

North Carolina

Emergency
Operations
Procedures for
Drought emergencies

April 1994

NORTH CAROLINA
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROCEDURES
DROUGHT

I. PURPOSE

To provide an effective and systematic means of assessing and responding to the impact of drought on the water supply and agriculture in North Carolina.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. Drought is a cyclical weather phenomenon, which can have a definite and profound impact upon the physical-environment and social systems of North Carolina. These impacts are often ambiguous and complex and are usually related to such water use activities as: agriculture, municipal and industrial, commerce and tourism, fire suppression, and wildlife preservation. A reduction of electrical power generation and water quality deterioration may also occur. In addition, drought differs from other types of natural disaster, being progressive in nature and its is often not recognized until it has reached a severe level.
2. It is necessary to develop a drought response plan that provides a system for assessing a drought cycle's progress and for determining at which point a drought response should be activated. In so doing, a timely application of limited resources when utilized in a clear understanding of existing impacts, can reduce its effects.

B. Assumptions

1. Drought conditions can reduce the amount of water supply available for agriculture, municipalities, industry, commerce and tourism, fire suppression, and wildlife. A reduction of electrical power generation and water quality deterioration also may occur.
2. North Carolina state government will respond through a coordinated effort between the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) and those agencies or commissions represented by the Drought Monitoring Council (DMC) which possess the authority and resources available to the public for water shortage situations.
3. The Division of Forest Resources (DFR) will utilize certain water sources to respond to a wildland or grassland fire.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

In order for the State of North Carolina to deal more effectively with drought impacts, a dual system of assessment and responses has been established. Working in tandem the two systems support and are subordinate to the overall government process. A diagram of the Drought Assessment and Response System is shown in Attachment a.

A. The Assessment System

1. The assessment system calls for representatives from State and Federal agencies to form task forces that can rapidly evaluate and assess water availability and drought impacts and disseminate the information.
2. The assessment system utilizes a broad range of information sources, gathers and evaluates water resource data, and identifies existing and future water shortage areas. The Sequence of Action to be taken in the event of a drought is shown in Attachment b.
3. The Task Force Organization Chart showing the parent and supporting agencies is shown in Attachment c.
4. Task forces ensure expeditious reporting to the Drought Monitoring Council and to the response system of the Drought Response Plan.
5. Task forces are designed to assess the range of needs which can result from drought; if new problem areas arise, task forces will be generated to carry out pertinent assessment.
6. A task force is generally chaired by mid to senior level management appointed by the responsible State agency.

B. The Response System

1. The response system deals with unmet needs which fall within the capabilities of the State. When needs become excessive or extraordinary, recommendations are made to seek legislative or federal assistance.
2. Lead response State agencies concerned with drought problem areas are listed in Attachment d.
3. In order to avoid an ineffective response to drought, specific actions from State government must be geared to specifically identified problems.

4. As emerging drought conditions are identified and assessed by field forces, those impacts are reported to the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC), concerned departments of State government, as well as to the Drought Monitoring Council (DMC) for further analysis and development of recommendations.
5. When a department receives an impact assessment which requires response, this action is taken through existing programs according to established departmental criteria.
6. Response consist of any action taken to solve a given drought problem and ranges from media announcements to funding, or allocation of other resources.
7. Should an emergency situation threaten, the DMC will notify the State Emergency Response Team (SERT). The SERT actions include:
 - a. Review unmet needs identified by task forces and lead agencies.
 - b. Identify and recommend means to meet those needs.
 - c. Ensure inter-agency coordination.
 - d. Identify potential drought mitigation measures.
 - e. Determine when to deactivate as problems subside.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. General

1. The Drought Response Plan is comprised of both an assessment and response system that is supported by Task Forces, lead agencies, and commissions. The Drought Monitoring Council (DMC) is the primary working group coordinating and working with the SERT and assessment or response processes.
2. The Task Force Organization Chart, Attachment c identifies the parent and supporting agencies. Each parent agency and supporting agency will designate their agency drought coordinator and assign personnel and resources to the Task Force. The parent agency, Attachment c, will activate the task force in consultation with the SERT and the DMC.
3. The organization and purpose of each task force is described in detail in Attachments e through j. Each task force will coordinate with the report

all findings to the DMC. General functions applicable to each task force and other lead agencies or commissions working in an assessment or response system are as follows:

B. Assessment Task Forces

1. Drought Monitoring Council (DMC) (Attachment e)

- a. This is the primary Task Force coordinating and working with both assessment and response systems.
- b. Activates the drought response plan in accordance with the sequence of actions, (Attachment b).
- c. Makes water supply assessments and projections.
- d. Selects or develops specific formats for routine or special reports of the water supply assessment.
- e. Identifies water resource information gaps.
- f. Compiles all assessments of water supply capability to withstand the drought impact.
- g. The Division of Water Resources (DWR), which serves as the parent agency for the DMC, is responsible for activating the DMC.

