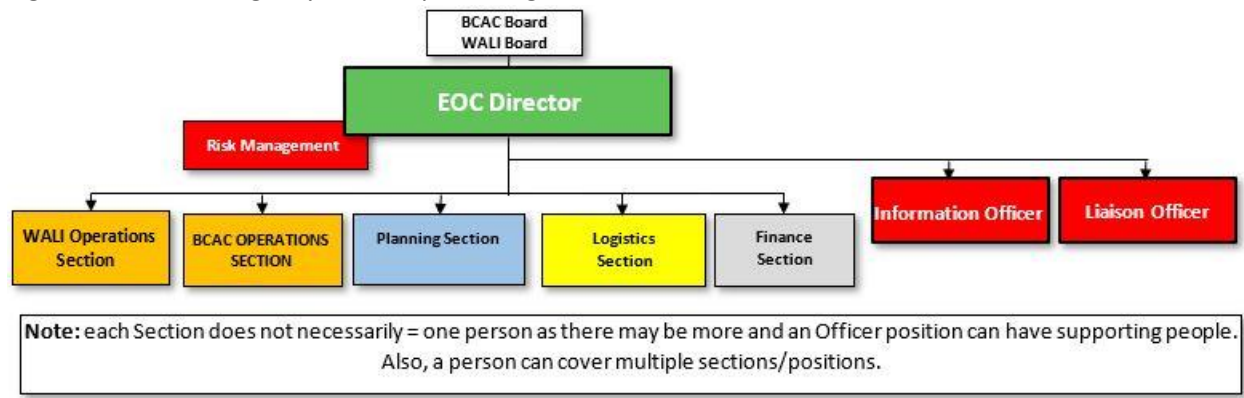
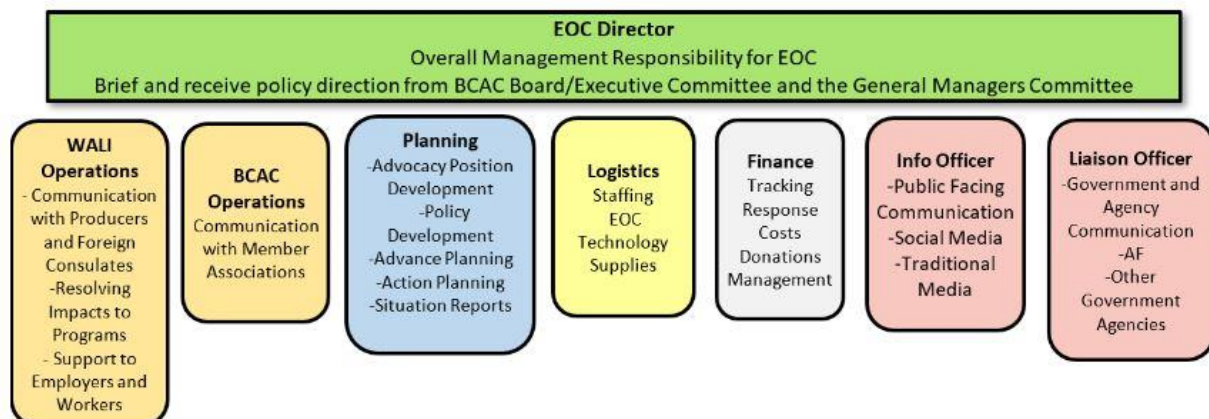


Figure 2. BCAC emergency response organization chart.

General BCAC activities of the different EOC Officers and Sections



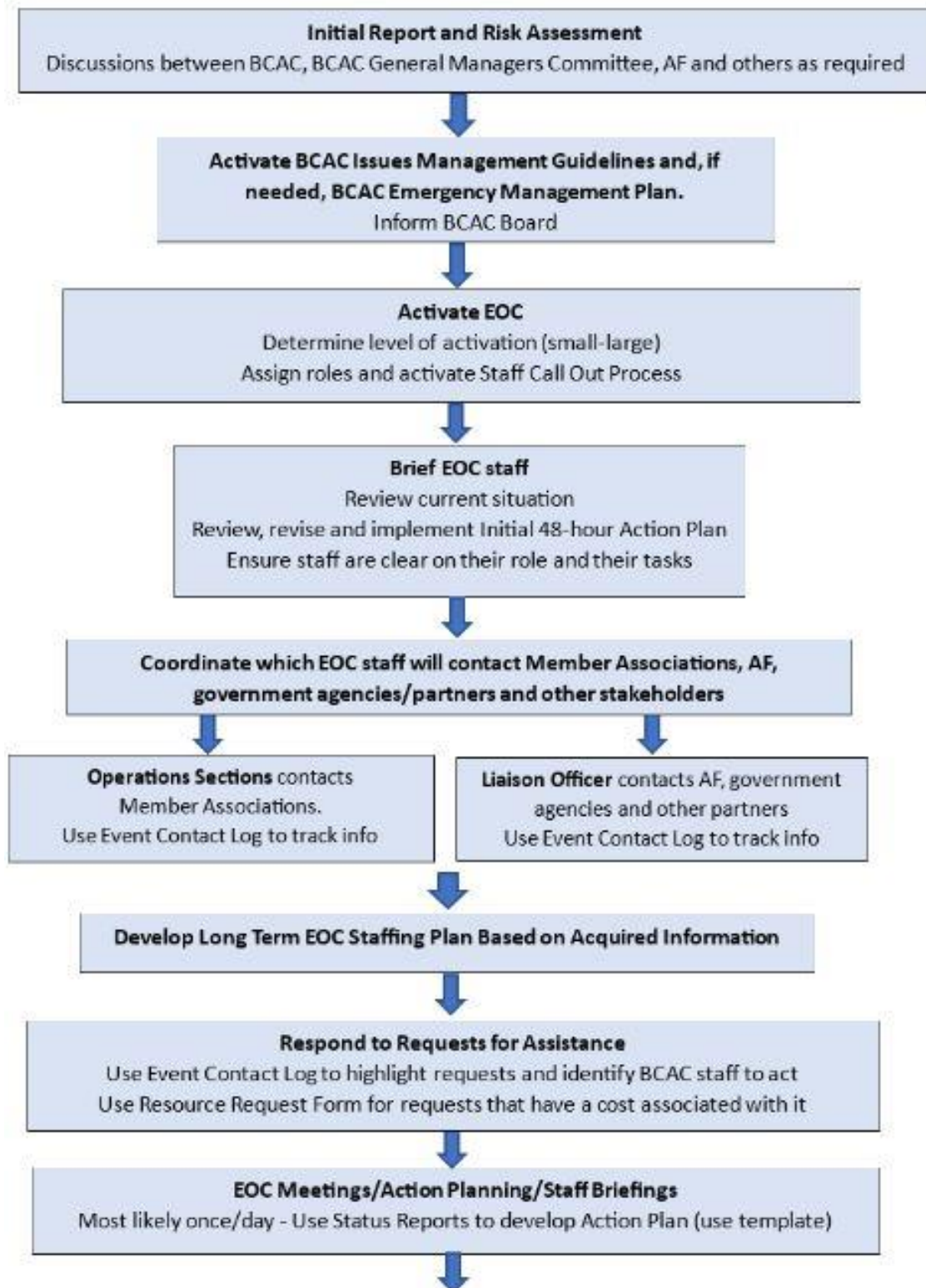
The different BCAC staff positions will fill specific roles within the EOC although there is flexibility in putting people into EOC roles depending on who is available and the needs. Note that if there is more than one person supporting a Section (e.g. Planning), a Section Chief needs to be identified. Staff roles could include:

- BCAC Board/BCAC Executive Committee – Policy Group, Spokespersons
- BCAC Executive Director – EOC Director, Risk Management, Liaison Officer
- BCAC General Manager - Deputy Director, BCAC Operations, Logistics, Finance
- BCAC Director of Policy – Planning, Liaison Officer
- BCAC Public Affairs – Info Officer
- BCAC Communications Manager – BCAC Operations, Liaison Officer
- WALI General Manager – WALI Operations

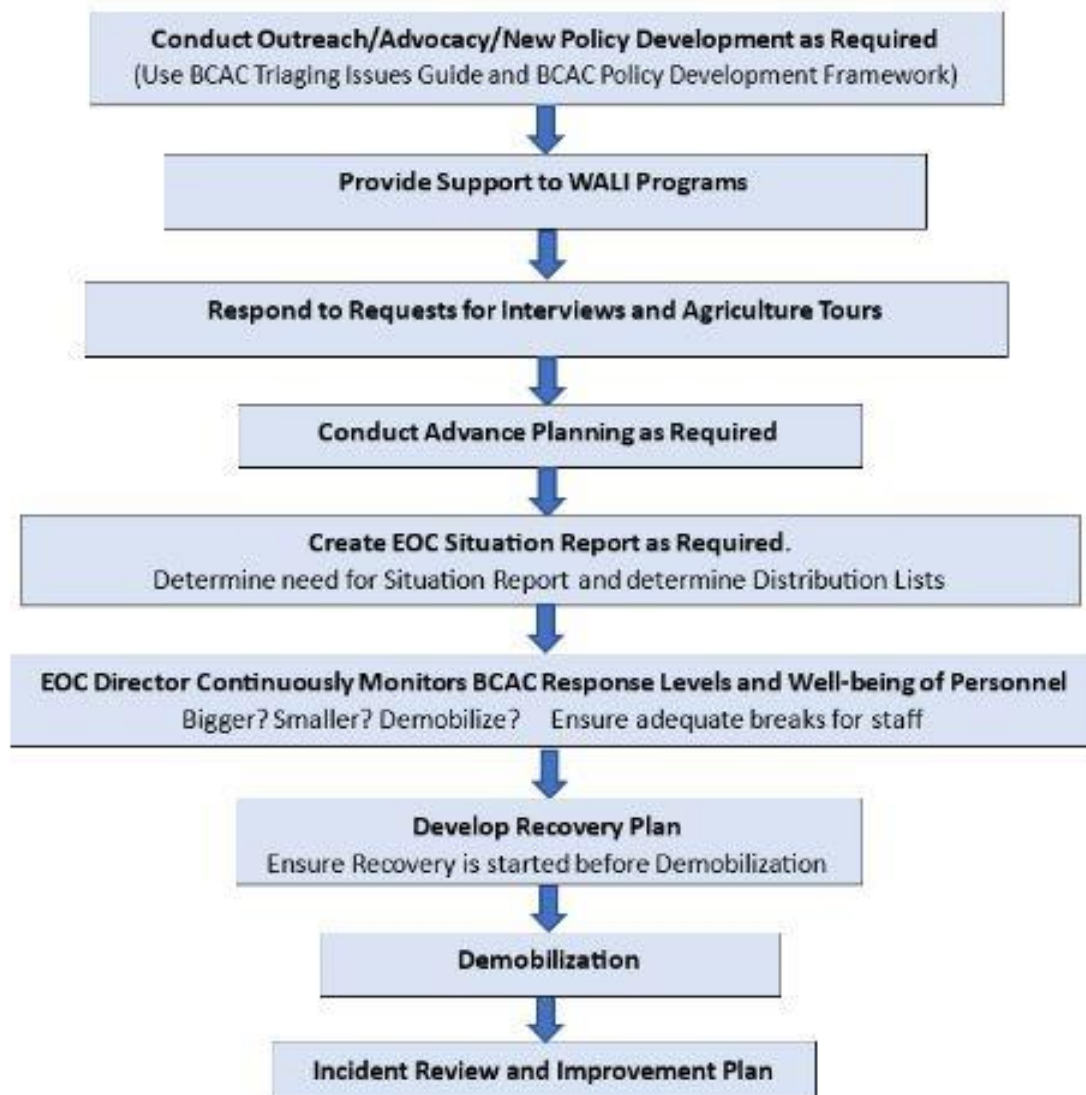


### 3.3 BCAC Emergency Response Flowchart

#### BCAC Emergency Response Flowchart







### 3.4 Initial Report, Risk Assessment and Activation of BCAC Responses

The initial report of an emergency impacting agriculture may come to BCAC in a number of ways: such as from BCAC Member Associations, through AF or from media.

