CalEPA

California Environmental Protection Agency

Emergency Response

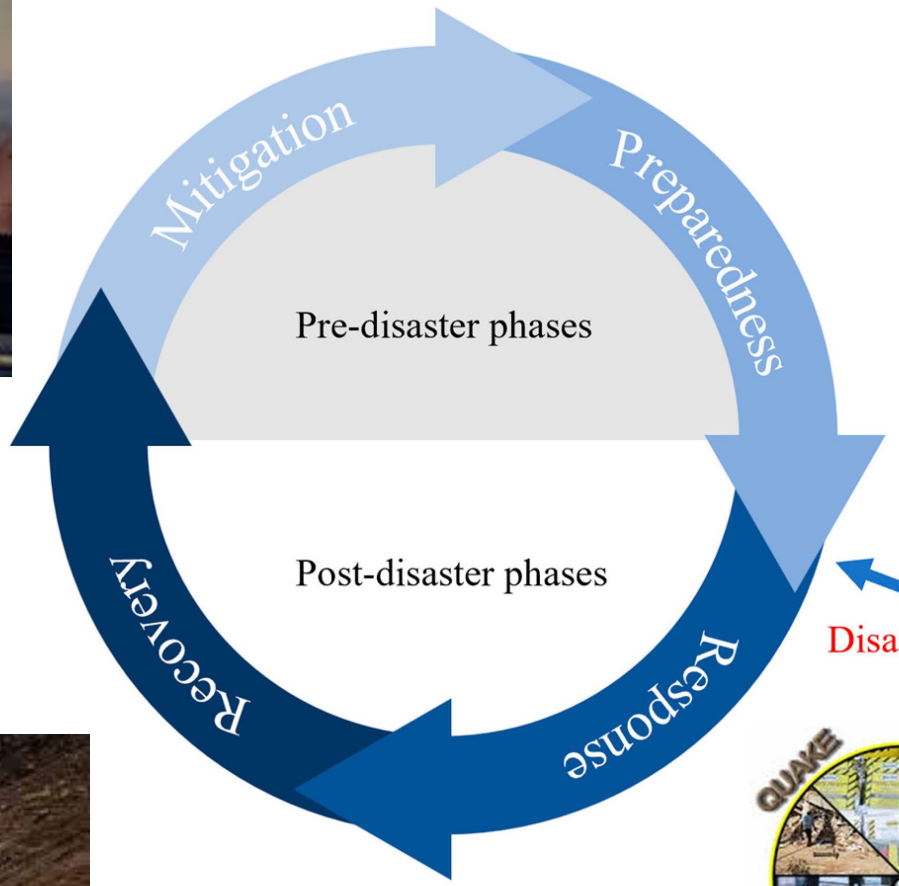
November 2026

Emergency Management









Disaster occurs







Emergency Management in California

California Emergency Services Act (ESA)

- Created the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES)
- Establishes specific requirements and criteria
- Requires the State of California to have an State Emergency Plan (SEP)
- Grants the Governor and CalOES Director authority to make Emergency Proclamations
  - And can direct CALEPA to perform specific tasks (mission tasking)

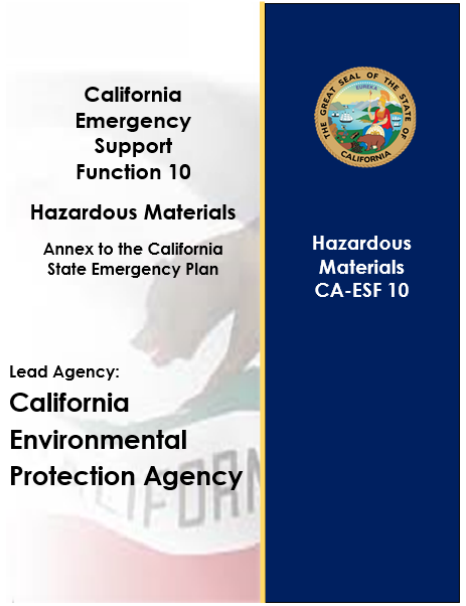
State Emergency Plan (SEP)