2. Agriculture Task Force (Attachment f)

- a. Assessments should detail crop and livestock loss, soil erosion, insect and pest problems.
- b. The Department of Agriculture which serves as the parent agency is responsible for activating the Agriculture Task Force.
- c. Other tasks and duties are shown in Attachment f.

3. Economic Impact Task Force (Attachment g)

- a. Compile economic loss data from other impact task forces, by sector or region.
- b. Assessments should also include the loss of sales tax revenues, increase in unemployment, and decreases in tourism levels or lodging receipts.

- c. Identify major commercial and industrial problem areas.
 - d. The Department of Commerce which serves as the parent agency is responsible for activating the Economic Impact Task Force.
 - e. Other tasks and duties are shown in Attachment g.
4. Energy Loss Task Force (Attachment h)
- a. Assess total energy loss experienced from drought consequences.
 - b. Evaluate water shortage impact on electric power generation.
 - c. Identify major potential problem areas.
 - d. The Department of Commerce, which serves as the parent agency, is responsible for activating the Energy Loss Task Force.
 - e. Other tasks and duties are shown in Attachment h.
5. Health Task Force (Attachment i)
- a. Assess water restriction measures on community health.
 - b. Provide timely and required health need assessments.
 - c. Identify major potential health problem areas developing in the state.
 - d. The Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources, which serves as the parent agency, is responsible for activating the Health Task Force.
 - e. Other tasks and duties are shown in attachment i.
6. Water Sources Task Force (Attachment j)
- a. Identify and assess water sources within the problem areas.
 - b. Evaluate water withdrawal impact on water resources in the problem areas.
 - c. Identify nearby sources for water transfer.

- d. Identify, locate, and maintain an annual listing of water moving equipment.
- e. The Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, which serves as the parent agency is responsible for activating the Water Sources Task Force.
- f. Other tasks and duties are shown in Attachment j.

C. Response

All departments of State government will address drought related problems through normally established program activities and will cooperate with the lead response agencies, Attachment d, upon their request.

1. Lead Response Agencies

- a. Provide direction to all agencies concerned with drought response within their assigned area of responsibility, utilizing normal programs and resources available.
- b. Identify and report to the Drought Monitoring Council (DMC) problems resulting from drought impacts and responses.
- c. Identify and report to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Division of Emergency Management, potential drought effect mitigation measures which may be selected for funding under Section 404 of the Stafford Act, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program in the event of a Presidentially Declared Disaster.

2. The Environmental Management Commission

In the event the Governor declares an extreme water supply emergency, the Environmental Management Commission (EMC), under N.C. General Statute 143, may authorize “any country, city, or town, in which an emergency has been declared to divert water in the emergency area sufficient to take care of the needs of human consumption, necessary sanitation and public safety”, and “to make such reasonable rules and regulations governing the conservation and use of diverted waters...” The N.C. Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources (EHNR), Division of Water (DWR) in representing the Commission performs the following:

- a. Monitors existing raw water supplies, identifies alternate/emergency sources and evaluates system operations.

- b. Recognizes a governmental unit or municipality's potential for water shortages and may recommend:
 - (1) Restricting and conserving the use of water.
 - (2) Increasing the water supply.
- c. Upon request of the governing body of a county, city, or town, DWR on behalf of the Commission will determine whether the needs of human consumption, necessary sanitation, and public safety require emergency action.

V. EXISTING DROUGHT RELIEF PROGRAMS

There are State and Federal programs that can provide relief from the impacts of drought. State programs are few in number and limited in scope, while Federal programs are numerous and broad. All these programs are dependent on annual funding appropriations which vary from year to year. Therefore, the usefulness of these programs at a particular point in time may be limited.

VI. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

All agencies involved are to maintain logs and journals on activities as they concern financial matters, trip reports, matters of institutional knowledge and concern, recordings of vital data, and after action reports or critiques.

VII. ANNUAL REVIEW

These procedures will be reviewed annually by all concerned agencies. Suggested changes should be in written form denoting the exact paragraphs concerned with the listed subsituations. Additionally, the procedures will be utilized and evaluated during actual emergencies or exercises which concern its contents and notations made as to its adequacy and workability.