The BCAC Executive Director may convene the BCAC General Managers committee to obtain initial situational information from the Member Associations and requests for assistance from BCAC.

The BCAC Executive Director will evaluate the scope and scale of the emergency, and potential impacts to Member Associations, and in consultation with BCAC staff and the BCAC Executive Committee determine the need to activate the BCAC Issues Management Plan and/or the BCAC EOC.

#### Emergencies that may require activation of the BCAC Emergency Management Plan:

- Disease
- Wildfire
- Flooding
- Earthquake
- Heat Dome
- Environmental Contamination
- Feed Interruption
- Market Interruption

### 3.5 Initial 48-hour Action Plan Template

The Initial 48-hour Action Plan Template (Appendix 7) is provided as the starting point for BCAC. It provides reminders of the types of objectives and tasks that could be required during response. The BCAC Executive Director/EOC Director can use this template to organize the first steps and determine initial BCAC EOC objectives.

BCAC Initial 48-72 Hours Action Plan Template (Sum of all tasks to be done in the first 48-72 hours) NOTE: some objectives may not be able to be completed in 72 hours Delete and revise objectives as appropriate.			
Event Name: BCAC Tracking #		Date Created:	
Time Created:	Operational Period 1	Operational Period 2	Operational Period 3
Operational Period 1	Operational Period 2	Operational Period 3	Operational Period 4
List Objectives and Tasks for Operational Period		Responsibility	
1) Open Notification (Initial Situational Info)		End Time (Est)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact Member Associations (initially through the General Managers Committee, AF, and other stakeholders) for emergency response to obtain situational information about the event. Determine what initial support Member Associations and AF need from BCAC. Consider contact links to key people and resources. See list of information sources in Section XXX of the EOC Guide.</li> </ul>		EOC Director (BCAC EOC)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine if the BCAC Issues Management Guidelines are sufficient for response (Plan 2 of this Action Plan) or if the BCAC Emergency Management Plan has to be activated as well (Step 2 and onwards of this Action Plan).</li> </ul>		EOC Director/EOC Officer (BCAC EOC Comm. Manager)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inform Board of situation and what actions are being taken.</li> </ul>		EOC Director	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiate BCAC Issues Management Objectives.</li> </ul>		Info Officer	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine category of incident. Note if directly-specific, contact emergency communications personnel before taking any action.</li> </ul>		Info Officer	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow Action Steps in Issues Management Guidelines.</li> </ul>		Info Officer	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connect with AF to determine their messaging and consider how to avoid conflicting messaging.</li> </ul>		Info Officer	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review all press communications and approved by Communications team.</li> </ul>		Info Officer	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure General Principles for Issues Management are followed (see Issues Management Guidelines).</li> </ul>		Info Officer	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate broader BCAC Emergency Response (Activation of BCAC Emergency Management Plan Response Section).</li> </ul>		Logistics (BCAC EOC)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call on BCAC staff and provide road briefing.</li> </ul>		EOC Director/Planning (BCAC EOC Comm. Manager)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review this Action Plan template for the situation. (These will be the BCAC Response Objectives for the first 48 to 72 hours). Determine staffing needs for the next 48-72 hours and existing staffing plan. Update staffing plan as needed. Confirm staff roles.</li> </ul>		EOC Director/Planning (BCAC EOC Comm. Manager)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review communications systems work - remote access to BCAC time, Zoom, teleconferencing, etc.</li> </ul>		Logistics (BCAC EOC)	

Figure 3. Initial 48-hour Action Plan Template.

### 3.6 BCAC Issues Management Guidelines

 		<b>ISSUES MANAGEMENT PLAN</b>	
BC AGRICULTURE COUNCIL		PAGE	1 OF 5
DIVISION: COMMUNICATIONS			
SUBSECTION 1.3: ISSUES MANAGEMENT (EXTERNAL & INTERNAL)			
APPROVED BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS			
EFFECTIVE DATE: AUGUST 1, 2017		REVISION DATE: JULY 28, 2017	
<b>PURPOSE</b>			
<p>When an emergency occurs, the need to communicate is immediate. The BCAC Issues Management Plan outlines the process, requirements, roles and responsibilities for all BCAC employees and representatives when an emergency or crisis (hereinafter referred to as "issue") occurs.</p> <p>The Issues Management Plan documents BCAC's process for effectively providing communications leadership for issues management. How BCAC communicates to its stakeholders is critical for the reputation of the organization – particularly during a period of increased external scrutiny.</p> <p>The primary audience for this plan is the members of the BCAC Communications team and Representatives who are expected to implement the plan should a situation arise that warrants its activation.</p>			
<b>SCOPE</b>			
<p>The Issues Management Plan encompasses consistent and effective communications to all BCAC stakeholders, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Employees</li><li>• Governmental and regulatory bodies at the local, provincial and national level</li><li>• Media – traditional print and broadcast as well as social media and other online outlets</li><li>• Members</li><li>• Board directors</li></ul> <p>Because of the diverse nature of the agriculture sector and the range of potential issues or events which could trigger its activation, the scope of this Plan is necessarily broad. The Plan will be implemented in situations that cannot be handled effectively through BCAC's regular structure and processes, and will be coordinated with any affected stakeholders.</p>			

Figure 4. BCAC Issues Management Plan.

BCAC created the Issues Management Guidelines to assist the BCAC communication group when an issue arises that impacts the agriculture industry. For incidents that do not require large scale ongoing support to Member Associations, only the Issues Management Guidelines will be activated. However, for larger responses, both the Issues Management Guidelines and the Emergency Management Plan will be used.

The BCAC Executive Director has the authority to activate both the Issues Management Guidelines and the Emergency Management Plan which includes activating the EOC, and will inform the Board and Member Associations soon after.

### 3.7 EOC Staff Call Out and Initial Briefing

When the BCAC Issues Management Guidelines are activated, the BCAC Communication Group is activated. If the BCAC EOC is being activated then the EOC Director will determine, in consultation with the Logistics Chief, which staff will be required for the response.

The Logistics Chief will contact staff to let them know of the activation and which position in the EOC they will be filling. As the EOC staff numbers are quite small, all staff will participate in the briefing to outline objectives for the response. The briefing would also determine what regular BCAC business will be put on hold during the response.

The BCAC Executive Director assumes the EOC Director position and names the event. All paperwork is labelled with this name. The usual naming convention is: type of event and year, e.g. Flooding 2021. The EOC Director could consult with AF/EMCR for consistency in event naming.

As emergency response is not part of the regular BCAC budgeting process, it is important to track the time BCAC staff spend on emergency response and any expenses related to the emergency response. The EOC Director will work with Finance and Logistics to set up account numbers for the response and processes for expenses.

Recognizing the time that personnel spend during deployments (by tracking time) is important for:

- Understanding the total effort for an event.
- Determining how these unexpected costs will be covered by the BCAC budget.
- Arranging compensatory time off after long events.
- Acknowledging personnel contributions of long hours (which can promote retention for future deployments).

### 3.8 BCAC EOC Position Checklists

BCAC EOC Position Checklists are available in Appendix 7. The checklists provide an overview of the actions your position could be taking. Use your judgement to determine which of the actions are needed for the specifics of the situation.

If additional information would be useful on the checklist, contact the BCAC General Manager with your suggestions.

**BCAC Communication Manager**

The BCAC Communication Manager completes activities associated with an EOC Info Officer, Liaison Officer, Operations Section and Planning Section. Use the BCAC response team in small BCAC position titles are used in the response Org Chart and checklists. Positions in brackets are the equivalent positions in an EOC.

**Responsibilities**

(Info Officer Role)

- Assist BCAC Executive in determining if the BCAC Issues Management Guidelines need to be activated and if the BCAC Emergency Management Plan need to be activated as well.
- Oversee implementation of the BCAC Issues Management Guidelines
- Oversee process for communicating factual information through traditional and social media.
- Oversee social media tactics (monitoring, sharing information, verifying info, correcting misinformation).
- Support spokesperson for the BCAC during the emergency.
- Coordinate any requests for interviews or political hours.

(Liaison Officer and Operations Section Role)

- Communicate with member associations, AF and other stakeholders and capture situational information and requests for assistance on the Event Contact Log.
- Communicate with Governments of Jurisdiction to provide up to date list of sig Coordinator contractors and members.

(Planning Section Role)

- If a BCAC Situation Report is required assist in creating it.

**Reports To:** BCAC Executive Director

**Getting Started**

- ☐ Get a briefing from the BCAC Executive Director.
- ☐ Review BCAC Issues Management Guidelines and BCAC Emergency Plan if you have not already done so.
- ☐ Review your position checklist and material on the \_\_\_\_\_ drive.
- ☐ Ensure you have access to the BCAC drive and folder that is being used for emergency event.
- ☐ Establish and maintain a Position Log.

Figure 5. Position Checklist for BCAC Comms Manager.

### 3.9 Managing Situational Information

In order to maintain situational awareness amongst all BCAC EOC staff during the emergency event, an Event Contact Log will be maintained by all staff. This Excel spreadsheet will be on the \_\_\_\_\_ drive in the \_\_\_\_\_ folder (see Event Contact Log Section 3.10).

A briefing on documentation protocols should be provided to staff at the beginning of the event. This would include how to access required documents on the \_\_\_\_\_ Drive, how to store information and how to manage documents. Appendix 7. BCAC Emergency Response Tools provides a list of emergency response documents, forms and templates with links.

