

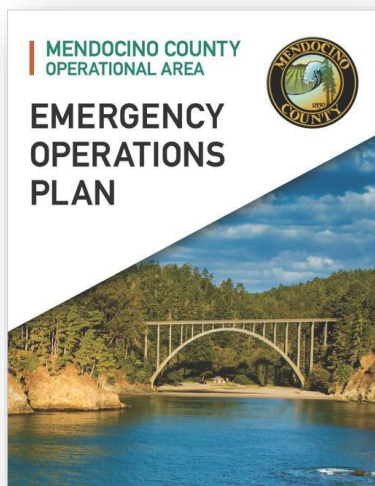


Office of Emergency Services CEO Report April 2025

About OES

Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services (OES) is the primary local coordination agency for emergencies and disasters affecting residents, public infrastructure, and government operations in the Mendocino County Operational Area (OA). The Mendocino County OA includes the county and its cities, towns, and special districts, in coordination with tribes.

Emergency Operations Plan



The Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is the primary guide for all emergency operations within Mendocino County. OES staff submitted the EOP update, and Crosswalk, to CalOES for review. The County was given an estimated 90-120 day turnaround for the review.

Continuity of Operations Plan

OES staff has drafted a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP), a crucial document that outlines how the county will continue its essential services and operations in the face of emergencies or disruptions. The plan addresses alternate staff and locations, should the need arise, for continuing essential services.

Community Preparedness/Upcoming Events

Earthquake Early Warning Datacasting Receiver

OES applied to be a location to receive datacasting equipment in the Emergency Operations Center. The equipment alerts users to incoming severe shaking. Staff attended a webinar regarding the subject and reaffirmed OES interest in the program.

Training

Defensible Space Inspector Training

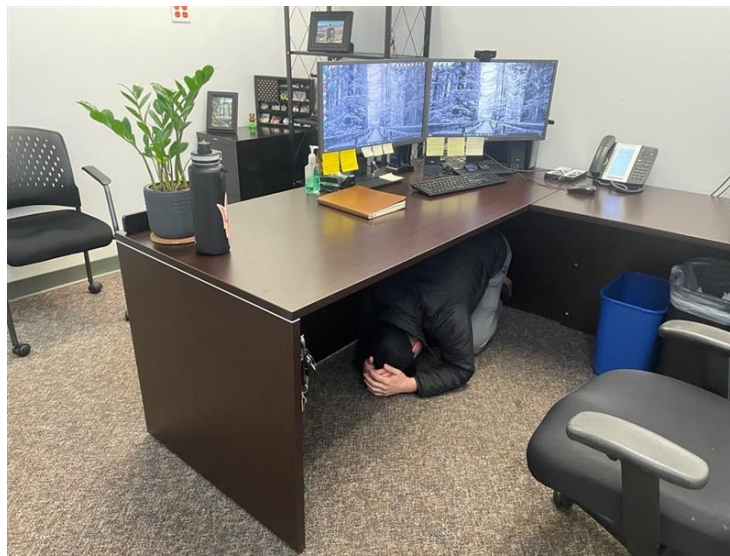
On March 12 and 13 OES staff attended the CalFire Volunteer Defensible Space Assessor Training hosted by the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council. During this comprehensive two-day training, staff learned about defensible space principles and best practices for home hardening and retrofitting, enabling staff to better support community wildfire mitigation efforts.

Emergency Coordination

Tsunami Drill

OES--in collaboration with Del Norte and Humboldt Counties OES, National Weather Service, and the Redwood Coast Tsunami Work Group put on the North Coast Tsunami Drill. On Wednesday, March 26 alert and warning messaging went out to residents in the coastal evacuation zones. Within those zones, people in the Tsunami Hazard Zones were encouraged to practice their tsunami preparedness by getting to higher ground on foot.

Those notified who were not in the Tsunami Hazard Zones were encouraged to practice their earthquake preparedness by dropping, covering, and holding on.



There were a series of social media posts regarding the tsunami drill. The campaign was designed to educate as well as raise awareness about the drill.



Annual California Tsunami Exercise

OES participated in the annual State tsunami exercise put on by CalOES.

Fire Chiefs Meeting

OES attended the fire chiefs meeting in Elk. Staff reported out on the County's tsunami drill, plus plans in various stages of updates. We made a request for letters of support for the County's Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) application.

UVFA Strategic Plan

OES met with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority and their contractor who is updating their strategic plan. OES answered questions and gave input regarding the Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP).

Cal DART webinar

On March 25, OES staff attended a webinar regarding the California Disaster Airlift Response Teams (CalDART) upcoming statewide exercise. On Saturday, April 26, 2025, CalDART will perform a California-wide disaster response exercise at various California airports. CalDART consists of pilots and administrative staff who together organize and provide free air transportation during an emergency under Part 91 flight rules. This exercise allows CalDART to be familiar with airports around the state to be better equipped to respond to disasters.

Manchester Unified School District tsunami annex to the EAP

OES met with a district representative and their contractor who is writing an annex for the district's Emergency Action Plan. OES provided them with maps and input as pertains to their school and tsunami hazards.

Grant Administration

EMPG Grant

The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) provides critical resources to local emergency management agencies, enabling them to implement the National Preparedness System and advance the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. The Office of Emergency Services (OES) is currently administering the FY 2023 and FY 2024 EMPG grants. These grants directly support core OES functions, including staff salaries, essential training programs, and ongoing operational needs. EMPG operates on a 1:1 matching basis, requiring counties to match each grant dollar received.

HSGP Grant

The Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) supports initiatives to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from terrorism and other threats. Currently, the county is managing HSGP funding from Fiscal Years 2021-2024. Specific activities include the procurement of portable digital radios, automatic license plate recognition (ALPR) cameras, and an alert and warning system subscription. Additionally, the county is conducting a cybersecurity assessment and facilitating SWAT team training.

The department's primary source of revenue is the EMPG grant which requires a 100% match (50/50) by the County. Some admin costs will be recouped as budgeted by the HSGP grant project that OES manages. Funding from EMPG decreased about 6% from the previous fiscal year.