



# FEMA

# Fact Sheet

## Regional Watch Center

The mission of the Regional Watch Centers is to maintain 24/7 situational awareness of any regional event or incident—either natural or man-made—that may require a coordinated Federal disaster response or may be of interest to FEMA leadership. Regional Watch Centers directly support response operations at the regional level through information collection, analysis, management, and distribution. Each Regional Watch Center works in partnership with emergency managers from the States within their respective areas of responsibility to identify potential and occurring incidents, conduct analysis, determine possible impacts, and provide the necessary reporting to aid effective decision making.

The Regional Watch Centers link the Regional Response Coordination Center, State Emergency Operations Centers, regional Department of Homeland Security components, Regional Emergency Support Functions, State Fusion Centers, Joint Terrorism Task Forces, and other key State and local operational centers. Support for policy and program guidance, equipment standardization and life-cycle maintenance for the Regional Watch Centers is provided by the National Watch Center and the Disaster Emergency Communications Division of the FEMA Headquarters Response Directorate.

On a daily basis, the Regional Watch Centers serve as the FEMA Region central point of coordination among the Regional Response Coordination Staff, respective State Emergency Operations Centers, regional Department of Homeland Security components, Regional Emergency Support Functions, State and local Fusion Centers, area Field Offices of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Joint Terrorism Task Forces, and other key State, Tribal, local and private sector operation centers. The Regional Watch Centers provide FEMA Headquarters, Regional leadership, and other Federal, State, local, tribal, and private sector partners with information, intelligence analysis, and resource coordination contributing to a common operating picture.

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*“FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.”*

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