- To deal with litigation risk by carefully documenting what you know and when you know it. Document decisions and key actions. Use the Event Contact Log to record interactions (or your Position Log if you are not using the Event Contact Log). Also, file key emails for this purpose.
- To track deployed resources, including personnel, to ensure people arrive back safe if deployed and that equipment is returned.
- To review past actions to learn for future events.
- Forms and spreadsheets are an integral part of the process to get important things done and to avoid gaps or duplication.

When EOC staff contact a Member Association or partner they will record key incidents, updates, and requests in the Event Contact Log which is an Excel Spreadsheet.

[illegible]

The inputs will be written in chronological order; however, it is possible to sort the data by Member Associations. Use black text to record general information and red text for any input that includes a request for BCAC assistance. Once the request is filled, change the font colour to black.

There is a column to identify the EOC staff person who is assigned to look after the request. There is a separate spreadsheet (tab) in the Event Contact Log that could be populated with all the contact information for Member Associations, key partners and government contacts if desired.

### 3.11 Contacting Member Associations and Partners

One of the primary roles of the BCAC response is maintaining contact with impacted Member Associations and partners to:

- Understand their situation.
- Find out their preferred method of contact, how best to provide them with information, when to contact them and how often.
- Provide updates on the overall situation.
- Ask what they need in terms of assistance from BCAC.
- Provide information from other agencies (AF, EMBC, etc.).

Contacting Member Associations and key partners will be coordinated between the EOC Operations Section and EOC Liaison Officer.

At the beginning of the response, establish who will talk with each Member Association or key partner to maintain consistency of communication and to avoid contact by multiple people from the BCAC EOC. Ensure there are sufficient staff to receive calls at the main BCAC phone number.

Asking how often, when and by what means they would like to be contacted can help make the contact go smoother. Use telephone, email and text to communicate.

As mentioned earlier, record key incidents, updates, and requests in the Event Contact Log.

Conference calls could be used when there is information that needs to go to all Member Associations.

### 3.12 Requests for BCAC Assistance

Likely requests for assistance from BCAC could include:

- Member Associations asking for support and/or resources to address emergency needs including for requests to assist with advocacy with governments for emergency support for the agriculture industry.
- Member Associations asking for information, including technical expertise.
- Provincial Government asking BCAC to provide information to the agriculture sector.
- Provincial Government asking BCAC for impact information.
- Provincial Government asking BCAC for overall industry input on support programs or for tours for elected officials.
- Requests to handle donations.

These requests would be tracked in the Event Contact Log (using red text to highlight them) and

assigned to an EOC staff person to handle the request.

A resource request form should be completed for requests of equipment or personnel. The EOC Director signs off resource requests before any expenditures are made.

If there are numerous requests for equipment or personnel then the Liaison Officer should talk to AF and EMCR to see if any of these costs can be covered by the provincial government as eligible response costs. If the provincial government can cover response costs, obtain written approval from the Province before any expenditures are made.

### 3.13 Advocating for Emergency Support for the Agriculture Industry

Support for agriculture needs during an emergency event starts with the GoJ, moves to the PREOC if required, and may be handled at the provincial level if necessary. AF staff will be working at the PREOC level to provide context and expertise around agriculture needs. The following issues could require supports for agriculture:

- Access to animal feed and potable water
- Temporary access for farmers/ranchers
- How agriculture values are being protected
- Supply chain disruptions and limited resources, e.g. liners
- Impacts to farm workers
- Transportation impacts
- Potential environmental contamination from farms/ranches
- Access to veterinarians
- Animal welfare
- Agritourism customers
- Volunteer management
- Public perception
- Deadstock disposal
- Disaster debris
- Biosecurity requirements during Rapid Damage Assessments
- etc.

It is recommended that the BCAC EOC maintain awareness of and engagement with AF actions as there may be feedback from Member Associations that support is not effective or timely. If necessary, BCAC may advocate for more and/or more timely support from various levels of government or other partners such as:

- Governments of Jurisdiction
- Provincial Government: BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food, BC Wildfire Service, EMCR, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs, etc.
- Federal Government, Canadian Federation of Agriculture
- Other key partners (e.g., Nutrition and Feed associations, BC Veterinary Association)

Use existing BCAC contacts to reach personnel from these various levels of government or partners. If there are no existing contacts, seek advice from the Ministry of Agriculture/PREOC/PECC, or source contacts directly.

If there are a number of requests for advocacy then the BCAC EOC Planning Chief along with the EOC Director will use the BCAC Triaging Policy Issues Guide to determine priority issues for the BCAC EOC. If BCAC leads an issue, then it needs to be determined if a policy paper, information paper or policy statement should be developed.

If an information paper or policy statement is required, the Planning Section Chief leads the development of an information paper/policy statement and passes it by the Board (through the EOC Director). BCAC would then meet with appropriate government officials to action the information paper/policy statement and advocate for the emergency support required.

If a policy needs to be developed then the BCAC Policy Development Framework is utilized (Figure 6). Often during an emergency there is insufficient time to conduct each step as thoroughly as one would during non-emergency times and the steps have to be fast tracked.

Once the new policy is developed it would be actioned similarly to the information paper/policy statement process by meeting with the appropriate agencies to advocate for what is stated in the policy.

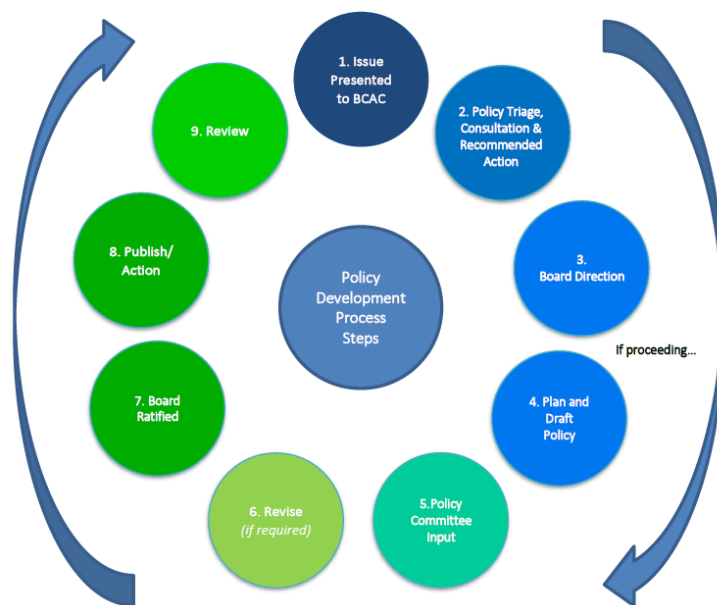


Figure 7. BCAC Policy Development Process Steps.

### 3.14 Public Communications

Often media or the provincial government will come to BCAC for overall industry interviews or agriculture impact tours. The Information Officer will handle the organizing of these events. Key actions include:

- Determine the type of interview/tour being requested and by whom.



- Determine if BCAC is the correct organization to respond to the request or if it is better forwarded to a Member Association or other organization
- If BCAC will respond to the request, determine who at BCAC will handle the interview and/or tour details including who is the best spokesperson and the best tour location(s).
- Develop and handle logistics for interview or tour.
- Inform Member Associations about the interview or tour.

The EOC Director signs off the plans for any interview or tour before they occur.

### 3.15 Briefings

In most events, a morning staff briefing provides all staff with:

- a situation update
- the latest objectives for the EOC so all personnel have a comprehensive picture and the opportunity to ask questions

The morning briefing can be run by the Planning Section Chief so the EOC Director can maintain perspective.

If an event is moving very fast, it may be beneficial to have multiple briefings during the day. Also, if a major incident occurs during the response, it may necessitate a briefing. If an event is moving slowly or winding down, reduce briefing frequency accordingly.

This morning briefing can also serve as the Action Planning meeting with staff providing status reports on what they are doing so that new objectives for the BCAC response can be developed. See 3.17 Action Planning.

### 3.16 Developing Long Term Staffing Plan

As situational information is obtained and a clearer picture emerges around the extent of the response, a staffing plan can be developed by the Logistics Chief. At the beginning of an event, or if the event is large, EOC staff may need to operate beyond an 8-hour shift (especially if there are conference calls in the evening). Staff can temporarily work long shifts but this becomes unmanageable after a few days. An alternative may need to be found such as splitting the day between staff so that there are always some staff available for the majority of the day and evening. For this to work there needs to be very good shift change briefings so the next shifts are fully up to speed.

If a long response is expected requiring the EOC to operate seven days/week, then the staffing plan needs to include scheduled time off so personnel can perform effectively and remain resilient throughout the event. The general recommendation is that staff need 2 full days of rest (not including travel time) after 10 consecutive days of work. If work days are consistently long, schedule breaks after 7 days of work. For large events BCAC may have to investigate the option of bringing in contract employees (retired employees) to assist.



### 3.17 Action Planning

The Initial-48-Hour Action Plan Template provides many of the objectives for the first 48-hours of a BCAC response. After that time, new objectives and tasks may need to be determined. The process for creating an Action Plan is through an EOC staff meeting/briefing.

To develop the action plan, each staff member provides a status report which includes:

- Activities they have been working on and what they have completed.
- Challenges they are encountering that need to be resolved.
- Their next anticipated objectives, priorities and actions.

Based on the Status Reports, discuss and confirm objectives and tasks for the next operational period. The EOC Planning Chief uses the Action Plan template to write down the objectives and tasks. The EOC Director reviews, revises and signs it.

The approved Action Plan is distributed to all EOC staff and an overview of the objectives is provided in the daily EOC Briefing

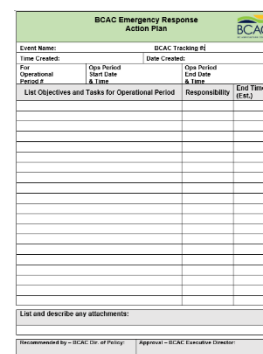
The image shows a form titled "BCAC Emergency Response Action Plan" with the BCAC logo. It includes fields for "Event Name:", "BCAC Tracking #:", "Time Created:", and "Date Created:". Below these are two columns: "For Operational Period" and "Date Created:", each with "Start Date" and "End Date" sub-headers. The main body of the form is a table with three columns: "List Objectives and Tasks for Operational Period", "Responsibility", and "Est. Time (min.)". At the bottom, there is a section for "List and describe any attachments:" and a footer that reads "Recommended by: BCAC EOC Planning" and "Approved by: BCAC EOC Director". A note at the very bottom states "Note: Distribute plan to all BCAC staff."

Figure 8. BCAC Emergency Response Action Plan.

### 3.18 Assess Psychosocial Support Needs for Agriculture Sector

Emergency events may have mental health impacts for those directly affected and those providing support. The EOC will ensure Member Associations are aware of psychosocial resources and review needs.

