Wildland Fire Evacuation Congregate Shelter Operations in a COVID-19 Pandemic

Overview

This guidance addresses the tactics of sheltering due to wildland fire in a COVID-19 environment.

Fire events that threaten homes and businesses through direct impact, isolation by fire, or related heavy smoke conditions may cause evacuation sheltering needs due to a rapid evacuation of people. In 2019, 1 percent of wildland fires on federal lands became "raging, destructive fires." Fires that are not contained and transition into an "extended attack" phase cause significant damage and related mass care needs in populated areas, including the *wildland urban interface* (see definition below).

To these considerations, decision makers must add the fear and risk of COVID-19 when planning for this year's wildland fire season. To mitigate the risk of exposure, the Red Cross highly prefers non-congregate sheltering options -- but congregate shelters will almost certainly be needed during the wildland fire season due to a combination of a geographical relaxing of shelter-in-place requirements, time compression, logistical coordination and communication, and lack of available non-congregate options.

Definitions

From the National Wildfire Coordinating Group:

- **Wildland fire** – Any non-structure fire that occurs in vegetation or natural fuels. Wildland fire includes prescribed fire and wildfire.
- **Wildfire** – A wildland fire originating from an unplanned ignition, such as lightning, volcanos, unauthorized and accidental human-caused fires, and prescribed fires that are declared wildfires.
- **Wildland urban interface** (WUI) – The line, area, or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetation fuels.

Audience

The information contained in this job tool applies to region and division leadership planning for wildland fire season, DRO Directors, DRO Assistant Directors, Deputy Assistant Directors of Response, and HQ Mass Care Chiefs.

Planning Assumptions for Wildland Fire Season 2020

1. Planning assumptions are assertions about the characteristics of the future that underlie our operations. Planning assumptions change as our operating environment changes. The Red Cross must communicate now and throughout the season with government and non-government partners, including public health, to ensure an alignment of planning assumptions and the best

options for evacuees and shelter residents. See the Disaster Cycle Services COVID-19 Compendium to guide these important conversations.

The most important planning assumptions for the 2020 wildland fire season are:

- COVID-19 will continue to be a significant public health threat.
- There will be an increase in COVID-19 cases coinciding with peak fire season in many locations.
- COVID-19 will cause a severe scarcity of human and material resources and degrade local and national supply chains.
- Fear of COVID-19 infection will drive changes to evacuation-related decision making.
- On average, 6 percent of a wildland fire evacuation population has an unmet need for shelter.
- Virtual emergency operations center/incident command post (EOC/ICP) structures and reporting delays may reduce the time available for effective analysis and decision making.
- There is no nationally consistent wildland fire warning and evacuation system so there will be inconsistency about the timing and communication of evacuation orders.
- Local authorities will be primarily responsible for wildland fire evacuation orders.
- Shelter options may be limited by non-standard school opening dates.
- Agencies will minimize use of fire camps and occupy more non-congregate facilities, potentially limiting non-congregate shelter options.
- Regions will coordinate with government to identify and activate locations that will not be threatened by fire patterns/direction. This will require constant communication with government to adjust plans based upon fire growth/pattern changes.
- There will be public safety power shutoffs in some jurisdictions that may result in increased shelter populations and reduced shelter workforce availability.
- The size and scope of wildland fires exceeds current wildland fire models and related planning assumptions.
- Fire and smoke conditions will drive additional demand for personal protective equipment (PPE) across and beyond fire-affected areas.
- Evacuation sheltering may be required in peripheral or non-impact areas due to heavy smoke conditions.
- Wildland Urban Interface fires happen in urban/suburban/exurban areas, impacting larger populations. Evacuation from these areas will rapidly increase shelter populations.
- Evacuees impacted by wildland fires will evacuate first to family, friends, neighbors, recreational vehicles/campers, or available non-congregate shelters.
- Some residents will stay and defend their properties.
- We will see an increase in clients seeking nontraditional methods of sheltering to maintain isolation or social distancing. Example: Clients may want to stay in their cars, tents, or RVs at official shelter locations.

- Some evacuees will go to ad-hoc and unofficial shelter sites, e.g. “big box store” parking lots.
- Congregate sheltering will not be avoidable because non-congregate sheltering options will not always be available or sufficient to the needs of the evacuation.
- The Red Cross has established and resourced a single, unified COVID-19 safety standard for congregate shelters designed to minimize the risk of infection. We will apply this standard to planning for all sheltering missions in all locations during the pandemic.
- If non-congregate options are limited, we will prioritize non-congregate for those with the highest risk for COVID-19.
    - The Red Cross factors the evacuation of tourist and homeless populations into all planning efforts.
- Solutions will vary by time, location, and perception of risk. Red Cross will offer multiple options with multiple partners, including government, commercial lodging operators, universities and colleges, faith-based organizations, and others, based on specific local and regional resources and needs.
- Services traditionally provided in congregate shelters will also be provided in non-congregate shelters. However, we may modify the tactics for the delivery of these services to ensure adherence to social distancing guidelines and to limit person-to-person interactions, with preference for virtual support.
- Responders and shelter residents will have a heightened state of anxiety, which could lead to impaired decision-making, irritability, and fear. Accordingly, there will be a need to provide higher levels of support and promote self-care.
- Healthy shelter residents will become part of our congregate shelter workforce.
- The nature of wildland fire evacuations, damage levels and the impacts on a community may prolong shelter stays for clients.

