



Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ)

Catastrophic Earthquake and Tsunami Functional Exercise

The Exercise Scenario

Science points to a large 8.0-9.0 magnitude Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) earthquake ripping across the 800-mile CSZ fault line on average once every 200 to 500 years. The last major CSZ earthquake and tsunami occurred in 1700. Recent subduction zone fault earthquakes around the world underscore the similar challenges we will face when the next CSZ earthquake and tsunami occurs in our region:

- Indonesia (2004): M9.1; 228,000 deaths
- Chile (2010): M8.8; 500 deaths
- Northeast Japan (2011): M9.0; 18,000 deaths

Purpose: Improving Joint Operations

Conducting successful life-saving and life-sustaining response operations in the aftermath of a Cascadia Subduction Zone disaster will hinge on the effective *coordination* and *integration* of governments at all levels – cities, counties, state agencies, federal officials, the military, tribal nations – as well as non-government organizations and the private sector. One of the primary goals of Cascadia Rising is to train and test this whole community approach to complex disaster operations together as a joint team.



Ramp-Up Exercise Events

Various seminars and workshops will be conducted as ramp-up events to bring together emergency management and response officials from all levels to share information on disaster plans, procedures, and processes in preparation for the culminating exercise.

The Culminating Exercise

The culminating event in the exercise series will be a 4-day Functional Exercise to occur June 7-10, 2016, in which Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) at all levels of government and the private sector will activate to coordinate simulated field response operations both within their jurisdictions and also with neighboring communities, the Oregon ECC, FEMA, and major military commands.



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Capabilities Tested

All 14 response core capabilities will be tested during the Cascadia Rising Exercise with special attention on the first 6 core capabilities highlighted in bold:

Operational Communications – **Public Health and Medical Services** – **Mass Care Services** – **Situational Assessment** – **Critical Transportation** – **Operational Coordination** – Public Information and Warning – Infrastructure Systems – Incident Action Planning – Public and Private Services and Resources – Mass Search and Rescue Operations – Fatality Management – Environment Response/Health and Safety – On-Scene Security and Protection.



Exercise Design Begins

Communities interested in participating in Cascadia Rising are encouraged to sign and return the Extent-of-Play Agreement (XPA) to Oregon OEM before December 8, 2014. Also, individuals wishing to serve on one of the exercise design committees' sub-working groups or subcommittees are encouraged to submit their volunteer form before December 29, 2014. Service on the design committee will help ensure that your community or agency voice is heard, and will also provide a great opportunity to share information and collaborate with your peers and colleagues from across the whole community!

Contact

To learn more about the Cascadia Rising 2016 Exercise, please contact your local Office of Emergency Management or the following representatives:

Doug Jimenez - Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
Exercise Officer
Doug.jimenez@state.or.us

Bill Martin - Oregon OEM
Program Analyst Team Lead, Plans and Training Section
Bill.martin@state.or.us

Stephen Simerly - FEMA Region 10
Regional Exercise Officer
stephen.simerly@fema.dhs.gov



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