### 3.19 Provide Support to WALI Programs

As a wholly owned subsidiary of BCAC, WALI has separate responsibilities from BCAC. Instead of creating a separate EOC for WALI it is recommended that WALI has a separate Operations section within the BCAC EOC. This will be the most effective way of structuring the response considering the minimal level of staff in both organizations.

WALI has set processes that could be impacted by emergencies. Therefore, the first step is to determine how the emergency will impact the normal WALI workflow. This includes what components can be delayed and what needs to proceed.

The WALI program can reach out to Federal Government partners, employers, temporary foreign workers (TFWs), and foreign consulates to determine how the emergency is impacting the foreign workers and their employers. In addition, WALI can calculate the number of TFWs in Evacuation Alert and Order areas. This information can be used to develop a plan for how WALI can assist those impacted by the emergency.

Information for employers can be provided on the WALI portal while WALI could consider providing information for TFWs to affected Government of Jurisdictions (GoJs) Emergency Support Services for them to share via their Reception Centres.

### 3.20 GoJ EOC Agriculture Coordinators Support

In 2024, BCAC began training people to fill the Agriculture Coordinator position within GoJ EOCs. A list of people who have taken the training is kept by BCAC. This list, along with short resumes of the people on the list, will be provided to GOJs in preparation for emergencies that may impact producers and ranchers in their area. It is up to the GoJ to select the potential Agriculture Coordinator(s) they wish to work with and negotiate the terms of their employment.

Each year, BCAC will contact the potential Agriculture Coordinator personnel to confirm their ongoing interest in having their names on the list and get a release of information form signed by them to allow release of their names and resumes to GoJs. The provision of updated training sessions will be considered as needed.

See Appendix 5 for more detail on this role and an Agriculture Coordinator Position Checklist that has been developed.

### 3.21 Situation Reports (Sit Rep)

The BCAC EOC may consider producing an internal EOC Situation Report to keep the BCAC, BCAC Boards and Member Associations updated. It can also be used to provide an overview to outside agencies such as AF, and possibly GoJs. AF provides an interface with GoJs and EMCR, and will be more effective in providing support if they have specific BCAC situational awareness.

The EOC Director determines what, if any, BCAC Sit Reps are required.

The Planning Section Chief takes the lead on developing the Sit Rep with input from the Information Officer and other EOC staff. The EOC Director approves the BCAC Sit Rep. It is distributed according to approved Distribution Lists.

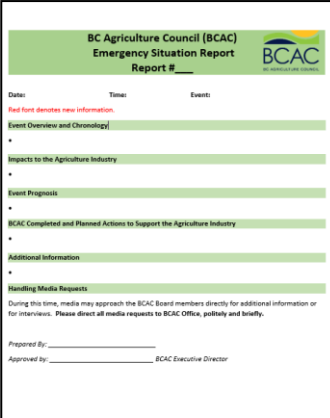
The image shows a template for a BCAC Emergency Situation Report. At the top, it says "BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) Emergency Situation Report" followed by a line for "Report #". The BCAC logo is on the right. Below this, there are fields for "Date:", "Time:", and "Event:". A red note says "Red text denotes new information." The report is divided into several sections with green headers: "Event Overview and Chronology", "Impacts to the Agriculture Industry", "Event Progress", "BCAC Completed and Planned Actions to Support the Agriculture Industry", "Additional Information", and "Handling Media Requests". The "Handling Media Requests" section contains a note: "During this time, media may approach the BCAC Board members directly for additional information or for interviews. Please direct all media requests to BCAC Office, publicly and briefly." At the bottom, there are lines for "Prepared By:" and "Approved By:" followed by a line for "BCAC Executive Director".

Figure 9. BCAC Situation Report Template.

### 3.22 Donation Management

In emergency events, the general public and others in the agriculture industry often want to help by providing donations. Donations may go to BCAC, to Member Associations or both. Discussions with the Member Associations should be held to determine the best recipient to handle donations.

**It should be stressed to people wanting to donate that, in most cases, the easiest and best form of donation is cash.**

If it is decided that BCAC will handle donations, then the EOC Director, Finance Chief and Logistics Chief should work together to develop processes for handling the donations and for distributing donations. Try

to reach agreement by all Member Associations on how the funds will be distributed before funds are accepted.

### 3.23 Advance Planning

If any specific advance planning is required, a team is struck by the Planning Chief to analyze the issue/concern and develop recommended actions/plans to resolve the issue or concern. The team may bring in subject matter experts to help develop advance plans.

The team may also look after business continuity planning for BCAC to maintain delivery of critical products or services during and after the emergency.

Advance plans are signed off by the EOC Director before being implemented. See Appendix 7 for an Advance Planning template.

### 3.24 Demobilization

As the emergency comes under control, the need for the BCAC response lessens. Eventually the BCAC response is demobilized, which includes the following activities:

- Ensure all actions are completed
- Release people from response obligations back to their normal positions. It most likely will be a staged release with those staff no longer needed released to their normal job first and the EOC Director, Logistics and Finance released last
- Ensure documentation is completed and secured (filed)
- Ensure expenses are all paid and overall costs determined; financial processes completed
- Personnel are encouraged to take advantage of mental health resources
- Equipment is returned, repaired if necessary, and restocked
- Exit interviews/debrief/surveys are completed with BCAC staff.

### 3.25 Incident Review and Improvement Plan

An After-Action Review may be conducted in order to improve future emergency responses. The review process usually covers these points:

- Chronological review of all events leading up to the incident and progressing through the incident – identify deviations from plans and procedures.
- Identify what plans and procedures worked well.
- Identify areas in plans, procedures, protocols, legislation, etc., that could be improved.

An After-Action Report/Improvement Plan can be created based on the feedback from the review process, as well as from EOC staff member feedback through exit surveys/interviews. Generally, the After-Action Report summarizes what happened, while the Improvement Plan is a summary of the recommendations/action items and who is responsible for the recommendations/action items.

As the EOC will be stood down the BCAC Executive Director is responsible for ensuring follow through on action items in the Improvement Plan.

BCAC Emergency Response Improvement Plan/Action Items for Response/Exercise			
Action Item	Person Responsible to follow up	Due Date (dd/mm/yy)	Timeline
Action Item 1:			
Action Item 2:			
Action Item 3:			
Action Item 4:			
Action Item 5:			
Action Item 6:			
Action Item 7:			
Action Item 8:			
Action Item 9:			
Action Item 10:			
Action Item 11:			

Recommended By: BCAC General Manager	Approval: BCAC Executive Director
--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------

Figure 10. BCAC  
Improvement Plan Template.

## 4.0 Recovery

Recovery measures are taken for the purpose of recovering from an emergency, including measures to:

- (i) restore the health, safety and well-being of affected persons,
- (ii) restore the safety of property or of objects or sites of heritage value, and
- (iii) improve, to the extent reasonably practicable, assets, services and processes so as to reduce the risk of and increase resilience to emergencies.

### 4.1 Recovery Processes

Communities lead the community recovery process to ensure local interests and needs are considered and to increase resiliency in individuals, families and the community. Since the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the intent with recovery is to build back better, stronger and more inclusively to be better prepared for the next time.

Governments of Jurisdiction (GoJs), with provincial support, open community resiliency centres to help people through the disaster recovery process. These centres offer support and information from government and non-government agencies. Depending on the situation, BCAC could collaborate in outreach to farmers and ranchers as well as advocate for recovery needs.

### 4.2 Recovery Roles and Responsibilities

#### BCAC

- Coordinate with Member Associations and determine impacts from the emergency event and recovery needs.
- Liaise with Allied Trades to determine impacts.
- Provide support to Member Associations.
- Advocate with GoJs and Provincial Governments as required to address agriculture recovery needs.
- Depending on the severity of the event, advocate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food to request an assessment of the disaster (for AgriRecovery).
- Operates the Risk Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) with the Provincial Government to identify impacts and required assistance which may necessitate an initiative under the AgriRecovery framework.
- Address donations.
- Provide awareness of psychosocial support services.

## Member Associations

- Support producers.
- Gather information/survey for needs and to understand impacts.
- Advocate for agriculture recovery funds as required.
- Liaise with Allied Trades to determine impacts.
- Provide awareness of psychosocial support services.

## Producers

- Ensure it is safe to return if evacuated; follow precautions to keep family, employees and livestock safe, including information from your GoJ.
- Identify location of livestock and assess for injury; settle them.
- Work with insurance providers.
- Assess damage and losses of land, feed, crops, equipment, supplies and structures (take pictures).
- Confirm water quality, electrical and/or gas supply and sewage disposal.
- Initiate clean up, as required.
- Establish site security if necessary.
- Dispose of livestock carcasses.
- Address any environmental impacts, spills and clear debris.
- Share information with your Agriculture Association and GoJ on needs and impacts.
- Conduct repairs, etc.
- Determine if any recovery programs are available and apply.
- Follow CFIA or AF requirements if recovering from a reportable livestock disease.
- Access psychosocial supports as required.

## BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food

- Provides Business Risk Management tools for producers.
- During events that have a major impact on agriculture, AF may make a request to the federal government for an AgriRecovery initiative for a disaster event. Agri-Recovery is a federal-provincial-territorial disaster relief framework that focuses on the extraordinary costs from the disaster. It is aligned with core Business Risk Management tools to help agricultural producers recover from natural disasters.
- Provides information resources.
- Provides expertise around environmental impacts to agriculture.
- Provides support and coordination as required.

## Governments of Jurisdiction

*Municipality, regional district, Nisga'a Nation and treaty First Nations:*

- May declare a local recovery period and exercise recovery powers.

*All Governments of Jurisdiction may, as required:*

- Conduct Rapid Damage Assessments.
- Restore Critical Infrastructure.
- Handle disaster debris.
- Hold public information sessions/post information.
- Provide psychosocial supports.
- Establish community Recovery Centre and Recovery Manager.
- May request Disaster Financial Assistance from the Province.
- Establish Unmet Needs Committee and coordinate with NGOs.
- Provide temporary lodging as required.
- Re-establish movement of goods and services, and resumption of businesses.
- Initiate environmental rehabilitation.
- Conduct longer term repairs of critical infrastructure.
- Support social needs of community.
- Conduct After-action review of event.
- Consider future mitigation requirements.
- Address environmental issues.
- Economic revitalization strategy.
- Provide counselling and support programs.