Types of Congregate Shelters and Transitional Evacuation Sites

During wildland fire evacuations, the Red Cross may manage and/or support various types of evacuation shelters and facilities. Not all types of shelters are used in every state, county/parish, or event. Any sites which do not fit the definitions below do not receive Red Cross resources. Contact the Division Disaster Executive if asked to support any such facilities.

Congregate Shelters

- **Red Cross-Managed Shelter**: Red Cross-managed shelters are operated in cooperation with a variety of partners. Partners include facility owners and other agencies that provide niche services, supplies, and equipment, or staff members who are willing to participate as Red Cross workers to help the population within the shelter.

- **Red Cross Partner-Managed Shelter:** Red Cross partners manage shelters following Red Cross principles and in cooperation with the Red Cross. The Red Cross often supports partner-

managed shelters with human and material resources and subject matter expertise; therefore, "Red Cross-supported" shelters are now included as partner-managed shelters.

- **Independent:** Independent organizations manage shelters without operational support from the Red Cross. Independent shelters include those sometimes referred to as pop-up, ad-hoc, or spontaneous shelters.

- **Point-to-Point Shelter:** These are government-managed locations agreed to by a host county or parish and an at-risk county or parish and allow for direct evacuation of a designated population from one location to a second safer location. The agreement between entities often articulates the responsibilities of host and at-risk governments, as well as the coverage of direct and indirect costs.

- **Medical Needs Shelter(**Special Needs Shelters, Special Medical Needs Shelters_. In some states, these shelters are designed to support individuals who have medical issues requiring care beyond the capability of a general population shelter. Local, state, or tribal governments establish special medical needs shelters in coordination with public health and social services agencies. Relevant government jurisdictions may coordinate with the Red Cross regarding support for these shelters. **Functional and Access Needs clients are always welcome in Red Cross shelters.**

- **Pet/Animal Shelter: Pet/Animal Shelter:** Only government or community-based agencies manage these shelters. (See *Pets in Shelters* in the COVID-19 DCS Compendium).

Transitional Evacuation Sites

In the instance of wildland fire evacuations, many jurisdictions use short term transitional locations or sites for information, triage, safety, assembly and registration needs, prior to moving to evacuation shelters. These government-managed sites are open for a few hours only and do not typically provide meals or cots. Red Cross activities should be defined during pre-planning.

States, counties and other jurisdictions may use different naming conventions for these transitional sites. Examples include:

- **Temporary Evacuation Point (TEP):** Governments manage evacuation points as central gathering places for people connected to an evacuation.
- **Lily-Pad**: This is a pre-identified, elevated, unmanned drop-off point for search and rescuers.
- **Shelter Information Point**: A government manages a shelter information point as a central location used to direct evacuees to shelters. Governments may also offer other services at these locations.

When government activates a transitional evacuation site, they may request Red Cross support, which may include.:

- Assisting with distribution of blankets, comfort kits, and other relief items
- Supplying snacks and water
- Providing disaster information

- Coordinating with site agencies on Mass Care issues
- Assisting government screening/registration and routing clients to shelter options

The Red Cross prioritizes its resources to manage and support the operations of evacuation shelters and not to transitional evacuation sites. Our commitment to support transitional evacuation sites cannot negatively impact our capacity to open and/or support congregate shelters and non-congregate facilities.

Transitional evacuation sites must plan for a transition to congregate care, following our sheltering standards and services, including our standards and services for shelter operations during COVID-19.

Division Disaster Executives or Red Cross Coordinating Officers must approve the use of any Red Cross resources at facilities or locations established as evacuation centers.

Requirements of Wildland Fire Evacuation Sheltering

The Red Cross has established guidelines for all sheltering operations to enable Red Cross disaster relief operations (DROs) to rapidly support evacuating populations. These requirements ensure the safety of the Red Cross workforce and its clients, and the delivery of consistent services that meet Red Cross standards. These requirements are:

1. Red Cross regions collaborate with public health, emergency management agencies, and fire departments to determine appropriate roles and areas of mutual interest, and ensure they are consistent with our mission.
2. The Red Cross role may vary by jurisdiction, so it is important to understand our role in evacuation sheltering in each specific jurisdiction.
3. Red Cross workers must follow all standards described in this and other doctrine at all facilities or locations where they are assigned, regardless of orders by relevant jurisdictions regarding social distancing and use of cloth face coverings.
4. Any commitments of Red Cross support for non-Red Cross-managed wildland fire evacuation shelters require documentation.
5. Red Cross support of partner-managed shelters is predicated on partner commitment to:
    - Provide services to all persons affected by the disaster;
    - Not discriminate;
    - Not turn individuals away or take actions likely to keep individuals from entering a shelter because of race, color, national origin, religion, age or disability, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation, citizenship, immigration status, veteran status, or pre-disaster housing situations.
6. All Red Cross disaster relief operations maintain regular contact with public health and emergency management agencies to ensure:
    - The Red Cross opens wildland fire evacuation shelters in advance of potential evacuation orders and in coordination with authorities, or upon a formal evacuation order;

- The Red Cross is ready to fulfill obligations in facilities for which it has committed in writing to a support role.

