

Illinois Emergency Operations Plan Annex 4 – Transportation Management Appendix 1 – Aviation Coordination Group

Illinois Emergency Management Agency

August 2021





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Illinois Emergency Operations Plan (IEOP) – Annex 4 - Transportation, Appendix 1 – Aviation
Coordination Group
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Appendix 4-X1 - Aviation Coordination Group

Primary Agency: Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)

Support Agencies: Illinois National Guard (ILNG)
Illinois State Police (ISP)
Civil Air Patrol (CAP)

Support
Organizations: None

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

1. To establish consistent policies, organizational structures and procedures for the use of aviation resources in support of response and recovery missions.

B. Scope

1. This Appendix establishes parameters for integration and management of aviation assets.
2. This Appendix does not supersede regulations established by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
3. For the purposes of this appendix, aviation assets include all aircraft, both manned and unmanned.
4. This appendix does not address Military Support (IEOP Annex 27, Military Coordination).

C. Policy

1. Procedures for utilization, control and use of aviation assets will incorporate and/or consider operational priorities that include but are not limited to:
 - a) Protection of life;
 - b) Public health and safety;
 - c) Property protection;



- d) Environmental protection;
- e) Restoration of essential utilities;
- f) Restoration of essential program functions, and
- g) Coordination as appropriate.

- 2. Resource and/or mission requests must be appropriate and allocable, and remain consistent with the laws, rules, regulations, policy and processes established by the state.
- 3. For the purpose of storage, maintenance and testing, all agencies and organizations are responsible for equipment, commodities and materiel required for response and recovery in accordance with the Illinois Emergency Operations Plan (IEOP).

D. Situation Overview

- 1. Hazard onset and current weather and infrastructure conditions allow for the utilization of aviation assets for short, intermediate and long-term recovery operations
- 2. Aviation assets are available for use and personnel are aware of the risks involved with assigned missions and tasks.
- 3. An incident has occurred requiring the activation and deployment of state and federal aviation assets.

E. Assumptions

- 1. A disaster(s) has occurred resulting in the notification, activation, deployment, coordination, implementation and sustainment (NADCIS) of aviation assets.
- 2. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and local Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) will be activated.
- 3. State resources will be activated in advance of county and municipal requests for staging and the conduct of life safety missions.
- 4. Mutual aid agreements and compacts will be activated to carry out response and recovery operations.
- 5. Disasters or preplanned events will result in a need for aviation support operations in impacted designated areas.



6. Aviation assets will not be readily available within a single organization or jurisdiction based on type, scope and magnitude of the event.

II. Concept of Operations

A. General

1. The SEOC is responsible for strategic coordination and prioritization of aviation operations throughout response and recovery.
2. The SEOC liaison from the Illinois Department of Transportation – Division of Aeronautics (IDOT-A) is responsible for serving as the point of contact between the SEOC and the Aviation Coordination Group (ACG).
3. To ensure aviation asset coordination throughout operations the SEOC will establish an ACG consisting of the following agencies:
 - a) Illinois Department of Transportation;
 - b) Illinois National Guard;
 - c) Illinois State Police, and
 - d) Civil Air Patrol.
4. The ACG will be supported throughout operations, as requested, by federal agencies that include but are not limited to:
 - a) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA);
 - b) United States Coast Guard (USCG);
 - c) Transportation Security Administration (TSA);
 - d) Federal Aviation Administration (FAA);
 - e) Department of Defense (DOD);
 - f) Federal Highways Administration (FHWA), and
 - g) United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP).
5. The ACG is a state level management asset responsible for coordination of aviation fixed wing, rotary and unmanned air assets utilized during response and recovery efforts for missions approved by the SEOC.
6. The ACG is supported throughout operations, as requested, by other



governmental, private, non-governmental and volunteer organizations.

- a) The ACG will assign and coordinate use of aviation assets based on authorized priorities established by the SEOC.
- b) Primary responsibilities of the ACG are to:
 - i) Identify available aviation assets;
 - ii) Assess overall statewide capability and posture;
 - iii) Determine capability shortfalls and methods of resolution;
 - iv) Maintain tracking and accountability of mission assigned resources; and
 - v) Coordinate on-going sustainment operations during response and recovery.

7. The ACG will facilitate planning and management for air support to joint, multi-agency task forces.
8. Agencies will provide assistance in accordance with plans and procedures developed in support of this appendix. It is the responsibility of each agency to maintain capabilities and resources necessary to carry out assigned mission and tasks.
9. Agencies will deploy resources and personnel in accordance with the laws, rules, regulations, policy and operating procedures established through local, state and federal authorities as appropriate.