## Appendix 1. Acronyms

AAFC	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
AF	Ministry of Agriculture and Food (BC)
ALERT	Animal Lifeline Emergency Response Team
BCEMS	British Columbia Emergency Management System
BCPID	BC Premises ID Program
BCR	Band Council Resolution
BCSPCA	British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
BCWS	BC Wildfire Service (part of BC Ministry of Forests)
CDART	Canadian Disaster Animal Response Team
CFIA	Canadian Food Inspection Agency
CISM	Critical incident stress management
COP	Common Operating Picture
CVSE	Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement (BC law enforcement agency)
DFA	Disaster Financial Assistance
DOC	Department Operation Centre
EAF	Expenditure Authorization Form
ECC	Emergency Coordination Centre (BC)
EDMA	<i>Emergency and Disaster Management Act (BC) – formerly the Emergency Program Act</i>
EMBC	Emergency Management British Columbia (former name of EMCR)
EMCR	Emergency Management and Climate Readiness Ministry (BC)
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
EPC	Emergency Program Coordinator
ESS	Emergency Support Services
GCPE	Government Communications and Public Engagement (BC)
GIS	Geographical Information System
GL	Group Lodging
IC	Incident Commander
ICP	Incident Command Post
ICS	Incident Command System
LMIA	Labour Market Impact Assessment
MEOC	AF Ministry Emergency Operations Centre?
NGO	Non-government Organization
OHS	Occupational Health and Safety
PECC	Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre
PREOC	Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre (BC)
RC	Reception Centre
RFC	Regional Fire Centre
RMAC	Risk Management Advisory Committee
SAR	Search and Rescue



SAWP	Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program
Sit Rep	Situation Report
SOLE	State of Local Emergency
SRM	Specified Risk Materials
TFW	Temporary Foreign Worker

## Appendix 2. Glossary

### **Action Plan**

The document created by a response organization (e.g., EOC) that specifies that organization's actions (tasks) required to meet certain response objectives for the next operational period. Sometimes called an Incident Action Plan.

### **Activation**

The act of initiating the emergency plan and different levels of support.

### **After-Action Review**

A formalized discussion of an event that focuses on an incident, and enables those involved in the event to review what happened and why, and discuss how to maintain identified strengths and address identified weaknesses.

### **Agriculture Coordinator (Ag Coordinator)**

Person with agriculture knowledge who works in a Government of Jurisdiction EOC to support agriculture needs in the community during an emergency event.

### **Allied Trades**

Suppliers (e.g., feed, fuel, bedding, equipment), product collectors (e.g., milk pick-up, deadstock pick-up) and service providers (e.g., veterinarians, meter readers, equipment repair technicians, government officials, construction workers) who may, from time to time, be required to enter the farm.

### **Biocontainment/Biosecurity**

Procedures taken to prevent spread of disease to and from a site.

### **British Columbia Emergency Management System (BCEMS)**

BCEMS is a comprehensive framework that helps ensure a coordinated and organized approach to emergencies and disasters. Developed under the authority set out in the *BC Emergency Program Act*, BCEMS is currently mandated for use within the Government of BC and recommended as best practice for all emergency management partners in BC. BCEMS Response Goals are used to prioritize response activities.

### **BCPID**

B.C. Premises ID Program which has information about livestock premises under the authority of the 2014 B.C. *Animal Health Act* (AHA) to maintain B.C.'s livestock traceability system.

### **BCR (Band Council Resolution)**

A First Nation community's means of providing a record of a First Nation Chief and Council decision. BCRs can be used to declare at State of Local Emergency, which may be followed by additional BCRs for Evacuation Orders etc.

### **Business Continuity (Plan)**

The planning and preparation of an organization to ensure the delivery of products or services at acceptable predefined levels following disruptive incident.

### **Critical Resource**

Materials, personnel, and finances that are in short supply and are needed by multiple groups or are needed for high priority assignments.

### **Decontamination**

The process of cleansing an object or substance to remove contaminants such as micro-organisms or hazardous materials, including chemicals, radioactive substances, and infectious diseases.

**Demobilization**

The orderly, safe, and efficient return of an incident resource to its original location and status. This includes personnel, volunteers, facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources.

**Disaster Financial Assistance**

After a disaster, the province may declare an emergency event eligible for Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA). Once declared, the program may provide individual applicants with assistance to restore uninsurable losses that are essential, and communities with financial assistance for damaged infrastructure.

**Emergency**

A present or imminent event or circumstance that (a) is caused by accident, fire, explosion, technical failure or the forces of nature, and (b) requires prompt coordination of action or special regulation of persons or property to protect the health, safety or welfare of a person or to limit damage to property.

**Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)**

Where the coordination of information and resources to support incident management (on scene operations) activities normally takes place. May be a physical or virtual location.

**EOC Schedule**

An EOC will identify the schedule for briefings and meetings as well as any deadlines for products developed by the EOC (Situation Reports, Action Plans, etc.).

**Emergency Support Services (ESS)**

A provincially funded program that provides basic supports like accommodation, food, clothing and other temporary supports to people who are evacuated during an emergency event.

**Expenditure Authorization Form (EAF)**

A form used by EMBC for GoJs to request payment for a product or service needed for the response. EMBC then either approves or denies the request based on the expense criteria outlined on the [EMCR website](#). TIP: Work with AF if an EAF is needed.

**Extreme Weather Event**

An event that is rare at a particular place and time of year.

**Event Contact Log**

Spreadsheet for tracking all contacts with Member Associations, Allied Trades, Provincial staff and elected officials and others. Records situational information as well as requests. Specific people are tagged in the spreadsheet if they are responsible for an action arising from a contact.

**Government of Jurisdiction**

Includes regional districts, municipalities, the Nisga'a Nation, treaty First Nations and non-treaty First Nations.

**Group Lodging**

A Group Lodging facility is the location designated by the local ESS team, which provides dormitory style accommodation for people displaced from their homes as a result of an emergency or disaster. These services are usually performed in local community centres, school gymnasiums, arenas etc. Individuals will be provided with a sleeping space, meals, as well as information about the emergency situation.

**Hazard**

A source of potential harm or a situation with a potential for causing harm to people, health, governance, critical infrastructure, property, businesses, the environment, culture and other values, or a combination of these.

**Heat dome**

A massive high-pressure atmospheric system that traps hot air and retains it there for long periods of time resulting in blistering temperatures, devastating wildfires and drought conditions.

**Impact**

The physical/environmental, social, economic and political consequences or adverse effects that may occur as the result of a hazard event.

**Incident Commander (IC)**

The individual responsible for the command and control of site operations at the Incident Command Post.

**Incident Command Post (ICP)**

The location at which the primary tactical command functions are executed. The ICP may be co-located or shared with the incident base, staging area, or other incident facilities.

**Incident Command System (ICS)**

A standardized on-scene emergency management concept specifically designed to allow its user(s) to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries.

**Information Officer**

A member of the Command or Management Staff in the Incident Command System who is responsible for interfacing with the public and media both in providing and monitoring information about the response.

**Initial 48 to 72 Hour Action Plan Template**

Provides a template of Objectives and Tasks for the first 48-72 hours of response that can be adapted as needed.

**Liaison Officer**

A member of the Management Staff in the EOC responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies.

**Livestock Relocation Policy 2.01**

EMCR Policy that recognizes that farm businesses are an important source of livelihood and that it takes considerable time and resources to relocate livestock. This policy allows for the relocation of livestock for eligible farm businesses during an evacuation alert stage. It also allows for the reimbursement of response costs incurred by GoJs in order to relocate livestock.

**Local Authority**

Local authorities are defined by the *BC Emergency Disaster Management Act* as:

- A municipality, the municipal council
- An electoral area in a regional district, the board of the regional district
- Nisga'a Nation
- A Treaty First Nation

**Marketing Board**

B.C.'s regulated marketing system is a system legislated under the [Natural Products Marketing \(BC\) Act](#) that provides for the orderly production and marketing of certain Agricultural commodities (dairy, poultry, etc.). Agricultural commodity boards, with government-appointed chairs, regulate each of the sectors.

**Mitigation**

Mitigation includes activities taken to eliminate or reduce the probability of an emergency event, or to reduce its severity or consequences prior to a disaster or emergency.

**Natural Hazard**

Environmental phenomena that have the potential to impact people and the human environment, e.g., floods, wildfires, earthquakes, atmospheric rivers, ice storms, volcanic eruptions, etc.

**Operational Period**

The period of time scheduled for execution of a given set of operational actions as specified in the Action Plan. Operational periods can be of various lengths, although usually not more than 24 hours.

**Position Checklist**

Overview of responsibilities and potential actions for each key function in an EOC or EOC type structure. See Appendix 7.

**Position Log**

A written record of the interactions for a position in the EOC. Record date, time, who you talked to, any information or requests, other follow-up, decisions made (and the rationale for them). Often, they are bound note books.

**Premises**

A geographically defined location including a ranch, farm, stable, abattoir, or other establishment on which animals are kept.

**Premises ID**

Premises Identification links animals and poultry to geographic locations and is an important part of a full traceability system that also includes animal identification and animal movement.

**Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC)**

The BC PECC may be established by Emergency Management BC to manage activities at the provincial level in BC. The PECC follows the same basic organizational support levels of ICS.

**Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre (PREOC)**

The Province manages activities at the regional coordination level in the PREOC, coordinating the joint efforts of government and non-government agencies in a region.

**Psychosocial**

Psychological and sociological aspects of the well-being of an individual, family group, organization, and/or community.

**Psychosocial Services**

Efforts to provide, after an emergency, the necessary support for people to re-establish their ability to meet their emotional and psychological needs as well as those of others.

**Rancher Liaison**

This is a local rancher contracted by the BC Cattlemen's Association who works "in the field." They communicate directly to ranchers and other community members and are a voice on behalf of producers to the BC Wildfire Service. They increase the communication between ranchers in an active wildfire area and BCWS in both directions.

## **Reception Centre**

Reception centres are locations designated by the local ESS team, as safe gathering places for people displaced from their homes as a result of an emergency or disaster. Individuals can receive information about the emergency, register with ESS, receive short-term services (referrals for food, clothing and lodging), help with family reunification, emotional support, pet services, recreation, child care etc.) as well as advice on recovery

## **Recovery**

The phase of emergency management in which steps and processes are taken to:

- Restore self-sufficiency and increase resilience in individuals, families, sectors, organizations, and communities
- Repair communities affected by a disaster
- Restore conditions to an acceptable level or, when feasible, improve them

## **Resources**

Equipment, supplies, personnel, volunteers, and facilities available for assignment or staging in support of emergency management activities.

## **Resource Request (Request of Resources or Assistance)**

If available resources (material goods, equipment, or personnel) are insufficient for operational needs, assistance may be requested through the use of a Resource Request.

## **Range Riders**

This BC Cattlemen's program helps ranchers round up/gather animals on Crown rangeland affected by wildfire. The program covers the costs for hiring skilled riders (horse/quad) to find/move cattle swiftly and safely, allowing cattle to be moved in a way that will cause the least stress on the animals.

