

# Alberta Parks Emergency Management Questionnaire

February 2021

## Overview

Large-scale and localized emergency events, like wildfires or floods, are increasing in frequency and intensity. These sudden events require park preparedness in the dual roles of evacuating people out of harm's way or receiving displaced communities and assets supporting response and recovery. Over the next two years, Alberta Parks is working to enhance response to disasters and emergencies, mitigate risks through risk assessments and mitigating measures, prepare adequately for all hazards and incident in parks, and outline recovery plans and crisis management for enhanced parks operations resiliency.

## The Ask

- Below are six questions sets – each one focused on an aspect of emergency management preparedness.
- You may respond directly into this document and/or provide separate/additional submission(s).
- Please provide response back **by March 15, 2021**.
- Responses and questions can be emailed to [Brad.Marshall@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Brad.Marshall@gov.ab.ca)
- A summary of findings will be compiled and shared back to the email address of all submitters.

## Questions

### 1. Emergency Response Plans

- a. Do you have Parks Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) at either the provincial/territorial, regional or park level? If so, could you forward a copy of any templates or examples used at any level? (please ensure any confidential information is redacted).
  - i. We have a high level ministry continuity/emergency plan, and each park has an individual detailed emergency plan (template attached).
- b. What frequency are ERPs reviewed and updated?
  - i. Annually
- c. Is any version of ERPs (whole, partial, simplified, redacted) proactively made available to the public, before a request comes forward?
  - i. No, internal documents, however shared with local RMs, and key stakeholders

### 2. Municipalities/First Nations/Industry Stakeholders

- a. Are local adjacent jurisdictions/major stakeholders involved or informed in any Parks ERPs and if so, to what extent?
  - i. Involved in the planning, members of the emergency control group, and participate in emergency exercises
- b. Are there regional or local, emergency focused, Mutual Aid Agreements and/or Memorandums of Understanding which Parks are signatories to? IF so, could you forward a copy of any templates or examples used at any level? (please ensure any confidential information is redacted)
  - i. We have several agreements with local FDs and other ministries such as Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA) and ministry of Environment (MoE).

### 3. Standardization

- a. Is Incident Command System-Canada (ICS-Canada) the standard your organization uses in training and response to incidents, impacting or involving parks? If not, please explain.
  - i. Yes

### 4. Training

- a. Do you have any minimum training standards, for any temporary or permanently assigned roles connected with emergency management?
  - i. Plans are required updating annually. At least one emergency exercise required each year . SPSA provide emergency management training for park staff when requested.
- b. If training is delivered, is it delivered internally, through government-wide centralized coordination, private sector sources, through partnerships or some other source?
  - i. In-house ICS training as well as inter-government training

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### 5. Staff Resourcing

- a. Is there any identified staffing allocations to Emergency Management in your organization, for planning and/or preparedness, specified in performance management documentation and measured in Full-Time-Equivalent positions (ie. 0.5 FTE)?
  - i. No
  - ii. The ministry has a Safety Branch that assists with a variety of safety issues
  - iii. The ministry does have two staff identified as Emergency Preparedness Officers in addition to their regular roles and responsibilities

### 6. Budget

- a. Is Emergency Management planning and/or preparedness funded in the annual operating budget and if so, what is the annual allocation and what deliverables does the funding enable?
  - i. Each park is responsible for updating and maintaining each emergency plan within their current allocated budget

### Wrap Up

Just a quick acknowledgement that responses to these types of asks require a bit of time, which is never in abundant supply. We appreciate your support towards protecting people and parks during times of imminent threat. On behalf of Alberta Parks, thank you for your attention and we look forward to sharing our findings back with you.