



# Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

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## **PURPOSE**

This document provides station and personnel response guidelines for detectable earthquake tremors within town/county limits when no specific emergency event has been declared by dispatch.

Implementation of this document's guidelines will provide timely reports and intelligence on community infrastructure resilience after an earthquake. Additionally, areas of concern will be brought to the duty officer's attention without delay.

## **SECTION I: DEFINITION OF EMERGENCY EARTHQUAKE MODE (EEM)**

Whenever there is a detectable earthquake tremor anywhere in the town of Jackson and/or Wilson/West Bank area, Jackson Hole Fire/EMS will initiate an "Emergency Earthquake Mode" (EEM).

The quake does *not* have to reach a certain magnitude to initiate EEM.

Other areas can be assigned for EEM assessment as directed by duty officer. Upon initiation, the duty officer will provide dispatch information regarding Fire/EMS unit availability and their EEM status.

## **SECTION II: ROLES OF ON-DUTY OPERATIONAL STAFF**

When operating in an EEM, on-duty crews from Jackson Hole Fire/EMS's will promptly move to a designated safe area. From this safe area, units will next initiate a "windshield survey" as they drive through their immediate response areas.

In this manner, response areas can be assessed in a matter of minutes. Crews will rapidly assess:

- Transportation infrastructure (roadways, bridges, etc.)
- Large places of assemblage (churches, schools and colleges, shopping areas, recreation center)
- Critical facilities (hospitals, refineries, power lines, power stations, hazardous materials storage areas)
- High density residential (apartments, condominiums)

All findings will be reported to the duty officer and areas of concern will be immediately addressed.

### **SECTION III: ADDITIONAL RESPONSE**

At the discretion of the duty officer, additional personnel and apparatus will be activated to assist in EEM assessments. The duty officer should also consider the use of manned/unmanned aircraft for aerial appraisals as needed.

### **SECTION IV: MITIGATION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

Areas of concern will be immediately reported to the duty officer. Imminent hazards and life threats will be addressed by on-scene units as allowed within the current Jackson Hole Fire/EMS policy. Dispatch will be notified and standard operating procedures utilized.

In the event of any emergency dispatch 911 incident calls/activations, appropriate units will cease EEM and follow standard response protocols. The duty officer can reassign or activate other units to continue EEM at his/her discretion.

Whenever expert guidance is needed due to any suspected structural compromise, appropriate town/county officials will be requested for additional analysis and recommendations.

### **SECTION V: TERMINATION OF EMERGENCY EARTHQUAKE MODE**

A duty officer will terminate EEM after units involved in EEM have reported the survey of response/assigned areas as complete. The duty officer has authority to mandate continuation of EEM for additional surveys.