## **Relocation Workbook (AF)**

An Excel spreadsheet provided by the Ministry of Agriculture to assist with approving the costs of relocating livestock under EMCR Policy 2.01

## **Response**

The phase of emergency management during which actions are taken in direct response to an imminent or occurring emergency/disaster in order to manage its consequences.

## **Risk**

Considers the likelihood that a hazard will occur, as well as the severity of possible impacts to health, property, the environment or other values.

## **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction**

BC adopted this framework in 2018. It was endorsed by the UN General Assembly following the 2015 Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR). The Sendai Framework advocates for:

The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.

## **Site Level**

The response level that manages the tactical response to an emergency/disaster. For a natural disaster this would be the GoJ or BC Wildfire Incident Command Post.

## **Site Support Level**

A coordination level within BCEMS that is activated to provide policy direction and resource support to site level operations. An Emergency Operations Centre (EOC).

**Situation Report (Sit Rep)**

Generated by Planning at regular intervals, with input from all staff, the Situation Report provides a situational overview/update including information on incident impacts/consequences/EOC objectives and the projected outlook.

**Shelter-in-Place**

There may be instances where staying put, known as “sheltering-in-place”, may be safer than evacuation. In such cases, a shelter-in-place order may direct individuals to remain indoors or seek refuge in a secure location until the danger has passed. Some producers may want to remain on their property to look after livestock despite an Evacuation Order, and take special precautions against the impacts of the hazard.

**Situational Awareness**

Knowing what is going on and what has happened with respect to the current incident, what could go on in terms of future impact or outcomes, and what options exist in terms of response actions.

**Specified Risk Materials**

The cattle tissue that can harbour the infective agent known as a prion, which causes Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) or Mad Cow Disease.

**State of Local Emergency (SOLE)**

Declaring a SOLE enables local authorities in BC to exercise the emergency response powers listed in the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* to take actions such as ordering the evacuation of residents from an area, prohibiting travel, or entering private property when an emergency threatens lives, property, or objects or sites of heritage value within the local authority’s jurisdiction.

**Status Report**

Each function uses this form to provide an overview of their current situation, challenges and future priorities. The Status Reports from each EOC function are used collectively to create the EOC Action Plan.

**Tactical Response**

The physical deployment and directing of resources on an incident to accomplish the required objectives.

**Technical Specialists**

Personnel with special skills that can be used where required within a response organization. Technical Specialists may be needed in the areas of weather, water resources, environmental concerns, resource use, and training. Technical Specialists report initially to the Planning Section but may be assigned anywhere within the EOC structure as needed, including at field sites.

**Temporary Access Permits**

Permit issued by a Government of Jurisdiction to allow temporary access into an evacuation order area.

**Value Chain**

The whole range of goods and services necessary for an agriculture product to move from the farm to the final customer or consumer.

**Vulnerability**

The people, property, infrastructure, industry, resources, or environments that are particularly exposed to adverse impacts from a hazard event.

## Appendix 3. BC Emergency Response Overview

Emergency management starts with each of us as individuals. When we are overwhelmed, we seek support from our community (Government of Jurisdiction or GoJ). When GoJs are overwhelmed, they seek support from the Province, and the Province can request federal support as required.

The coordination and integration of agency/partner actions is paramount to an effective response, and includes sharing of information and resources.

### Emergency Response Structures

Governments of Jurisdiction (GoJs) - Regional Districts, municipalities, treaty First Nations, and non-treaty First Nations) are the lead agencies for emergencies within their jurisdictions and will be the first agencies to act in response to emergencies, including impacts to agriculture operations, where producers require assistance. Regional Districts generally provide support for electoral areas and coordinate with municipalities in their area.

The location of a wildfire, spill or flood would be examples of an Incident Site where first responders (i.e., police, fire, ambulance) work to save lives, reduce suffering, protect infrastructure, etc., as a result of the event. An Incident Command Post (ICP) may be established to manage the tactical response. In most cases, first responders manage over 90% of incidents in communities.

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*The Government of Jurisdiction is the main response level for members of that jurisdiction.*

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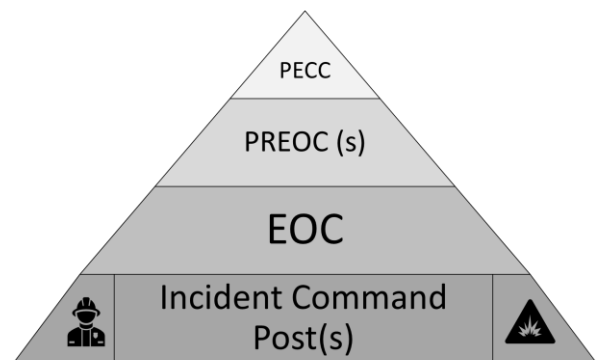


Figure 11 Response levels for emergency management

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*EOCs provide support to the site, information to the public, coordinate agencies, support evacuees (including producers), manage regional resources, coordinate information, etc.*

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When the situation is more complex, uncertain, or large, the community will activate their Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). Community EOCs are often involved in declaring a state of emergency, ordering evacuations, supporting evacuees, supporting Incident Command Posts, providing public information, and managing other consequences resulting from the emergency event.

The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) is B.C.'s lead coordinating agency for all emergency management activities. EMCR provides leadership, expertise, and resources for responses to emergencies as well as support to GoJs and their EOCs.





Figure 12 The six Emergency Management Climate Readiness Regions

EMCR has divided the province into six regions, each with a Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre (PREOC) to support all Governments of Jurisdiction in the region. PREOCs assist with response planning, logistics and coordination of agencies/partners within and beyond the region. They can provide additional resources, support expense authorizations, coordinate with key agencies, and provide expertise. Regions may combine.

PREOCs in BC are supported by the Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC) located north of Victoria, which is also operated by EMCR and provides links to provincial level resources. If the Province requires extra support, the PECC will reach out to federal resources.

#### PECC and PREOCs In Action

The City of Williams Lake is supported by the Northeast PREOC in Prince George. In 2018, there were three large wildfires burning around the city and the EOC determined they needed to evacuate the population of 11,000 plus those in surrounding areas.

Prince George is the largest nearby community, but this number of evacuees would overwhelm them. So, evacuees were also sent to Kamloops (Central PREOC), and even down to Chilliwack and Abbotsford (Southwest PREOC).

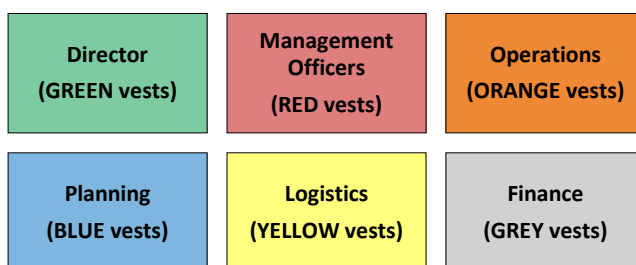
As three PREOC regions participated in support, the PECC worked to help coordinate the logistics of moving 11,000 people and support the receiving communities with their Emergency Support Services such as Reception Centres and Group Lodging set up to support the evacuees.

BCAC links closely with elected officials (Provincial, Federal, and GoJ), Deputy Ministers, Assistant Deputy Ministers, senior government staff and their Member Associations and Allied Trades. See Figure 1 in Section 3.2.

## Incident Command System

The Incident Command System (ICS) evolved from interagency coordination and communication failures during California wildfires in the late 1970s. The ICS structure provides certainty and clear processes so that personnel interact effectively despite being in an unfamiliar environment where things are not black and white.

The ICS follows key principles and its organization is built around the major functions, each with a designated role and reference colour. These colours are used in org charts and the roles are coded as follows:



## BCEMS Response Goals

Many entities are involved in emergency response. To facilitate coordination and communication, a common response management model based on the Incident Command System is used in BC, and is called the BC Emergency Management System (BCEMS). BCEMS is a flexible yet standardized system that clearly defines areas of responsibility and reporting lines to reduce duplication and gaps.

There are eight BCEMS response goals(see the table below), which guide decision makers in prioritizing response activities especially when resources and/or time is limited. Although the goals are listed in order of priority, personnel take all available information into account when determining incident-specific priorities. Agriculture Coordinators must consider these goals when preparing action plans and requesting resources. Response activities related to the agriculture sector (protecting agriculture infrastructure and livestock) fall into Goals #4, #5, #6, #7 and #8 in most cases.

<b>1. Ensure the health and safety of responders</b>	The well-being of responders must be effectively addressed, or they may be unable to respond to the needs of those at risk.
<b>2. Save lives</b>	The importance of human life is paramount over all other considerations. When lives are at risk, all reasonable efforts must be made to eliminate the risk.
<b>3. Reduce suffering</b>	Physical and psychological injury can cause significant short- and long-term impact on individuals, families, and communities. Response measures should take into consideration all reasonable measures to reduce or eliminate human suffering.

<b>4. Protect public health</b>	Public health measures essential to the well-being of communities should be maintained or implemented. Enhancing surveillance and detection, eliminating health hazards, minimizing exposure, and implementing programs such as widespread immunization may need to be considered.
<b>5. Protect infrastructure</b>	When necessary to sustain response efforts, maintain basic human needs, and support effective recovery, infrastructure that is critical to the livelihood of the community should be protected ahead of other property.
<b>6. Protect property</b>	Property can be essential to the livelihood of communities. When determining priorities, response personnel should evaluate the importance of protecting private and community property.
<b>7. Protect the environment</b>	The environment is essential to communities. When determining priorities, response personnel should evaluate the importance of protecting the environment and implement protective strategies that are in the best interest of the broader community.
<b>8. Reduce economic and social losses</b>	The loss of economic generators can have short and long-term impact on communities, including social losses related to the loss of community support networks and reduced employment, investment, and development. Response measures may be necessary to reduce these losses, and psychosocial interventions may be required for those impacted by the disaster.

#### Agriculture Examples for BCEMS Response Goals:

<b>BCEMS Priority</b>	<b>Agriculture Example</b>
4. Protect Public Health	Foreign animal disease response, removing livestock carcasses, situations where flood waters are spreading manure, livestock carcasses etc. released livestock on roads during wildfire, concern about contaminated stored farm produce from flooding
5. Protect infrastructure	Providing access to grain for flour (food security) when normal supply chains blocked as a result of atmospheric river.
6. Protect property	Protecting livestock and farm infrastructure (livestock and crops infrastructure) as part of the livelihood of the community
7. Protect the environment	Preventing contamination from manure, pesticides, fertilizers, debris, etc.
8. Reduce economic and social losses	Farming/ranching is a livelihood and can be a major economic generator in a community or region.

## Evacuation Stages

Governments of Jurisdiction issue Evacuation Alerts and Evacuation Orders in order to protect their citizens.