- Establishes Emergency Functions (CAESF)
  - "Bring together discipline-specific stakeholder at all levels of government to collaborate and function within the four phases of emergency management"
  - Somewhat analogous to Federal Emergency Support Functions
- CalEPA is the lead agency for CAESF-10, Oil and Hazardous Materials and a support agency for Recovery Support Function- Natural and Cultural Resources

California Hazardous Materials and Oil Emergency Support Function (CA ESF-10)



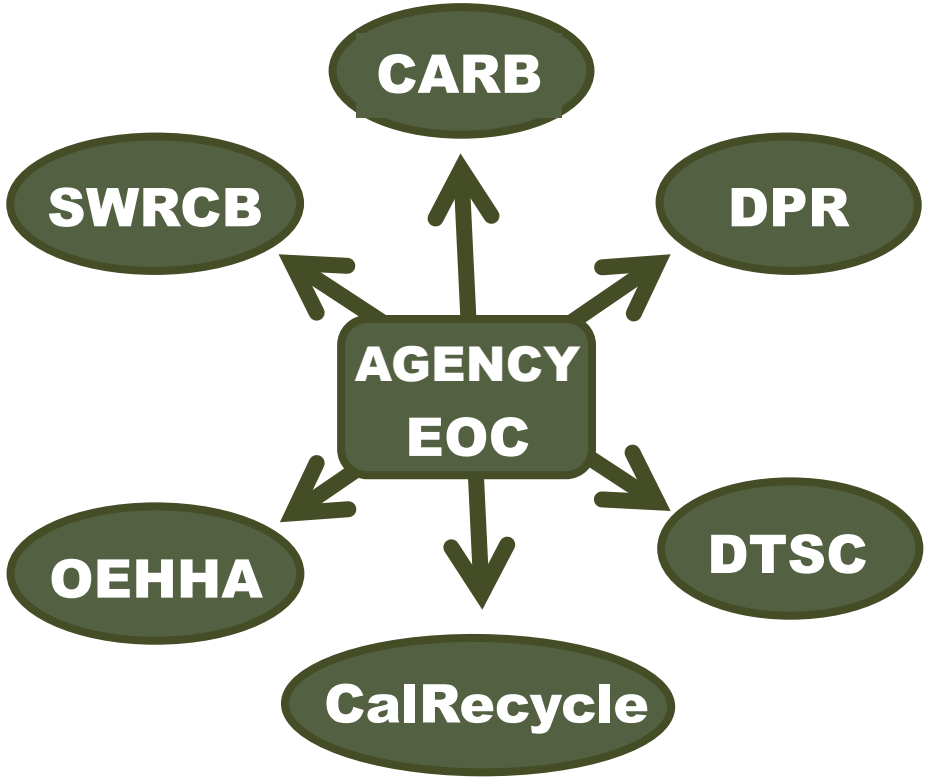
- The 2024 State of California Emergency Plan established the California Emergency Functions.
- CA-ESFs consist of 18 primary disciplines or activities
- The State Emergency Plan is designed to bring together the four phases of emergency management: **mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery**
- **CalEPA is the lead for CA ESF -10**
- Coordination with Cal OES, BDO's, U.S. EPA and the other ESF leads, along with local agencies.



Cal OES has also assigned CalEPA as a supporting agency for 5 out of the 6 newly adopted Recovery Support Functions (CA RSF), created to provide California with comprehensive short-, intermediate-, and long-term recovery support to local and tribal communities impacted by a disaster.

Emergency Response Management Committee (ERMaC)

Facilitates interagency coordination for CalEPA, its Boards, Departments and Offices and partner agencies



