

ANNEX B - STORMS AND FLOODS

I. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

The Town may be subjected to a variety of storm and/or flood situations with related property damage during any time of the year. The possible situations that may be encountered with this hazard are categorized as follows:

1. Floods
 - a. Heavy or continuous rain on the Gila River water shed areas may result flooding of downstream areas and street crossings of the riverbed which could result in increased congestion on traffic routes over bridged crossings. Extreme releases carry the potential of flooding residential, commercial and industrial property within the floodplains of Thatcher.
2. Wind and other related storm damage from high winds, tornadoes, hail, etc. Damage and problems that may result could include one or more of these situations:
 - a. Power lines down
 - b. Major power outages
 - c. Telephone outages
 - d. Structural damage
 - e. Traumatic injuries or death of citizens in severe instances

B. Assumptions

1. Typical storm and flood damage experienced in and around the Town of Thatcher are normally handled by Town resources and the responsible utility entities. Available weather information and situation evaluations may allow time for activation of the EOC before major flood waters arrive in Thatcher.
2. Major flooding would require a greater degree of mobilization of Town resources and coordination with outside agencies to cope with the evacuation, sheltering, transportation, damage assessment, and recovery problem

II. MISSION

Mitigation and preparedness efforts, along with response and recovery planning provide an appropriate level of protection to citizens and property from storm and flood emergencies or

disasters.

III. EXECUTION

A. Concept of Operations

1. For typical storms, with associated local flooding and wind damage, operations will be performed by normal Town departments that routinely handle such emergencies.
2. For large scale disasters, with major or catastrophic storm/flood situations, the Emergency Operations Plan will be activated including the EOC. If activated, the EOC will exercise primary direction and control during a storm or flooding disaster. For details see **Basic Plan and Annex A, Direction and Control**.

B. Tasks

1. Notification and distribution of severe weather and water release information will be available from the following sources:
 - National Weather Service (NWS)
2. The government of the Town of Thatcher will assume overall direction and control of emergency response operations within its jurisdiction, to include warning, evacuation and security of the affected areas. Determination of evacuation zones will be based on actual or projected water flows.

IV. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

- A. Standard emergency administration and supply procedures will be used. See **Basic Plan and Annex A, Direction and Control**.

V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

Refer to **Annex A, Direction and Control**.