An **Evacuation Alert** (Alert) advises the affected population of a potential or current threat which may lead to an Evacuation Order. During the Alert stage, residents should prepare for a potential evacuation by gathering the personal supplies and belongings required for a minimum of three days.

An **Evacuation Order** (Order) means the impacted population must leave the specified area immediately. The Evacuation Order should also provide designated evacuation routes, identification of closed routes, and the location of ESS Reception Centres. An order to evacuate all or part of a community should only be given following a recommendation from the Incident Commander and/or available hazard specific subject matter experts. Life safety is the most important consideration when ordering an evacuation.

When the hazard threat to life and safety has passed, the Incident Commander and/or available hazard-specific subject matter experts and technical specialists will make a recommendation to the GoJ to formally **Rescind** the Evacuation Order or to downgrade it to an Alert. Considerations also include:

- Have community support agencies had the opportunity to prepare the area for repatriation?
- Is it safe for the entire Evacuation Order to be rescinded, or only a portion?
- Has access for impacted residents been facilitated in advance of general re-entry?

## Emergency Support Services (ESS)

ESS is a provincially funded program that provides basic supports like accommodation, food, clothing and other temporary supports to people who are evacuated during an emergency event. Local responders (often volunteers) are trained and deployed from local emergency programs to provide assistance and coordinate with other support organizations. In larger emergency events, ESS will establish Reception Centres and Group Lodging to support evacuees from within the jurisdiction, or outside the jurisdiction.

Farmers, ranchers, employees (including foreign workers) and their families impacted by emergency events may utilize Emergency Support Services. BCAC can consider what special support or communication needs exist for producers and how they can coordinate with ESS to provide them.

## Appendix 4. Key Entities and Their Role in All Phases of Emergency Management

Entity	Description
<b>Federal Level</b>	
AAFC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Negotiates federal/provincial agriculture policy framework</li> <li>Business risk management programs</li> <li>Livestock Market Interruption Strategy</li> <li>Supports temporary foreign worker programs</li> <li>Research on mitigation measures</li> </ul>
CFIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevention of animal/plant health emergencies through border security and other measures</li> <li>Conducts training and exercises</li> <li>Develop inventories of response equipment and supplies</li> <li>Provides regulatory oversight of feeds in Canada and verifies that feeds manufactured, sold, or imported in Canada are safe for animals and the environment</li> </ul> <p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CFIA responds to regulated plant and animal health emergencies</li> <li>Regulates the humane transportation of animals</li> <li>Assists with cross-border movement of livestock</li> </ul>
Insurance Bureau of Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National industry association representing the vast majority of Canada's home, car and business insurance companies</li> <li>Can help producers find available coverage for business losses through private insurance programs</li> <li>Advocates for a competitive and sustainable market for insurance across Canada to make insurance more accessible and more affordable</li> <li>Advocates for both the insurance industry and the people who count on it</li> </ul>
National Industry Associations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set biosecurity standards</li> <li>Advocate nationally</li> <li>Public awareness of agriculture contributions</li> </ul>
RCMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides municipal, provincial and federal policing</li> <li>During emergencies, they may staff temporary access roadblocks, address public safety/protection of property, etc.</li> <li>Some jurisdictions have their own police services, e.g. Abbotsford.</li> <li>One Livestock Officer in BC</li> </ul>
<b>Provincial Agencies (BC)</b>	
Ministry of Agriculture and Food	Roles are listed in Sections 1.1, 2.0 and 4.2.
Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BC's lead coordinating agency for all emergency management activities, including preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Makes training available to Governments of Jurisdiction</li> <li>• Provides seasonal readiness information sessions</li> <li>• Develops relationships and networks with agencies, NGOs etc.</li> <li>• The Minister can access certain powers, listed in EDMA, through a Provincial declaration of a State of Emergency</li> </ul>
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for the protection, management, and conservation of British Columbia's water, land, air, and living resources</li> <li>• Climate preparedness and adaptation</li> <li>• Environmental protection, spill response</li> </ul>
BC Ministry of Forests	<p><b>BC Wildfire Service</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leads Province's wildfire response and mitigation</li> <li>• Supports Rancher Liaison program</li> <li>• Determines values to be protected on priority basis during wildfire events</li> <li>• BCWS may also be asked to provide necessary support during other emergency scenarios including coordination of activity in the airspace</li> </ul> <p><b>Range Staff</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support the response on Crown tenure range</li> <li>• Manage tenures and range resources</li> </ul>
Ministry of Labour Employment Standards Branch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administers and enforces the <i>Employment Standards Act</i>, which sets the minimum standards for wages and working conditions in workplaces in British Columbia</li> </ul>
Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture & Sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides provincial leadership for the tourism sector by working cross government to integrate the unique needs of visitors and the visitor economy into the B.C. emergency management structure</li> <li>• May be involved in emergency activities related to Agritourism</li> </ul>
Ministry of Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involved in all stages of emergency management in regards to transportation infrastructure</li> </ul>
Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directly responsible for the effective development of water, land and marine use policy and planning as well as biodiversity and ecosystem health, including species at risk policy and program management</li> <li>• Holds responsibility for the administration of water, lands, fish and wildlife</li> <li>• Commercial fisheries and aquaculture industries</li> <li>• Water allocation</li> <li>• River Forecast Centre</li> <li>• Flood Safety (Dike Safety)</li> </ul>
WorkSafeBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial agency dedicated to promoting safe and healthy workplaces across B.C.</li> <li>• Helps employers comply with the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation and the <i>Workers Compensation Act</i></li> </ul>

Provincial Non-Government Level	
AgSafe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-profit health and safety association for agricultural producers in British Columbia providing site-specific consultation and on-site safety education, as well as online workplace safety resources and materials</li> <li>• Provides on farm emergency management information</li> <li>• Mental wellness support information for agriculture</li> </ul>
BC4H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization that builds awareness of agriculture, inspiring, educating and supporting youth to reach their full potential</li> <li>• Could promote and provide information on on-farm emergency preparedness</li> <li>• 4H youth may have livestock projects that can be impacted by emergency events</li> </ul>
BCSPCA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A non-profit animal welfare organization which advocates for animal protection legislation, operates animal shelters, and runs educational workshops and public awareness programs throughout British Columbia</li> <li>• During an emergency event, the BC SPCA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ works with local emergency agencies to deploy animal protection officers behind evacuation lines as needed to remove animals or provide food and care for animals sheltering in place (emergency boarding, rehoming and stray animal reunification, pet food bank)</li> <li>○ supports pet guardians and keeps animals safe</li> <li>○ offers information and support for evacuees with pets, temporary emergency pet boarding and community animal care services</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
BC Association of Emergency Managers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A professional association for Emergency Managers working in diverse sectors, including: First Nations, Government, Private, Non-Profit, Volunteer and Post-secondary institutions</li> <li>• Supports members in their efforts to holistically enhance emergency management initiatives in British Columbia</li> <li>• Provides and maintains resources that support emergency management professionals to build comprehensive, integrated and effective emergency management programs</li> </ul>
Critical Infrastructure (CI) system, network, facility or asset owners (EDMA Definitions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If prescribed as CI or within a prescribed class, owners must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Conduct Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Assessments</li> <li>○ Develop an emergency management plan</li> <li>○ Prepare and maintain a business continuity plan</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
FireSmartBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The program is directed by the BC FireSmart Committee, which is composed of key agencies</li> <li>• The goal is to collaboratively maintain and improve the delivery of the FireSmart BC program to better support wildfire preparedness, prevention and mitigation in BC</li> </ul>

Invasive Species Council of BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A registered charity and non-profit society that helps concerned partners work together to stop the spread of invasive species in BC</li> </ul>
Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An industry led, not for profit society that creates funding opportunities to support a thriving BC agriculture and food sector through the effective delivery of programs</li> <li>• Provides grants for on-farm preparedness (EFP, BMPs, Agriculture Water Infrastructure Program)</li> </ul>
Justice Institute of BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-secondary institution that provides training to Governments of Jurisdiction, agencies and the private sector on emergency management</li> </ul>
Ownership Identification Inc. (OII)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Company that handles the registration of livestock brands and the inspection of cattle and horses for lawful possession prior to transportation, sale or slaughter</li> <li>• Supports livestock emergency response trailers</li> </ul>
Union of BC Municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established by provincial statute as the official representative of local governments in British Columbia, UBCM advocates for the common interests of local governments in British Columbia to ensure that local governments have the powers and resources needed to meet local needs</li> </ul>
<b>Regional/Local Level</b>	
Governments of Jurisdiction <sup>2</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes Municipalities, Regional Districts, the Nisga'a Nation, Treaty First Nations and non-treaty First Nations</li> <li>• Local Authorities are defined as Municipalities, Regional Districts, the Nisga'a Nation, and Treaty First Nations; they may exercise powers under EDMA</li> <li>• Municipalities and Regional Districts <u>must</u> establish and maintain an emergency management organization OR join a multijurisdictional emergency management organization</li> <li>• These organizations will provide oversight, leadership and coordination for all phases of emergency management</li> <li>• Municipalities and Regional Districts must perform these duties under EDMA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Conduct Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Assessments</li> <li>○ Develop Emergency and Evacuation Plans that must include, a plan for the evacuation and care of individuals and animals in the area within the jurisdiction of the local authority</li> <li>○ Prepare and maintain a business continuity plan</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The minister may request the Nisga'a Nation or a treaty first nation to perform one or more of the above duties</li> <li>• A local authority must consult and cooperate with each Indigenous governing body whose has traditional territory or treaty area within the jurisdiction of the local authority or</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> This section includes a very high-level summary of duties under the *Emergency Disaster Management Act*. Consult the Act for complete details.