B. Operational Priorities

1. Operational priorities will be determined based on the scope and magnitude of event, geographical locations, resource availability and environmental conditions and support to or restoration of lifeline sectors that are listed below.
 - a) Life-safety and life-essential missions;
 - b) Disaster intelligence and situational awareness;
 - c) Damage assessment and analysis;
 - d) Deployment of critical resources to impact areas;



- e) Delivery of alerts, warnings, notifications and public information, and

C. Organization

1. Direction, Control and Coordination.

- a) Upon activation of the ACG by the SEOC, the ACG Leader is the centralized point of contact for coordination of all aviation operations.
- b) IDOT-A will serve, or designate, an Air Coordination Group Leader.
- c) Upon approval by the SEOC, the ACG will coordinate the deployment of subject matter expert liaison officer(s) to be sent to alternate location(s) to ensure chain and unity of command.

2. Coordinating Elements

- a) SEOC notification, alert and warning of SEOC liaisons will be handled in accordance with IEOP Base Plan, Appendix A-1, Notification, Alert and Warning.
- b) Primary and support agencies are responsible for internal and support partner notification.
- c) To ensure operational and tactical coordination of communications throughout operations the ACG, in coordination with the SEOC Communications Liaison, will establish an integrated aviation communications plan for use by all aviation resources.
 - i) Upon the request of the SEOC IDOT-A Liaison and ACG Leader, the SEOC Manager may approve transition of ACG operations to the ILNG 183rd Wing Abraham Lincoln National Airport (KSPI) or other designated facility.
 - ii) Upon approval of the transition, the ACG Leader will ensure ongoing coordination and management of air assets by assigning a liaison to remain at the SEOC.

D. Federal Coordination

- 1- The ACG Leader, or designee, will serve as the operational interface with the FAA.



2. The FAA has jurisdictional authority over the National Airspace System (NAS) and Air Traffic Control (ATC) matters.

E. System Capabilities and Structure

1. The ACG is responsible for coordination of SEOC approved aviation missions including airspace management, flight operations, air mission coordination, aviation logistics and aviation safety.
2. To ensure operational coordination among all organizations and to affect missions, the ACG will develop an event specific aviation coordination plan.
3. The level of ACG activation will determine the positions required to respond to a given disaster.
4. Position specific responsibilities are provided in Tab A, Aviation Coordination Plan and Tab B - Organizational Structure of ACG.

III. Roles and Responsibilities

A. Illinois Department of Transportation – Division of Aeronautics (IDOT–A)

1. SEOC Liaison
 - a) Ensure operational coordination and communications with the SEOC Manager and aviation resources active throughout response and recovery.
 - b) Maintain situational awareness, coordinate and supervise aeronautical activity within the state during response and recovery operations.
 - c) Determine the need to activate the ACG in coordination with SEOC liaisons having a supportive role in aviation coordination.
 - d) Coordinate activation of the ACG with the SEOC Manager.
 - e) As directed by the SEOC Manager, coordinate air transportation for responders, executive staff, constitutional officers, and other authorized personnel from government agencies.
 - f) Coordinate with the SEOC manager, SEOC LNOs, federal agencies and designated private sector organizations to coordinate and implement programs for air safety and other aeronautical related areas.



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- g) Identify and provide maintenance facilities and personnel to provide logistical support to state aircraft dedicated to response and recovery operations.
 - h) Maintain lists of available resources including:
 - i) Licensed pilots registered in Illinois;
 - ii) Aircraft registered in Illinois;
 - iii) State owned aircraft, equipment, and aircrews, including UAS, and
 - iv) consulting engineering firms and partner agencies with aviation specialties can be found in Tab J.
 - i) Coordinate the identification of appropriate arterial routes for movement of aviation resources.
 - j) Coordinate the identification of appropriate civil engineering expertise in development, construction and maintenance of airports.
 - k) Provide flight safety coordinators responsible for certification and inspection of aviation facilities.
 - l) Maintain state owned aviation facilities, fuel supplies and capabilities.
 - m) Disseminate information to the SEOC, ACG, federal agencies and private sector organizations on ACG and state aviation activities and operations.
2. IDOT – Division of Aeronautics – Aviation Coordination Group Leader
- a) Determine ACG activation level necessary to coordinate aviation operations.
 - b) Coordinate activation of the ACG with the SEOC IDOT-A liaison and SEOC Manager.
 - c) Assign a deputy ACG leader as appropriate for operational coordination and communications.
 - d) Coordinate activities of the ACG at designated locations.