VIII. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

- A. NCGS 166A The North Carolina Emergency Management Act
- B. Executive Order 18 The Emergency Management Program
- C. NCGS 147-33.2 Emergency War Powers Act
- D. NCGS 14-288.1; Article 36A Riots and Civil Disorders

- E. PL 93-288: Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act as Amended
- F. North Carolina Emergency Operations Plan

ATTACHMENTS

- a. Relationship/Drought Assessment and Response System (chart)
- b. Sequence of Drought Actions
- c. Task Organization Assignments
- d. Lead Response Agencies
- e. Drought Monitoring Council (DMC)
- f. Agriculture Task Force
- g. Economic Impact Task Force
- h. Energy Loss Task Force
- i. Health Task Force
- j. Water Sources Task Force
- k. NC Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources Regional Offices

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROCEDURES
DROUGHT
ATTACHMENT B SEQUENCE OF DROUGHT ACTIONS

The N.C. Drought Emergency Operations Procedures will be activated by the Drought Monitoring Council (DMC) utilizing the Palmer Drought Severity Index. Although other methods have been developed and are in use on a regional level, the Palmer Index is the most widely accepted method of defining drought in the U.S. The use of this Index for defining the various phases of activation does not preclude the use of other systems as appropriate.

<u>Severity Indicators</u>	<u>Drought Response Plans</u>	<u>Actions Taken</u>
Normal	Normal Conditions	Technical data is monitored periodically by Division of Water Resources (DWR) and significant information sent to Emergency Management (EM).
Drought Emerges	Normal Conditions	DWR monitors maps, discusses trend with Drought Monitoring Council (DMC).
Drought Monitoring Council (DMC) determination for threshold conditions of Drought Indicators	Phase 1	DMC monitors technical data and developing trends.
DMC determination for Increasing Drought Severity Indicators	Phase 2	<p>Joint Public Information Officer (PIO) established by Department of Crime Control and Public Safety.</p> <p>The assigned PIO establishes the Joint Information Center (JIC) which provides media status information.</p> <p>DMC requests selective SERT activation in accordance with the EM Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).</p> <p>EM activates appropriate Task Forces (TF) and meets with DMC to outline Phase 2.</p>

Severity Indicators

Drought Response Plans

Actions Taken

<u>Severity Indicators</u>	<u>Drought Response Plans</u>	<u>Actions Taken</u>
		Supporting Task Forces activated, and make an initial assessment of drought impact.
		SERT provides periodic Situation Reports to the Governor.
		TF Chairpersons interface with the JIC for their areas of concern.
Ongoing	Phase 2	Lead agencies undertake response actions which are within their normal programs with the resources available.
		The SERT delineates any unmet needs which can be handled through the normal channels of the lead department.
DMC determination Severity Indicators and other "forecasts" worsen, unmet needs prevail	Phase 3	Environmental Management Commission (EMC) reviews and takes action as requested by DWR within statutory authorities.
		Task Forces continue to make assessments and reports.
		DMC reports unmet needs to the SERT.
		The SERT determines which needs can be met by reallocation of existing resources. Those which cannot be met are forwarded to the Governor within recommendations by the SERT.

Severity Indicators

Drought Response Plans

Actions Taken

SERT assembles data needed to support a request by the Governor for a Presidential Disaster Declaration or Declaration from U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

The Governor requests a Presidential Disaster Declaration or Agriculture Disaster Declaration from U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

A Presidential Disaster Declaration establishes the Director, Division of Emergency Management as State Coordinating Officer (SCO) for Drought.

State Coordinating Officer (SCO) interacts with FEMA to secure needed Federal assistance.

DMC determination Drought subsides

Leaving Phase 3

SERT determines if all requirements for assistance are now being met within established channels.

Return to Phase 2

Task Forces continue to make assessments and reports.

DMC Determination

Return to Phase 1

Task Forces terminate activity, issue final report.

DMC Determination

Return to Normal conditions

DMC returns to normal operations.

DWR & EM continue monitoring Drought Indicators and other informational sources on a normal basis.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROCEDURES
DROUGHT
ATTACHMENT C TASK ORGANIZATION ASSIGNMENT

PARENT AGENCIES

TASK FORCE

SUPPORTING AGENCIES

DROUGHT MONITORING
COUNCIL

*Division of Water Resources (DWR)
** (Chairperson)

Division of Environmental Health
Service (DEH)

Division of Environmental Management
(DEM)

Division of Soil and Water Conservation

Division of Emergency Management
(EM)

Utilities Commission

Division of Community Assistance

NC Cooperative Extension Service

Department of Agriculture

National Weather Service
(NWS)

National Oceanic Atmospheric
Administration (NOAA)

US Geological Survey (USGS)

Army Corps of Engineers (CEO)

Soil Conservation Service (SCS)

Farmers Home Administration
(FmHA)

NC Wildlife Resources
Commission (WRC)

Federal Emergency Management
Agency (FEMA) (Observer)

* Denotes Department/Agency responsible for appointing Task Force Chairperson.

** Other participating agencies may be selected by Task Force Chairperson and may include representatives from local and federal agencies, private industry, academic fields and other interested groups.

