

Western Region Emergency Communications, Knowledge and Information Tests



WINTER STORM WARNING

WRECK IT 2015 Final Planning Meetin

WNY, September 16, 2015

Finger Lakes, September 28, 2015

Exercise Platform Google Account



wreckit2015player@gmail.com

- Access tools, calendar and maps in the Google WRECKIT *player* account
- Exercise submissions FROM PLAYERS should be emailed to <u>wreckit2015@gmail.com</u> account
- FINAL PLANNING DOCUMENTS will be generated through this account

Completed Pre- Exercise Activities



August 8th Radio Exercise

Tested Hospital Status reports



September 10th PA - Cross-border TTX

Best practices/ gaps working across the border

Who is Participating



Unprecedented number of agencies participating!

- Local and state emergency management (DHSES & OFPC)
- Local and state health
- Local and state law enforcement
- Department of Labor
- Department of Transportation
- NWS Buffalo and Binghamton
- Regional hospitals and systems
- Long Term Care facilities
- Homecare agencies
- New York State Thruway and Department of Transportation
- State Parks and park police
- New York Power Authority and local utility companies
- National Guard
- Paid and volunteer ambulance corps
- Private Industries (Food Service Industry)
- Mental Health
- 211
- American Red Cross
- Mutual Aid Plans
- Educational Institutions
- RACES/ ARES

General Objectives



- Gain, maintain and assess situational awareness

 information sharing*
- 2. Activate Operation/Command Centers
- 3. Mass care for first 48 hours
- 4. Resource management
- 5. Volunteer coordination

*Information Sharing is a key capability focus for all agencies.

1st Year Design Goals



- Identify and define issues
- Evaluate personnel logistics:
 - Right location; Right technology and support documents; Able to access request systems and local internet; Interface with home agency networks
- Identify how State and Local EOC's typically function, and the players role
- Move information to and from proper locations
 - Assess and communicate potential impacts
 - Situation status updates, needs, and processing official communiques.



Scenario and Breakdown of Anchoring Activities by Day



Exercise Week Breakdown



Friday, October 2, 2015

National Weather Service Alert (NWS) sent electronically, indicating severe weather pattern forming in early part of the following week.

Monday October 5, 2015



- Scenario: "Blue sky day"
- Weather:
 - Precipitation Western Southern Tier and Niagara Frontier: begins late this afternoon
 - Finger Lakes: begins this evening
 - Predominant type of precipitation is expected to be freezing rain
 - Ice accumulations of one to two inches of ice are possible
- Individual agency StartEx & activities
- Information sharing; What actions will you take re: credible information of a pending threat?

Monday October 5, 2015



"Anchoring" activities:

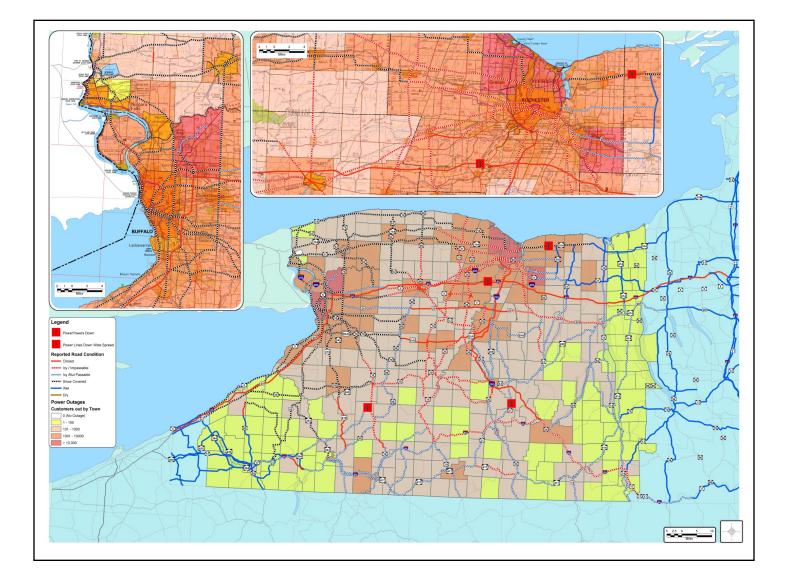
- 0900 NWS Buffalo and 0930 Binghamton conference calls (consecutively)
- NWS Briefing
- Regional conference calls (agency-specific)
- 20:00- Hospital HAvBED Survey activation

