



## Week of July 21, 2014 Important Dates and Deadlines:

[2014-2018 FEMA Strategic Plan Stakeholder Webinar](#)  
(July 31, 2014)

[Tribal Declarations Pilot Guidance](#)  
(August 31, 2014)

### FEMA and the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Announce Disaster Communication Partnership

On July 18, FEMA and [ARRL](#) announced a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that increases cooperation between FEMA and ARRL in the area of disaster communication. This agreement allows FEMA and ARRL to work together to provide resources, services and personnel, as available, in order to strengthen capacity in areas of emergency communications, mass care and emergency assistance, disaster preparedness, response and recovery, while also raising public awareness about the use of Amateur Radio as a public safety resource.

The agreement outlines the ways in which FEMA and ARRL will cooperate to carry out their respective responsibilities, with respect to disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery operations in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.

Amateur Radio operators have been responding to disasters since the beginning of the Amateur Service in the early 1900s. Through the ARRL-sponsored Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and other groups, federally licensed Amateur Radio operators have volunteered their time, equipment and expertise to their communities and country for various public service events and disaster efforts.

Following recent events, ARRL supported local communities as they prepare for and recover from the devastation caused by disasters. As part of this agreement, FEMA and ARRL will strengthen their partnership and encourage first responders and citizens to consider joining the ranks of radio amateurs and their long and legendary history of public service to the nation.

### FEMA Extends Tribal Consultation Period for First Draft of Tribal Declarations Pilot Guidance

In January 2013, the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act (SRIA) provided federally recognized Indian tribal governments (tribal governments) the option to request a Presidential emergency or major disaster declaration independently of a state. To implement this historic provision, FEMA initiated tribal consultation on the first draft of the Tribal Declarations Pilot Guidance in April 2014 and traveled around the country to meet face-to-face with tribal leaders or their designees to discuss the proposed guidance and ways to improve the draft.

In the course of these meetings, a number of tribal leaders asked for additional time to review the draft and provide their input. In response to this request, FEMA is extending the tribal consultation period for the first draft of the Tribal Declarations Pilot Guidance. **Tribal governments may now submit comments through August 31, 2014.** Comments on the working draft of the [Tribal Declarations Pilot Guidance](#) can be sent to [tribalconsultation@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:tribalconsultation@fema.dhs.gov).

More information about this consultation, including upcoming dates, is available at [www.fema.gov/tribal](http://www.fema.gov/tribal). Questions can be directed to FEMA's Intergovernmental Affairs Division at (202) 646-3444 or [FEMA-IGA@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-IGA@fema.dhs.gov).

FEMA's Office of External Affairs provides this bulletin to highlight recent and upcoming program and policy activities and announcements. Feedback is welcome at [fema-ea-bulletin@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-ea-bulletin@fema.dhs.gov).

### Open Joint Field Offices

AK, AL, AR, CO, FL, IA,  
IN, MS, NE, NY, VT, WA  
[Learn more.](#)

### 2014-2018 FEMA Strategic Plan Stakeholder Webinar

There will be a [stakeholder webinar](#) about the 2014-2018 FEMA Strategic Plan on **Thursday, July 31, 2014 from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. EDT.** Participants are invited to join and sign into the webinar as "guest." [Closed captioning is available.](#) Prior to the webinar, participants can [test their Adobe Connect connection.](#)

### Thinking Seriously about the Future to Enhance Disaster Resilience

This week, FEMA's Strategic Foresight Initiative (SFI) released a short video entitled, "[Thinking Seriously about the Future to Enhance Disaster Resilience.](#)" The video was developed to spark longer-term thinking about critical issues driving change in emergency management. The video highlights real world events and increasing disaster impacts that underscore the need for the emergency management community to adapt to future operating environments.

The video presents drivers of change that are expected to present challenges in disaster management, including climate change, technology and information usage, infrastructure and supply chain vulnerabilities and increased public participation in emergency management. While recognizing the challenges these drivers present, there are also opportunities to fundamentally reinvent how we deliver public services and how the emergency management community can help support citizens and our communities during times of crisis and recovery.