PARENT AGENCIES

TASK FORCE

SUPPORTING AGENCIES

WATER SOURCES

*Division of Water Resources (DWR)
** (Chairperson)

NC Cooperative Extension Service

Division of Environmental Health

Division of Environmental Management

Division of Soil and Water Conservation

Division of Emergency Management

NC Department of Agriculture

US Geological Survey (USGS)

Army Corps of Engineers (COE)

Tennessee Valley Authority
(TVA)

National Weather Service
(NWS)

Federal Emergency Response
Commission (FERC)
(Representative)

AGRICULTURE

* NC Department of Agriculture
** (Chairperson)

USDA State Emergency Board (SEB)

Small Business Administration (SBA)

Division of Forest Research (DFR)

Division of Soil and Water Conservation

* Denotes Department/Agency responsible for appointing Task Force Chairperson

** Other participating agencies may be selected by Task Force Chairperson and may include representatives from local and federal agencies, private industry, academic fields and other interest groups

ECONOMIC IMPACT

* Department of Commerce
** (Chairperson)

Department of Revenue (DOR)

Small Business Administration
(SBA)

Farmers Home Administration
(FmHA)

NC Department of Agriculture (NCDA)

Division of Social Services (DSS)

Department of Labor (DOL)

Council of Governments (COG)

ENERGY LOSS

* Division of Energy (ECD)
** (Chairperson)

Tennessee Valley Authority
(TVA)

NC Utilities Commission (NCUC)

Army Corps of Engineers (COE)

Division of Water Resources (DWR)

Federal Emergency Response
Commission (FERC)
(Representatives)

HEALTH

* Department of Environment,
Health and Natural Resources
(EHNR)
** (Chairperson)

US Department of Health and
Human Resources (DHHR)

NC Department of Labor (DOL)

US Department of Labor
(OSHA)

Division of Environmental Health (DEH)

Environmental Protection
Agency (EPA)

* Denotes Department/Agency responsible for appointing Task Force Chairperson.

** Other participating agencies may be selected by Task Force Chairperson and may include representatives from local and federal agencies, private industry, academic fields and other interested groups.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROCEDURES
DROUGHT
ATTACHMENT D LEAD RESPONSE AGENCIES

<u>LEAD RESPONSE AGENCY</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>
Department of Crime Control & Public Safety (CC&PS) -Division of Emergency Management	Monitor Drought condition and Task Forces, respond to life threatening situation/federally declared disasters; assist/coordinate in other federal assistance
Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources (EHNR) -Division of Water Resources -Division of Forest Resources -Wildlife Resource Commission -Division of Environmental Health -Division of Environmental Management -Division of Soil and Water Conservation	Fire suppression in wildlands/grasslands & wildlife protection; oversight of public health municipal water/sewer system; assist with system leak detection; water sources.
Department of Agriculture -Food and Agriculture Council (FAC) -State Emergency Board (SEB)	Agriculture; promotion of water conservation use measures for agriculture; interface with federal agricultural agencies, disaster/emergency assistance.
Department of Commerce -Utilities Commission -Energy Division	Economic impacts, utility impacts, energy loss.
Department of Insurance -Division of Safety Services	Water sources for firefighting.
Department of Human Resources (DHR) -Division of Social Services (DSS)	Assist Emergency Management (EM) in meeting individual needs.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROCEDURES
DROUGHT
ATTACHMENT E DROUGHT MONITORING COUNCIL

I. PURPOSE

The Drought Monitoring Council (DMC) is established to make assessments as to the impact suffered by State water resources during drought. These assessments will be based upon the most recent data available from each system manager or engineer, both in terms of prevention and resolution. The DMC is responsible advising the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) as to possible responses which may be expected from available resources.

II. ORGANIZATION

The DMC is comprised of representatives of the following agencies, and may be changed by the chairperson as required:

- Division of Water Resources (Agency providing Chairperson)
- Division of Environmental Health
- Division of Environmental Management
- Utilities Commission
- Division of Soil and Water Conservation
- Division of Community Assistance
- Division of Emergency Management
- NC Cooperative Extension Service
- Department of Agriculture

Other Possible Agencies:

- UNC Water Resources Research Institute
- Council of Government(s)

III. PROCEDURES

The DMC will meet to agree upon assessment methodology, and will operate from the standpoint that the group forms assessment decisions which will be made available to the appropriate response and/or funding agencies. Possible funding agencies are represented on the DMC. Assessments should emphasize the identification of municipal water supply sources, such as reservoirs, direct stream flow, and ground water supply within a water system's capability to withstand the drought. Members will utilize their various information resources to develop water availability statistical data and trends. Data collection, evaluation, and reporting identifies the major problem areas across the State by drainage basin or by geographical/political subdivisions. Specific tasks are as follows:

- A. Review and update these procedures upon activation of the Task Force.
- B. Make assessments and projections based on technical factors.
- C. Select or develop specific formats for reporting of the above assessment or projection information.
- D. Determine requirements for routine and special reports.
- E. Synthesize data to provide pertinent Task Forces with availability/storage estimates by river basin or as appropriate.
- F. Identify resource information gaps, making recommendations to increase required input.
- G. Obtain site specific data to provide Task Forces with water availability/shortage estimates by river basins as appropriate.
- H. Meet as necessary to review and update procedures and situations throughout the State.
- I. Response agencies will react as appropriate. All actions are to be reported to the DMC.
- J. All occurring grants, loans, or other emergency assistance measures will be reported to the Drought Monitoring Council (DMC).
- K. Develop the methodology for assessment of needs, working with current problems.
- L. Make assessments and direct the data to the SERT for appropriate response agencies.
- M. Develop and implement a follow-up process for determining and recording the extent of mitigation which occurs in each emergency situation.
- N. Develop a method for periodic contact with the more critical areas noted in the list of municipalities.
- O. Contingent upon the various resource information available, data banks and other sources, upon activation the DMC will take the following action to carry out its tasks:
 - 1. On a recurring basis, routinely provide a Water Supply Report comprised of information on precipitation, stream flow, reservoir storage levels, Palmer Indices, weather forecasts, and other pertinent data.

2. Provide supplemental reports whenever a significant weather event occurs or a special report is forthcoming.
3. Coordinate special data requirements of Assessment Task Forces with resource agencies as needed.
4. Each agency represented on the DMC may continue to publish and disseminate its normal reports as needed.
5. Continuous emphasis will be placed on providing accurate, real time assessments of water availability.
6. Consult with the SERT on the use of pipe and container inventory as deemed necessary.
7. The DMC will meet at the call of the Chairperson.
8. Adjustments and changes to these procedures may be made with the approval of the DMC body as required.
9. Oversee and direct the tasking and reporting allocated to the Water Sources Task Force.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROCEDURES
DROUGHT
ATTACHMENT F AGRICULTURE TASK FORCE

I. PURPOSE

North Carolina periodically experiences drought conditions of varying degrees of severity. The length and degree of intensity of a drought produces an impact on the State's agriculture industry that can be devastating to many farmers and others depending upon agri-business. As drought conditions escalate so that impacts on agriculture can be identified, there is a need to develop timely assessments so that an effective response can be generated.

The purpose of these procedures are to describe the system for agriculture drought-damage assessment. This will include defining the procedures and responsibilities of federal, state, and local governments in assembling and evaluating data, making assessments and projections, identifying sources of assistance,, reporting and making recommendations to concerned publics, the Drought Monitoring Council (DMC), and other concerned elements of government, as needed.

II. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. As indicated earlier, drought differs from other types of natural disasters in that it is progressive in nature, and its presence may not be recognized until it has reached a severe level. Because of this peculiarity, a more coordinated and concerted effort is needed for assessing a drought cycle's progress and for determining at which point a drought response should be activated.

B. The Agricultural Task Force will represent a coordinated approach to assessing the impacts of drought upon agriculture. It will be composed of representatives of:

- The NC Department of Agriculture (Agency providing chairperson)
- NC Cooperative Extension Service
- NC Division of Forest Resources
- NC Division of Soil & Water Conservation
- USDA State Emergency Board

and other agencies as designated by the Chairperson/

The State Emergency Board is comprised of USDA agencies that have a specific task for program related to agricultural disasters.

C. This Task Force will be an assessment group which will serve as a collection point for data provided by the State Emergency Board and other information published on the condition of agricultural commodities. The Task Force will identify the

potential impacts of a drought, and track their occurrence and intensity. It will NOT become involved in the response of various agencies to a declared drought emergency, or initiate data collection activities. Rather, the findings and recommendations of this Task Force will be assimilated into the overall State drought assessment and help assure effective response capabilities, as well as provide documentation for any emergency declaration.

- D. Individual agency or industry programs will not be subjected to Task Force approval, but will be expected to proceed as planned. A purpose of the Task Force is to augment such programs.
- E. The Task Force will develop information from a variety of sources. Analysis, evaluation, and reporting will focus on major problems present or likely to occur. Such data and reports will be exchanged freely among the various Impact Assessment Task Forces, and will be presented as they develop to the overall Drought Assessment System.
- F. Task Force Members

The Task Force shall be composed of the following agencies and agricultural industry advisory groups with these responsibilities and tasks:

1. State Department of Agriculture - Lead Agency

Provides coordination and liaison with USDA agencies, State agencies, local government, and Agricultural Industry Groups, and appoints Task force Chairperson.

2. USDA Agencies

- a. State Emergency Board (SEB)

The membership of the SEB shall consist of representatives of the ten USDA agencies having major crisis responsibilities in the field. Their crisis responsibilities are contained in USDA Departmental Regulations 1800-1 dated March 5, 1993. Subject: Departmental Emergency Programs Responsibilities.