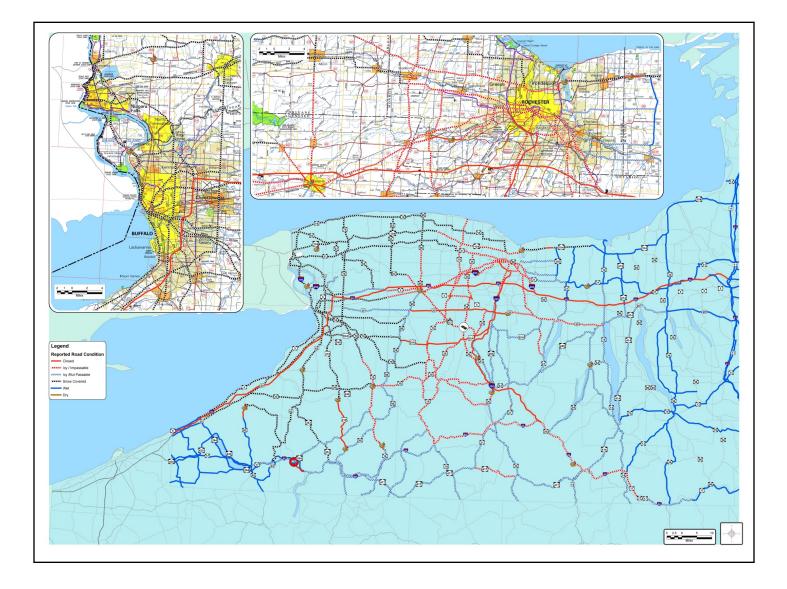
Tuesday October 6, 2015

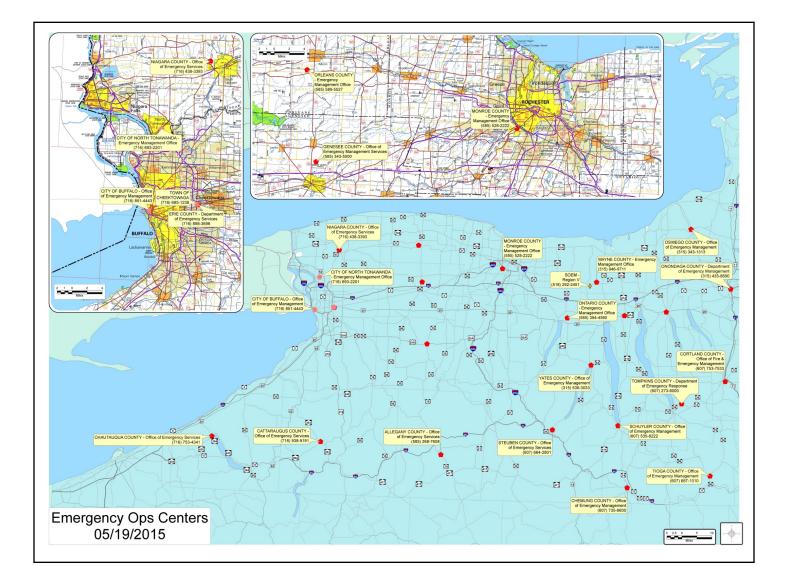


- Scenario
 - Greater than ½ inch of ice has covered most of region. Leaves are still on trees.
 - Transportation, utilities, communications, supplies, staffing are all impacted.
 - Many major WR roadways have been closed.
 - States of Emergency have been declared.