	<p>includes an area affected by a hazard identified in a Local Authority risk assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other common Government of Jurisdiction activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Train Emergency Support Services volunteers</li> <li>○ Conduct training and exercises</li> <li>○ Develop land use planning and bylaws</li> <li>○ May maintain dike infrastructure</li> <li>○ Provide and maintain potable water supply, waste water treatment, roads etc. for the jurisdiction</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Animal Lifeline Emergency Response Team (ALERT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A registered charity that is dedicated to animal welfare through the preparation for and the actual evacuation, rescue and shelter of domestic animals and livestock in a disaster</li> <li>• Volunteers are mobilized when GOJs and/or provincial authorities request ALERT's expertise.</li> </ul>
Canadian Disaster Animal Response Team (CDART)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteer-based organization in BC dedicated to animal welfare in times of a disaster or emergency, by providing sheltering, fostering or rescue of domesticated animals</li> </ul>
Farmers Institutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural organizations that may be incorporated or continued under the Farmers and Women's Institutes Act</li> <li>• Serve the needs of the local agricultural community</li> <li>• Advocate for farmer's interests at all government levels</li> <li>• Provide training and awareness</li> <li>• Only some parts of BC have Farmers Institutes</li> </ul>
Regional Health Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 regional health authorities plan and co-ordinate the delivery of provincial programs and specialized services</li> <li>• Provide psychosocial support to those affected by emergency events</li> </ul>
<b>Indigenous</b>	
Indigenous Governing Bodies (also see Governments of Jurisdiction)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EDMA recognizes the inherent right of self-government of Indigenous peoples includes authority to make laws in relation to emergency management</li> <li>• The Minister responsible for EDMA may enter into coordination and/or statutory power agreements with Indigenous Governing Bodies</li> <li>• Indigenous Governing Bodies may operate their emergency program on their own or in partnership with other Governments of Jurisdiction</li> </ul>
First Nations' Emergency Services Society (FNESS)	<p>A registered charity assisting First Nations in developing and sustaining safer communities through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency planning, training, response and recovery</li> <li>• Fire training, education and prevention</li> <li>• Forest fuel and wildfire management</li> <li>• Leadership and collaborative relationships</li> </ul>
First Nations Health Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides health programs and services for First Nations in BC</li> <li>• Provides mental wellness supports during emergency events</li> </ul>

## Appendix 5. Overview of Key Agriculture Emergency Processes in BC

### Agriculture Coordinator Role in Government of Jurisdiction EOC

Governments of Jurisdiction (GoJ) EOCs may support agriculture needs during an emergency event by activating an Agriculture Coordinator. This role works directly under the supervision of the Government of Jurisdiction (GoJ) EOC with support from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (AF) representative in the Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre (PREOC) or from the AF Duty Manager.

These positions assist producers within the affected jurisdiction in the protection of livestock and other agriculture related assets. They also facilitate situational awareness and resource coordination related to agriculture.

The position may be filled by a community staff member or a contractor. This role is typically filled by a person knowledgeable of the agriculture sector in the affected community. They will utilize their existing agricultural connections and knowledge of local agriculture to enhance agricultural emergency response within the EOC.

BCAC supports this role by recruiting and training Ag Coordinators, and providing lists of trained people to GoJs who can then be hired by GoJs.

### Livestock Relocation

The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness has established [Policy 2.10 Provincial Support for Livestock Relocation During an Emergency](#). This recognizes that farm businesses are an important Livelihood in BC. The policy encourages the early initiation of the relocation of livestock from eligible farm businesses and allows for relocation during an evacuation alert stage. It also allows for the reimbursement of response costs (transportation, housing and feeding) incurred by GoJs in order to relocate livestock.

The Ag Coordinator in the GOJ EOC can be a strong resource to assist local producers with the process. Ag Coordinators will be supported by AF staff in the PREOC. Training on the Livestock Relocation process is part of the Ag Coordinator training organized by BCAC.

### Temporary Access or Passes (to Areas Under Evacuation Order)

When a Government of Jurisdiction issues an Evacuation Order for an area within their jurisdiction, they need to manage temporary access into the evacuated area, and are the **primary authority** for approving or denying requests for temporary access. This can include conditions such as prohibiting temporary access for workers.

## Temporary Access

Admission for farmers/ranchers to provide feed/water/care for livestock, evacuate livestock, repair fencing, etc. as well as access by vets, feed trucks etc. are recognized as a key reason for temporary access. Critical Infrastructure or utility agencies may require access to service or make repairs to affected critical equipment and sites and community members may request access to retrieve medication, tend to their domestic animals, or complete other tasks to reduce their suffering. Some may also want a pass-through permit, to gain access into another area that is not under an Evacuation Order.

There is risk for those entering or remaining in an Evacuation Order area which can have implications for access to first responders and insurance coverage. Local governments also want to keep looters and 'looky-loos' out. Each GoJ can have a different approach and philosophy on re-entry/ permitting, and this can shift with a change in GoJ staff.

Where farm/ranch operations are in an area under Evacuation Order, the Agriculture Coordinator works within the EOC to enable movement of essential agricultural traffic, when deemed safe by officials (i.e., BCWS/city engineer etc.). Checkpoints are responsible for monitoring for approved permits. All applicants must sign liability waivers when the permit application is submitted.

The following EMCR documents can be accessed under the heading '**Evacuation Resources/Guides**' at the following link: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-management/local-emergency-programs/local-gov-operations>

- *Evacuation Operational Guide*
- *Managing Access to Areas Under Evacuation Order*

Entry into an area under Evacuation Order can be complicated and emotional for those living in the Evacuation Order area, for service providers, and for checkpoint personnel. The situation can change quickly and often. There is constant pressure to balance the safety of individuals with those needing to gain access into the area.

By understanding and managing risk in a mutually respectful and flexible way, practical solutions may be found.

## Remaining On-Farm

Generally, GoJs want everyone to leave the affected area during an Evacuation Order. However, the RDNO has recognized that some producers may wish to remain on their property and travel to and from service centres for supplies and services to support livestock and food security. They have developed an Evacuation Order Exemption Registry Form for farmers to complete in advance of an emergency that triggers an Evacuation Order. Currently, employees are not eligible to use this exemption or anyone under 19 years of age.

[RDNO Emergency Evac Order Exemption Registry Form July 2023 DRAFT AC](#)

## Rancher Liaison Program

This is a local rancher contracted by the BC Cattlemen's Association who works "in the field" and interacts directly with the BC Wildfire Service in their daily planning and status meetings. With knowledge about real time conditions, Rancher Liaisons communicate directly with other ranchers and community members. They are also a voice on behalf of producers to the BCWS and can supply information on local terrain, weather conditions, etc. Rancher Liaisons may interact with Ministry of Forests Range staff for information about tenures and cattle on the range.

## Access to Feed Program

BCCA operates a program to link producers experiencing drought and feed shortages with suppliers who have available feed. <https://www.cattlemen.bc.ca/accestofeed.htm>

## Deadstock Disposal

Producers have processes to handle deadstock on their farm or ranch that are an unavoidable occurrence during normal operations. When an emergency event causes high mortalities on multiple farms/ranchers, producers may be overwhelmed and require special assistance, e.g. Atmospheric River 2021 in Abbotsford. Normal disposal practices may also be impacted by the emergency event, e.g. flooding that saturates soils.

There are regulations around the transportation and disposal of deadstock. It is an extra challenge to dispose of cattle carcasses as they are considered to be Specified Risk Material (SRM) due to their potential to harbour the prion that causes mad cow disease. SRM is regulated federally with strict handling and disposal procedures if the SRM leaves the farm where the animals died.

GoJs received funding between 2008 and 2010 to develop Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Plans. With the passing of time, these plans may be out of date, and some GoJs may not know that a plan was developed for their jurisdiction.

AF staff can provide expertise and support (during extraordinary events) to producers and GoJs. GoJ Ag Coordinators will likely initiate contact through the PREOC.

## Appendix 6. Government of Jurisdiction Emergency Response Powers (Under the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* [EDMA])

*The following is a list of the response powers that GoJs may use during emergency events. These can have impacts for producers, and the following is provided for clarity.*

A municipality or regional district may exercise powers (define) and must perform duties under this Act as follows:

- (i) in the case of a municipality, within the boundaries of the municipality;
- (ii) in the case of a regional district, within the boundaries of any electoral areas within the regional district,

The Nisga'a Nation or a treaty first nation may exercise powers under this Act as follows:

- (i) in the case of the Nisga'a Nation, within the boundaries of Nisga'a Lands

In the case of a treaty first nation, within the boundaries of the treaty first nation's treaty lands

a municipality or regional district may exercise powers and must perform duties under this Act in relation to any Crown land within the boundaries of the areas

the Nisga'a Nation or a treaty first nation may exercise powers under this Act in relation to any Crown land within the boundaries of the areas

- If a SOLE is declared, may exercise response powers<sup>3</sup> by emergency instrument (bylaw, resolution, law etc.) to:
  - identify supplies, equipment or other items, services, property or facilities, or a class of any of these, as essential, and:
    - establish or restrain increases in prices or rents for them,
    - ration or otherwise provide for their distribution or use,
    - provide for their restoration
  - authorize a person to provide a service or give assistance of a type that the person is qualified to provide or give
  - require a person to provide a service or give assistance of a type that the person is qualified to provide or give
  - provide for, maintain and coordinate the provision and maintenance of necessities
  - appropriate, use or control the use of any personal property
  - use or control the use of any land
  - authorize the entry without warrant into any structure or onto any land by any person for the purpose of taking emergency measures
  - prohibit the entry into any structure or onto any land by any person

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<sup>3</sup> This is a high-level summary. Refer to the *Emergency Disaster Management Act* for full details.

- authorize or require the alteration, removal or demolition of any trees, crops, structures or landscapes
- authorize or require the construction, alteration, removal or demolition of works
- require the owner of a structure to
  - have any damage to the structure assessed, and
  - give the results of the assessment to the minister or a person in a class of persons specified by the minister.
- require a person to evacuate from the area
- authorize the evacuation of individuals or animals, or both, from the area
- authorize the removal of personal property from the area
- may arrange for:
  - the adequate care and protection of evacuated individuals or animals, or both,
  - the adequate protection of personal property that has been removed.
- Control or prohibit one or more of the following:
  - travel to or from any area;
  - the carrying on of a business or a type of business;
  - an event or a type of event.
  - require a person to stop doing an activity, including an activity that a person is licensed, permitted or otherwise authorized to do under an enactment;
  - put limits or conditions on doing an activity, including limits or conditions that have the effect of modifying a licence, permit or other authorization issued under an enactment.

## Appendix 7. BCAC Emergency Response Tools

Contact Lists (Reference where these are located)

Initial 48-72 Hour Action Plan

Event Contact Log

Forms and Templates

- Blank Action Plan
- BCAC Staff Status Report
- BCAC Situation Report Template
- BCAC Advance Planning Template
- BCAC Improvement Plan Template
- BCAC Resource Request Form

Position Checklists (*insert links to each checklist*)

- EOC Director
- Risk Management Officer
- Liaison Officer
- Information Officer
- WALI Operations Section Chief
- Operations Section Chief
- Planning Section Chief
- Logistics Section Chief
- Finance Section Chief
- Agriculture Coordinator

Emergency Event Mapping and Information

- EMCR EmergencyInfoBC (Map of current emergency events including evacuation information)  
<https://www.emergencyinfobc.gov.bc.ca/>
- BC Wildfire Service Fire Danger Rating Map  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prepare/weather-fire-danger/fire-danger>
- BC Wildfire Service Fire Situation Map  
<https://wildfiresituation.nrs.gov.bc.ca/map>
- River Forecast Centre Current and Forecast Streamflows  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/drought-flooding-dikes-dams/river-forecast-centre/current-and-forecast-streamflows>