- (1) Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS)
- (2) Soil Conservation Service (SCS)
- (3) Extension (SEA/E)
- (4) Farmers Home Administration (FmHA)

- (5) Rural Electrification Administration (REA)
 - (6) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)
 - (7) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
 - (8) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)
 - (9) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)
 - (10) Forest Service (FS)
- b. County Emergency Boards (CEB). The four USDA agencies providing personnel to the CEB and ASCS, SEA/E, FmHA, and SCS.
3. Agricultural Industry Advisory Groups
 4. The Chair may add other agencies to serve on the Task Force on a regular basis.
 5. Task Force members must be able to speak for their agencies and be empowered to make reasonable commitments toward cooperation and coordination of drought-triggered activities.

III. PROCEDURES

A. Activation

The Task Force will be activated only during drought or anticipated drought. Meeting frequency will be determined by the Chairperson. Acknowledgment is made concerning the inadequacies of the Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) as it relates to the onset and/or severity of Agricultural Drought. Therefore, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture which serves as Lead Agency shall activate the Task Force if one or more of the following situations occur:

1. Subnormal precipitation in periods effecting growing seasons in a major agricultural area of North Carolina, resulting in decreased production.
2. Request of the Governor.
3. Request of the Drought Monitoring Council Chairperson.

B. Meeting Frequency

Once activated, the Task Force will meet at the call of the Chairperson for situation assessment, problem analysis, and assignment of duties; and for compilation and approval of reports. Additional meetings and activities will be called by the Chair as the situation necessitates.

B. Meeting Frequency

Once activated, the Task Force will meet at the call of the Chairperson for situation assessment, problem analysis, and assignment of duties; and for compilation and approval of reports. Additional meetings and activities will be called by the Chair as the situation necessitates.

C. Duties and Activities

The Agriculture Task Force should consider tapping the talents of others on agency staffs and/or the formation of Special Working Teams to accomplish the work of the Task Force in a timely manner. As a minimum, the Task Force should:

1. Review its guidelines and procedures; update or revise as necessary.
2. Assemble and evaluate impact data.
3. Assess current and potential severity of impacts.
4. Make projections for several scenarios.
5. Analyze barriers and needs to meet projected threats.
6. Identify sources of assistance.
7. Recommend response levels and activities.
8. Estimate costs of needed augmentation activities.
9. Write reports; deliver in a timely manner.
10. Maintain supporting data and records of activities.

D. Data Sources

Emphasis will be on utilization of existing resources, mechanisms, and reports to gather data. Basic data will come from the following:

1. Natural Disaster Damage Assessment Report

Report shall be completed when requested by SEB or Governor through North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

2. USDA Flash Situation Report

Report to be completed when requested by SEB or Governor through North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

E. Use of Data

Input data will be used to help assess the scope of current and expected drought impacts. Analysis of the threats leads to recommendations for supplementing or changing the intensity and mix of inter-agency drought program activities.

F. Outputs

Task Force efforts must result in several essential products:

1. Review of existing drought reporting and analyzing capabilities in relationship to current and/or potential threats.
2. Inventory of additional or special resource availability, costs, and procedures for activation.
3. Identification of key contact points with support service agencies and agricultural industries.
4. Identification and description of response actions that are available.
5. Projection of impacts of drought to agricultural economy.
6. Recommendations or response to drought impacts.
7. Procedures for coordination with other task forces.

G. Reports

The intensity and extent of drought will dictate the frequency of reports. Reports will be issued to the following:

1. Drought Monitoring Council.
2. Other governmental agencies.
3. Special reports will be issued as conditions warrant or as requested.

H. Termination

The Task Force will terminate its ongoing activities in accordance with the Drought Severity Indicators and Sequence of Actions. A final Task Force Report to the DMC will be written upon termination of Task Force activities.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROCEDURES
DROUGHT
ATTACHMENT G ECONOMIC IMPACT TASK FORCE

I. Purpose

The purpose of this attachment is to describe the procedures and organization for economic impact assessment as a part of the overall State Drought Assessment System.

II. ORGANIZATION

As conditions worsen, a Task Force will be activated to assess economic impacts of the drought. This Task Force will be comprised of representatives of the following agencies and may be expanded as necessary:

- Department of Commerce (Agency providing Chairperson)
- Department of Revenue
- Division of Social Services
- Department of Labor
- Department of Agriculture
- Council of Governments

III. PROCEDURES

- A. The Task Force will function in accordance with the Sequence of Actions described in Attachment b.
- B. Once activated, the Task Force will meet at the call of the Chairperson for situation assessment, problem analysis and assignment of responsibilities.
- C. The Task Force will study the feasibility and enlist the involvement of appropriate individuals concerned with the use of economic simulation models to project drought related economic impacts on a regional and statewide basis.
- D. Using information provided by the Task Force, current drought conditions will be reviewed and their effects on the economy will be assessed. The assessment will be provided to the Drought Monitoring Council (DMC) as well as to the lead response agencies. Specific tasks include:
 - 1. Upon activation, review and update this Annex.
 - 2. Identify actual and potential economic impacts from drought in regions of the State identified by other Task Forces as those most likely to experience significant impacts.