Tuesday October 6, 2015

• 0800 StartEx sent via WRECKIT Gmail



- "Anchoring" activities:
 - 0900 NWS Buffalo and 0930 Binghamton conference calls
 - NWS briefings distribution
 - Internal agency full-scale & functional activities
 - EOC/HOC activations:
 - State EOC (Bunker)
 - NYSDOH WR HOC
 - DOTEOC
 - County EOCs, County Work Shops
 - Hospital/ Health facility EOCs
 - Other government and private Agency Emergency Operations
 - WNY County OEM Emergency Support Function Work Shop
 - Rochester Area and S. Tier Long Term Care MAP Evacuations
 - Hospital information and data sharing activities

Wednesday October 7, 2015



- Scenario
 - Temperatures have fallen to below zero with winds ranging from 10 – 30 MPH.
 - Transportation, utilities, communications, supplies, staffing remain impacted.
 - Sheltering requests growing exponentially
 - Resources are becoming exhausted.



Wednesday October 7, 2015



- 0800 StartEx announced via Gmail
- "Anchoring" activities:
 - Internal agency full-scale & functional activities continue
 - EOC/HOC activations:
 - County EOCs
 - Hospital/ Health facility EOCs
 - Other government and private Agency EOCs
 - WNY Long Term Care MAP Evacuations
 - Hospitals:
 - WRECKIT Memorial Repatriation and eFINDS
 - WNY Emergency Support Function-8 Work Shop

Thursday AM October 8, 2015 Road Closures TTx



- Pre-registration required. Clarion Inn, Batavia.
- Region-wide discussion-based activity on road closures

Decision-making and communications

Road closure procedures & expectations

Impacts and prioritization

Open to all interested stakeholders



Thursday PM October 8, 2015 Sheltering TTx



- Pre-registration required. Clarion Inn, Batavia
- Region-wide Sheltering discussion-based activity
- Local, Regional, National capabilities
- Resource demands during escalating & widescope event
- Shelter information communications

Daily Exercise Feedback



- Daily Exercise Feedback is requested via a brief Survey Monkey.
- Link to Survey Monkey To Be Provided
 - Number participating at <u>your</u> agency
 - What <u>other agencies</u> did you interact with?
 - Need to track everyone including those assets/personnel unexpectedly contacted for assistance or support. Sign in sheets and scribed notes; Scope and Data Tool; SM.
 - Strengths, areas for improvement for your agency around the key capabilities (i.e., information sharing)
 - Exercise design comments (strengths, areas for improvement)

Friday October 9, 2015 Regional After-Action Conference What worked? What needs improvement?

Next steps

Virtual participation will be available.

In person site TBD

Exercise Packets



- Exercise Packets for use by your agency planners/ controllers to be distributed via Gmail, but also available on the Google Gmail site
 - Scenario Power Point
 - NWS briefing
 - Maps (Road Closures, Utility Outages, etc)
 - Communications Plan
 - Final ExPlan
 - Exercise Master Events Schedule
 - Scope and Data Collection form
 - Critical Tasks for agency types
 - Exercise Evaluation Guides (EEGs) for hospitals only

SimCell

- Active Tuesday, October 6th & Wednesday, October 7th, 0800-1600
- Sim Cell Operations:
 - What if I need an inject?
 - What if I need to contact a non-participating agency?

Exercise Control and Evaluation (C/E)



- Finalize your agency Controllers/ Evaluators
- Hospitals: Personalize Exercise Evaluation Guides; C/E Handbook
- Controller and Evaluator Briefing date:
- Assign active-day Survey Monkey Feedback completion

Communications Plan WINTERST



- Complete Survey Monkey for Communications Plan information <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/86256G9</u>
 Will include a POC for all agencies in play that provide one.
- Will include Regional Planning Team contacts/ Regional Control/ and SimCell contacts



Good Luck!