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- e) Develop a specific aviation coordination plan consistent with Section II, Concept of Operations, (E), System Capability and Structure, (2).
 - f) Assist the SEOC in creating a prioritized air request list in accordance with state disaster priorities.
 - g) Manage disaster air activities and aviation information flow, for all agencies with aviation assets, to include mission coordination planning, flight operations employment, air support logistical issues and flight safety.
 - h) Disseminate aviation management plans in coordination with SEOC, ACG, federal agencies and private sector organizations to facilitate the orderly ingress and egress of responders and the affected population.
- B. Illinois National Guard (ILNG)
- 1. SEOC Liaison
 - a) Identify and provide qualified personnel to assist in ACG functions.
 - b) Identify and provide aircraft in support of response and recovery to include transportation for:
 - i) Personnel, supplies and equipment;
 - ii) Life essential commodities;
 - iii) Emergency aerial evacuation, and
 - iv) Support of damage assessment.
 - c) Identify and provide personnel and equipment for air/ground communications and material/ground handling.
 - d) Assist with the coordination of aerial observation, photography and forward looking infrared (FLIR) devices.
 - e) Assist with the coordination of emergency aviation fuel support.
 - f) Determine staffing required and the need to request SEOC activation.



- g) Coordinate the use of military personnel and equipment for the transportation and relocation of resources, including personnel, supplies and equipment assigned aviation operations missions and tasks.
- h) Collect information and intelligence on military aviation capabilities and operations.
- i) Ensure the coordinated identification of primary, secondary and tertiary military resources necessary to support or sustain SEOC approved missions.
- j) Ensure the tracking of resources staged, activated, deployed and implementing approved missions and tasks.
- k) Provide routing information to the SEOC on resource deployments into and out of the state.
- l) Assist in coordination of the establishment of a Forward Area Refueling Point (FARP) to support aviation operations.

C. Illinois State Police (ISP)

1. SEOC Liaison

- a) Identify and provide qualified personnel to assist in ACG functions.
- b) Identify and provide aircraft in support of response and recovery to include transportation for:
 - i) Personnel, supplies, and equipment;
 - ii) Life essential commodities;
 - iii) Support of damage assessment;
 - iv) Emergency aerial evacuation, and
 - v) Support of damage assessment.
- c) Identify and provide aerial observation, photography and forward looking infrared (FLIR) devices.
- d) Assist with the coordination of emergency aviation fuel support.



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- e) Identify and provide personnel and equipment for air/ground communications and material/ground handling.
- f) Determine staffing required and the need to request SEOC activation.
- g) Coordinate the use of ISP personnel and equipment for securing and transportation or relocation of resources, including personnel, supplies and equipment assigned aviation operations missions and tasks.
- h) Collect information and intelligence on law enforcement aviation capabilities and operations.
- i) Ensure the coordinated identification of primary, secondary and tertiary law enforcement resources necessary to support or sustain SEOC approved missions.
- j) Ensure the tracking of resources staged, activated, deployed and implementing approved missions and tasks.
- k) Provide routing information to the SEOC on resource deployments into and out of the state.

D. Civil Air Patrol (CAP)

- 1. Identify and provide aircraft in support of response and recovery to include transportation for:
 - a) Personnel, supplies, and equipment;
 - b) Life essential commodities;
 - c) Support of damage assessment, and
 - d) Emergency aerial evacuation.
- 2. Identify and provide aerial observation, photography and forward looking infrared (FLIR) devices.
- 3. As requested by the SEOC assist state and local governments.
- 4. Conduct state requested USAF-assigned and approved missions under military command and control.
- 5. Supervise CAP subordinate units.



IV. Authority and References

A. Authorities

1. 620 ILCS 5/1 et.seq. “Illinois Aeronautics Act”, as amended
2. Rules and regulations of Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics, as amended
3. Illinois Emergency Management Act (20ILCS3305), as amended
4. Illinois National Guard Domestic Response Plan, as amended
5. Code of Federal Regulations, Title 14, as amended
6. Freedom from Drone Surveillance Act, 725 ILCS 167, as amended

B. References

1. Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5121 et seq., as amended
2. National Response Framework (NRF), as amended.
3. National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF), as amended.
4. IDOT – A Standard Operating Procedures, as amended.
5. Title 92: Transportation, Chapter I: Department of Transportation, Subchapter B: Aeronautics, Part 14 Aviation Safety, as amended.
6. FAA Advisory Circular 91-63D, Temporary Flight Restrictions, as amended

V. Attachments

- A. Tab A - ACG Activation Levels
- B. Tab B - Organizational Structure of ACG
- C. Tab C - Communications Plan
- D. Tab D - Logistics Support Plan - Aviation Fuel Maps
- E. Tab E - Resource Capability Matrix
- F. Tab F - ACG – Resource Typing Document



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- G. Tab G - Hazard Specific Routing – Earthquake
- H. Tab H – MOUs
- I. Tab I - UAS Operations
- J. Tab J – Partner Agencies