3. Identify counties that have or will experience significant additional social services expenses in making assistance payments to drought victims.
 4. Identify significant actual or potential revenue losses of local and State governments.
 5. Identify and compile the economic impacts associated with major commercial and industrial problem areas.
 6. Identify assessment resource shortfalls and necessary tools for effective assessment procedures, take action to meet these assessment needs.
 7. Provide recommendations for mitigation and response to actual and potential economic drought impacts.
 8. Develop and provide monthly or as needed assessment reports on those regions of the State most severely affected by a drought.
- E. All Task Force members will serve without special compensation. Special funding requirements to support assessment activities will be reported to the Drought Oversight Task Force.
- F. A final Task Force report will be submitted upon termination of activities.

IV. REPORTS

DEPARTMENTS

NC Department of Agriculture

NC Department of Human Resources

NC Department of Commerce

NC Department of Revenue

Council of Governments

REPORTS

Reports of the Agriculture Impact Assessment Task Force.

Number of general assistance cases and payments made per county.

Number of persons receiving unemployment benefits by county.

Estimate of the number employed in each major industry in the State. More extensive reports of employment impacts from drought.

Change in retail sales by type for specified regions of the State.

Impact on individual income.

Net equity change, loans, and deposits, and liquidity problems in state chartered commercial and industrial banks and loans.

Estimated monthly State revenues.

Provide timely informal reports and surveys of revenue outlook for individual municipalities.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROCEDURES
DROUGHT
ATTACHMENT H ENERGY LOSS TASK FORCE

I. PURPOSE

The Energy Loss Task Force is established to investigate and react to hydroelectric energy loss due to drought.

II. ORGANIZATION

The Energy Loss Task Force is comprised of representatives from the following agencies and may be changed by the Chairperson as required:

- Division of Energy (ECD) (Agency providing chairperson)
- NC Utilities Commission (NCUC)
- Division of Water Resources (DWR)

III. PROCEDURES

The Energy Loss Task Force will meet to identify and assess drought hydroelectric energy loss as appropriate. These assessments may serve to point out potential energy impacts within certain geographical areas. Specific Drought season tasks include:

- A. Contact and coordinate with appropriate utilities to provide continuing assessment of all impacts on the energy operating system.
- B. Identify, outline, and determine geographic hydroelectric energy impacts resulting from loss of adequate water levels.
- C. Assist private and public utilities in implementing their response plans.
- D. Assess all apparent and ramifying implications pertinent to the immediate problems such as societal, social, economic, and environmental consequences of the situation.
- E. Provide media input to the Joint Information Center (JIF) for dissemination to the public.
- F. Depending on drought conditions and the severity of the situation, convene the Task Force for periodic assessment information gathering, and reporting to the Drought Monitoring Council/State Emergency Response Team (DMC/SERT) as may be required.
- G. At the conclusion of the emergency, compile a final report as required prior to deactivation of the Task Force.

- H. Establish procedural tasking for the evaluation of specific hydroelectric energy loss.
- I. Conduct assessments and report the findings to the DMC on the current and potential hydroelectric energy loss.
- J. Provide realistic and periodic assessments as the situation may warrant.
- K. Exchange timely information with private and public utilities on hydroelectric energy loss assessment and response requirements.
- L. Advise and recommend courses of action in energy loss response and recovery to the DMC/SERT.
- M. Exercise recovery liaison with the appropriate utilities for the availability of adequate energy supplies.
- N. Emphasize appropriate actions including conservation to the geographical area concerned.
- O. Monitor and report adverse affects of the results of water shortage on hydroelectric plants including utility redirection of energy supply.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROCEDURES
DROUGHT
ATTACHMENT I HEALTH TASK FORCE

I. PURPOSE

The drought Health Task Force is designated to investigate and report to the Drought Monitoring Council (DMC) adverse health conditions caused by water shortages and to recommend appropriate responses.

II. ORGANIZATION

The Health Task Force is comprised of representatives of the following agencies although the composition may be changed as required by the chairperson:

- Division of Adult Health Services (EHNR) (agency providing Chairperson)
- Division of Environmental Health (EHNR)
- Division of Epidemiology (EHNR)
- Division of Food and Drug Protection (AGRI)
- Veterinary Division (AGRI)
- Division of Facility Services (DHR)
- Division of Aging (DHR)
- Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (DHR)

III. PROCEDURES

The Health Task Force will meet during periods of water shortage to identify and assess drought related health problems and report findings to the State Health Director, the Drought Monitoring Council (DMC), and the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) as directed. Specific health related concerns will require the following:

- A. Contact and coordinate with the pertinent governmental and private agencies concerned with drought related health problems.
- B. Investigation and evaluation of appropriate aspects of environmental health related to the drought situation.
- C. Investigation and evaluation of pertinent epidemiological ramifications of the drought impact throughout the affected geographical area.
- D. Examination and study of the effects of water shortage on Food and Drug implications in appropriate areas as necessary.