This bulletin is not intended to provide a comprehensive list of policies that are open for public comment, nor does it describe all of the instructions or requirements necessary to submit a comment. For a complete list of instructions and deadlines please click the hyperlinks included. FEMA does not endorse any non-government organizations, entities or services.

## **FEMA 101: National Disaster Recovery Framework**

The [National Disaster Recovery Framework](#) (NDRF), released in September 2011, establishes principles and concepts to help maximize recovery resources vertically and horizontally across the federal government and ultimately the whole community. The Framework promotes pre- and post-disaster planning supported by strong Federal Disaster Coordinators (FDRCs); establishes focused recovery leadership at the state, tribal and community level; organizes federal agencies and department resources into six sector-specific Recovery Support Functions (RSFs); identifies roles and responsibilities for all public and private sector recovery stakeholders; adapts for use in any type of event; and provides principles and operational concepts for use at the state, tribal and community level even when federal assistance is not needed.

The NDRF builds on the “whole community” concept that no single agency or level of government can do it all, and the need to leverage the resources of the entire community (public and private sector) to meet the comprehensive recovery needs that arise in the aftermath of a major disaster. The federal government can support and facilitate, but disaster recovery must be owned by the whole community to be successful.

The NDRF is consistent with the vision set forth in the [Presidential Policy Directive \(PPD\)-8](#), signed March 2011, which calls on federal departments and agencies to develop a national preparedness goal and national preparedness system to include a series of frameworks and plans related to reaching the goal. The national preparedness goal is “a secure and resilient nation with the capabilities required across the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk.” The national preparedness goal identifies 31 core capabilities needed to achieve the goal. Core capabilities across all mission areas are: Operational Coordination, Planning, Public Information and Warning. Recovery specific core capabilities include: Economic Recovery, Health and Social Services, Housing, Infrastructure Systems, Natural and Cultural Resources. Five National Planning Frameworks were published across the mission areas of Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery to describe the key roles and responsibilities to deliver the core capabilities. The Federal Interagency Operational Plans (FIOPs) and incident specific annexes describe how the federal government delivers core capabilities.

For more information about how the National Disaster Recovery Framework enables effective recovery support to disaster-impacted states, tribes, territorial and local jurisdictions, visit [www.fema.gov/national-disaster-recovery-framework](http://www.fema.gov/national-disaster-recovery-framework).

## **White House Announces Disaster Resilience Competition**

The [National Disaster Resilience Competition](#) makes nearly \$1 billion available to communities that have been impacted by natural disasters in recent years. The competition promotes risk assessment and planning and funds the implementation of innovative resilience projects to better prepare communities for future storms and other extreme events. Successful applicants should tie their proposals to the eligible disaster from which they are recovering. For example, a proposed suite of building code changes, infrastructure audits, and pilot green infrastructure investments need to address unmet needs from the eligible past disaster, but also better prepare a community to address vulnerabilities and risks they face going forward.

Of the nearly \$1 billion available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds from the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013, about \$820 million will be available to all states and local governments that experienced a Presidentially-declared major disaster in 2011, 2012 and 2013. States in the Hurricane Sandy-affected region will be eligible to compete for approximately \$180 million, to help address critical housing needs, building on the successful model set forth by HUD’s [Rebuild by Design](#) competition. All successful applicants need to show how their proposed action relates to the disaster from which they are recovering. HUD will ensure that geographic diversity is a consideration in the selection of participating communities.

All states with counties that experienced a Presidentially Declared Major Disaster in 2011, 2012 or 2013 will be eligible to apply. In addition, 17 local governments that have received funding under PL 113-2 are also eligible. [A list of eligible grantees is available online.](#)

The mission of the Office of External Affairs (OEA) is to engage, inform, and educate all of FEMA’s stakeholders in support of the Agency’s programs and initiatives to achieve its mission. OEA accomplishes its mission by coordinating and maintaining visibility of public and internal communications; advising FEMA program and support offices on decision-making regarding policies, plans, and actions that affect stakeholder, media, and Congressional audiences; and organizing outreach efforts targeted at principal stakeholders to include local, state, territorial, and tribal governments, the private sector, national organizations and associations, and the American public.