Formal Charter established in 2003

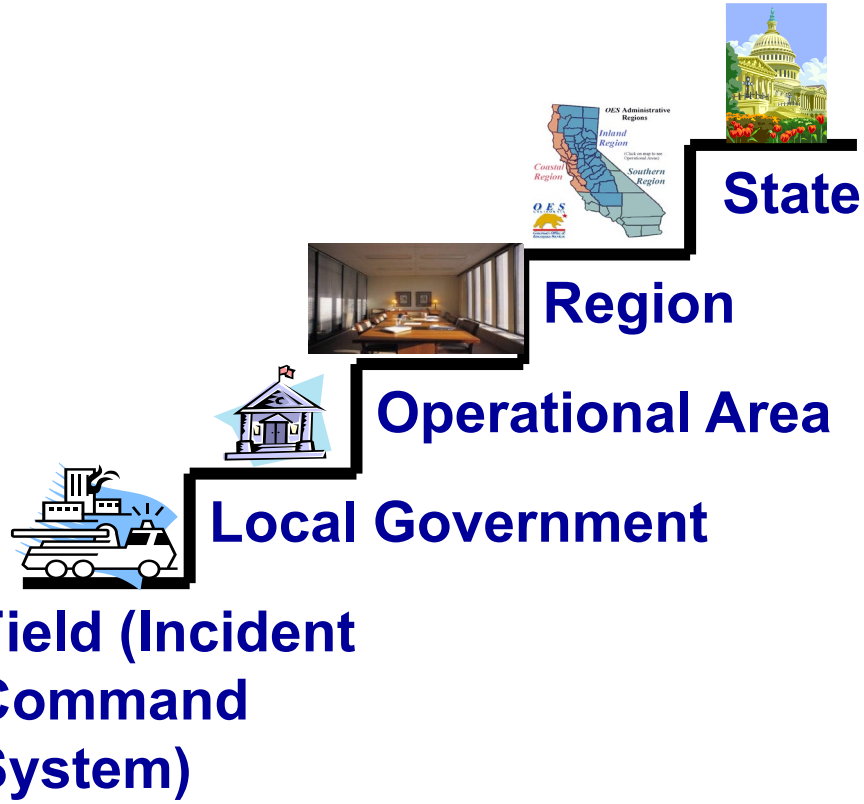
Partners:

- US EPA
- Cal OES
- CDFW/OSPR
- CDPH
- CDFA

Incident Command Systems (ICS)/Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS)

- **All emergencies start and end at the local level**
- System/Framework for coordinated response
- Standardized processes and procedures
- Management of all aspects and phases of ER







Governor's Office of Emergency Services State Operations Center

- Maintain close coordination between the Cal OES and supporting agencies.
- Mission Task assignment, tracking and reporting versus TA
- Coordinate the responses of CalEPA BDOs to requests for environmental regulation and permitting requirements to meet emergency needs-Executive Orders
- Provide leadership ongoing communication, coordination, and oversight for the CA ESF-10
- Lead the multi-agency coordination effort and decision-making process regarding the sharing and use of resources, data, and personnel under CalEPA and BDOs
- Ongoing coordination with other stakeholders, such as local governments (CUPAs and EH Depts.), special districts, federal agencies, tribal governments, and community organizations

WHAT DO WE REALLY DO?

Primary CalEPA & BDO Response & Recovery Activities

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

- **District & LEPC Oversight:** The California State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) within Cal OES established six Emergency Planning Districts aligned with the state's Mutual Aid Regions, appointing and supervising a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for each

- **EPCRA & Community Safety**: LEPCs carry out EPCRA community right-to-know requirements by uniting emergency agencies, responders, industry, and the public to evaluate chemical hazards and develop comprehensive local hazmat emergency plans

https://www.caloes.ca.gov/office-of-the-director/operations/response-operations/fire-rescue/hazardous-materials/local-emergency-planning-committee/

Local Emergency Planning Committee Regions

- **Region I (Southern):** Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Imperial, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo
- **Region II (Coastal):** Alameda, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Sonoma
- **Region III (Inland):** Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, and Yuba
- **Region IV:** Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Mariposa, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and Yolo
- **Region V:** Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Kings, San Bernardino, and Tulare
- **Region VI:** Riverside

Ways to Connect at the Local Level

- **Quarterly Public Meetings:** LEPCs are required to host quarterly public meetings where community members and local organizations can directly participate
- **Public Comment Periods:** Official LEPC meetings include mandatory public comment sessions for citizens to voice concerns regarding local chemical hazards or emergency plans
- **Formal Committee Membership:** Individual community members or local organizations can apply for designated seats alongside fire, law enforcement, and industry representatives
- **Transparency Forums:** Meetings frequently feature agency updates from CUPAs and the EPA to monitor local chemical inventories and compliance

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QUESTIONS?

Jason Boetzer, Deputy Secretary Local Program Coordination and Emergency Response