



Contingency Planning Reorganization

Understanding the NEW Contingency Planning Format

This document is a resource for reading, comprehending and using the new Alaska contingency planning documents. The Regional Contingency Plan (RCP) and the four Area Contingency Plans (ACP) may look very different from the Unified Plan and the Sub-area plans, but only the structure of the plans has changed. The new structure is optimized for more efficient responder use and is consistent with the requirements outlined in the National Contingency Plan. Please use the below table for recognizing key differences in format between the Unified Plan/Sub-area Plans and the new RCP/ACP format.

Chapter Title/Headings

The new format is intentionally designed to match the Incident Command Structure (ICS) organization. This reorganization was critical to align with national standard and increase useability for responders.

For example, if a responder arrives to an incident and is assigned to the "Finance Section," the new ACP format allows the responder to simply open the Finance Section (Section 6000) and gain relevant details for completing their assignment.

"TBD"

Throughout the various ACPs, there are several sections labeled "TBD." This designation is short for "To Be Developed." These sections are specifically labeled to denote a lack of current, relevant policy on the topic **as found in** the Unified Plan or the Sub-area Plans

Under USCG policy, the thousand (X000) and hundred (XX00) level sections are mandated for coastal area contingency plans nationwide. All other sections listed are flexible for use/inclusion. A section labeled "TBD" is either a mandated section that needs further build-out **OR** a sub-section that was deemed important enough by the planning transition team to retain and recommend build out.

One example of a section labeled "TBD," is Alternative Planning Criteria (Section 4330). Though there was guidance published in various sub-area plans on this topic, the guidance was significantly outdated. Instead of progulmating old, irrelevant guidance, this section is labled "TBD" denoting a need for further buildout by the Area Committee in subsequent plan updates.

Content Updates

In general, content is identical between the Unified/Sub-area Plans and the RCP/ACP. Exceptions are noted below and were only conducted as deemed appropriate by the ARRT work group.

Regional Contingency Plan: Given that the RCP plays a drastically different role from the Unified Plan, it had several gaps due to lack of coverage from any of the source documents. Therefore, the ARRT work group authorized inclusion of minimal best practice content from other Regional Contingency Plans as was appropriate to create this base-model Regional Contingency Plan. All further updates will be handled by the ARRT exclusively.

Area Contingency Plan: All content was sourced from the Unified Plan and Sub-area Plans. If content could be equally as useful for a responder if incorporated as a hyperlink, this was the general preference of the planning work group.

For example, Sub-area Plans listed out facility/hazmat information accross Alaska. This information is now updated and organized within the Tier II reporting website, as hosted by Alaska Department of Military & Veteran Affairs. Therefore, all related content was removed and replaced with a hyperlink to the State of Alaska Tier II Database.

Community Profiles

All Community Profiles are retained within their respective Area Plan. As the format for these Community Profiles was inconsistent across the Sub-area Plans, they will appear inconsistent accross the Area Plans. All further updates to the format, organization or content of these community profiles will be managed by the Area Committees.

Geographic Zones

Geographic Zones mirror the boundaries of the previously known sub-areas and are found within all Area Plans. Note that Geographic Zones may cross Area Plan boundaries. Details regarding the geographic zones housed within a particular Area Plan are identified under section 1210 of the plans. Additionally, if a topic uniquely affects a Geographic Zone(s) the specifics will be identified under the Geographic Zone Subheading(s).

For example, in the Arctic and Western Area Plan under 8150 - Response Resources, information under this topic that relates to the entire Area is addressed here and more detailed information as it specifically relates to the Geographic Zones is found under the Geographic Zones Subheadings 8150.1 through 8150.7.

For additional information regarding Regional and Area Planning visit:
<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/contingency-plans/response-plans/regional-area-planning/>