- E. Conduct of required examinations into veterinary health problems created by the drought as the chairperson may deem necessary, but particularly in such categories as meat and poultry diagnostics which may pose a danger to human consumption.
- F. Inquire into and report of effects of extended drought on services such as home health, group care, detention centers, and medical centers in urban and rural settings.
- G. Research of current consequences of difficulties experienced by the aging population during a drought as encountered by home and community based services or health and family services.
- H. Determination of requirements for Mental Health Counseling as required for drought related difficulties in appropriate jurisdictions.
- I. Assessment of water restriction measures on community health.
- J. Collection and evaluation of drought health impact data.
- K. Assessment of current and potential severity of all health impacts.
- L. Make projections based on current data for all categories of drought health concern and update these projections periodically as required during the water shortage crisis.
- M. Identification and evaluation of potential health problems developing throughout the state which were caused by the drought.
- N. Identification of sources of assistance.
- O. Recommendation of response levels and required activities.
- P. Estimation of costs of required assistance.
- Q. Maintains supporting data and records of activities.
- R. Submit after-action report to the DMC detailing any suggestions for mitigation of health problems relating to drought.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROCEDURES
DROUGHT
ATTACHMENT J WATER SOURCES TASK FORCE

I. PURPOSE

The Water Sources Task Force is established to investigate and specify available water sources during drought, and report this information to the DMC. These assessments are based upon the ADHOC water situation in the state and differs from all other assessments in that it brings to bear the very latest information. Additionally, this TF may be called upon during a serious water shortage to activate water moving projects as may be required.

II. ORGANIZATION

The Water Sources Task Force is comprised of representatives from the following agencies, and may be changed by the chairperson as required:

- Division of Water Resources (Agency providing Chairperson)
- Division of Environmental Health
- Division of Environmental Management
- Division of Soil and Water Conservation
- Division of Emergency Management
- NC Department of Agriculture
- NC Cooperative Extension Service

III. PROCEDURES

The Water Sources Task Force will meet to identify and assess available water sources in the water shortage areas. These assessments may serve to point out water holding systems present with the calculated volumes of water currently held in view of projected consumption and replenishment. Specific drought season tasks include:

- A. Establishing procedures for the specific period concerned.
- B. Making specific investigation and inquiries to identify surplus water in the problem areas including adjacent and adjoining soil and water conservation districts.
- C. Establishing reporting updates on a timely and recurring basis from all sources present.
- D. Analyzing and calculating reports to provide current water availability information to the DMC.
- E. Identifying water conservation requirements to minimize water consumption and extend available resources.

- F. Establishing a meeting schedule to ensure ongoing evaluation and response to the water situation.
- G. Monitoring water supply and demand to determine recommendations on how to allocate existing supplies.
- H. Monitoring water supply conditions and the effectiveness of water conservation measures.
- I. Continuing to monitor water supply and demand throughout the water shortage.
- J. Utilizing the talents of other agency staff by the formation of special working teams as needed.
- K. Establishing procedural tasking for the evaluation of specific water resources.
- L. Providing weekly assessments on current and potential water supply.
- M. Monitoring and evaluating local methodology for measuring water supply and water use during water shortage conditions.
- N. Providing timely information to local officials in order to permit community cooperation for water shortage conservation.
- O. Exploring and reporting possibilities for supplementing local water supplies.
- P. Advising and recommending water conservation phasing to agriculture and community water supplies.
- Q. Emphasizing voluntary conservation when conditions indicate the potential for serious water supply shortages.
- R. Emphasizing mandatory conservation as soon as there are visible or measurable signs that water supplies are significantly lower than the seasonal norm, and are diminishing.
- S. During a water shortage emergency phase stress stringent conservation measures.
- T. Rationing should take place only when supply is clearly inadequate to meet projected demands.
- U. Monitoring and reporting adverse affects of the result of water shortage on waste treatment plants and agricultural and industrial discharges.

- V. Compiling special reports as required by the DMC.
- W. Establishing and maintaining an annual inventory listing, obtained from public and private agencies who may have resources such as water buffaloes, irrigation pipes, pumps, portable water treatment plants, and other items as may be appropriate.
- X. Providing direction for the development of personnel and equipment available within support governmental agencies in response to a drought situation as requested by the DMC and SERT.