



23 July 2004

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Corps Support to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

1. Purpose: Provide an overview of the Honolulu District's support to FEMA in disaster..

2. Points of Major Interest and Facts. The Federal Response Plan (FRP) provides the framework for the implementation of federal assistance in disasters. The President appoints the lead federal responder, the Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO). The FRP aligns various federal agencies into 13 Emergency Support Functions. The Corps is the lead for ESF #3, Engineering and Public Works. DOD is not an ESF, but provides support to all other ESFs.

a. The Regional Operations Center (ROC) is activated by FEMA Associate Director and is staffed by FEMA and those ESFs it deems appropriate for the particular response. Typically, the Corps is tasked to support the ROC with an ESF #3 Management Cell. The ROC initiates the initial taskings to the Corps. These taskings, called Request For Assistance (RFA), and contain the mission scope, time for completion, and funding source. In conjunction with the affected state, FEMA establishes a Disaster Field Office (DFO). Once the FCO is designated and the DFO is established, FEMA transfers tasking authority from the ROC to the DFO.

b. The DFO is the central federal hub for response. Usually the Governor's Authorized Representative (GAR - in charge of the entire state response) is co-located with the FCO in the DFO. A DFO may remain open 6 months to 2 years.

c. The Division Forward. The Division Forward Commander (DFC) has overall responsibility for the Corps' FEMA assigned missions. The DFC commands the ERRO.

d. The ESF #3 Management Cell works for the Director of Civil Works (DCW) and is responsible for scoping all FEMA missions assigned to the Corps, tasking the ERRO to execute missions, and coordinating among the other state and federal agencies. The ESF #3 management Cell is composed of a team leader, assistant team leader, administrative assistant and Action Officers/representatives from each mission PRT.

e. The ERRO is a mini-District. It has the full capability to execute all FEMA assigned mission. Key staff to manage the response will come from a single District (i.e. POH for any response in our area of operation). The key staff is augmented by various Planning and Response Teams (PRT) and recruited individuals from across the Corps. Available Mission PRTs include: Water, Ice, Power, Debris, Temporary Roofing, Temporary Housing, Structural Safety, and Emergency Access. Available functional PRTs or cadres include: Public Affairs, Real Estate, Resource Management, Human Resources, Logistics, Safety, Audit, Contracting, and Information Management. Additional resources are available through Corps-wide recruitment (typically Quality Assurance inspectors).