7. In the COVID-19 environment, the Red Cross will provide human resources to support only those shelters that comply with our published standards for infection control, including social distancing, screening, isolation, and dormitories. Division Disaster Executives may, on a case-by-case basis in urgent circumstances, choose to provide material (but not human) support for facilities that are not fully compliant with Red Cross standards.

8. Facilities should have central air conditioning with filtration that is medium or high efficiency, especially at the fresh (outdoor) air intake. Facilities should continue to provide adequate air filtration for the expected number of occupants in the space. Portable air cleaners can be used in spaces that can achieve a smoke clean air delivery rate (CADR) of at least 2/3 of the room volume. Do not rely on air filtration for controlling the spread of COVID-19; air filtration guidelines are primarily for reducing indoor concentrations of wildland fire smoke. Refer to CDC cleaner air guidance. DRO Operations should work with local governments to address these air quality needs.

9. The Red Cross does not permit cohabitated pet/people shelters during the COVID-19 pandemic. (See *Pets in Shelters* in the DCS COVID-19 Compendium). The Red Cross region works with pet partners or emergency management to ensure pet shelters are run nearby.

   As a lifesaving action, the Shelter Site Manager has the authority to allow pets (including any breed of domesticated animal) accompanying people to be admitted to a shelter if the pet does not pose a threat to shelter residents. The Red Cross makes other arrangements to align with public health and Red Cross standards for pets in shelters. (Service animals, including dogs and miniature horses, are always welcome in all Red Cross shelters.)

10. The AD of Operations ensures that shelf-stable food and water is on site when possible for Red Cross-managed shelters in areas expected to lose power, communications, or utilities, or where infrastructure will fail, and makes plans for communication and unmet needs.

11. The Red Cross opens, manages, and supports wildland fire shelters. Wildland fires may occur in urban/suburban/exurban and rural locations, and there is variability as to the number of people requiring safe shelter. In order to be effective and manage economies to scale, shelters will generally be larger in some settings and smaller in others. For example, in an urban environment, shelters with capacities of 250 or greater are preferred where possible. Rural shelters will likely have a maximum capacity of 50 residents. The Red Cross works with public health and emergency management to determine the best sizes for dormitory and separate isolation areas.

12. Red Cross decision-makers must determine whether to prioritize Red Cross resource support to non-congregate or congregate sheltering based on the American Red Cross COVID-19 Shelter Operations Decisions Matrix detailed in the Disaster Cycle Services COVID-19 Compendium.
    - When wildland fires impact less than 2,500 households, and the Division Disaster Executive anticipates not exceeding 250 rooms within 72 hours, our response focuses on non-congregate hotel options.
    - When wildland fires impact more than 2,500 households, and the Division Disaster Executive anticipates exceeding 250 rooms within 72 hours, our response focuses on

congregate options. However, these options may include camps and other non-congregate options. These non-congregate options do not include hotels.

- In some cases, it may be necessary to use a combination of both congregate and non-congregate sheltering—whenever possible in these situations, prioritize placement of those most at risk for COVID-19 into non-congregate options.
- Regions should engage their division to determine the appropriate sheltering strategy for each event.

13. The Red Cross engages in planning with our partners to provide the best possible care for COVID-19 at-risk populations.

Operating a Wildland Fire Evacuation Shelter

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

All Red Cross workers will follow safety procedures as documented in the DCS COVID-19 Compendium

Face masks or face coverings are required in all Red Cross-managed shelters for our workforce, our clients, and our partners. Please see the DHS Procedures in COVID-19 Congregate Shelters job tool for specific use of PPE in isolation care areas.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Shelter Staffing

Due to the rapidly evolving impact and characteristics of wildland fires, evacuation shelters must open quickly.

- A minimum of two pre-trained and in-person shelter staff members are on duty at all times in all wildland fire evacuation shelters. At no point should a Red Cross worker be the only worker at a shelter.
- Wildland fire evacuation shelters operate on a 12-hour shift schedule. The RCCO or DRO Director has the discretion to move to more shifts if required to care for the workforce.
- Shelter Site Managers identify a space where off-duty workers stay, maintaining separation from the clients and the wildland fire evacuation shelter operation. The wildland fire evacuation shelter workforce is split into the following categories defined below.

Wildland Fire Shelter Evacuation

Shelters may be required to evacuate or move location based on triggers to include:

- Direction of local officials
- Fire is seen to be threatening the shelter site
- The air quality in the shelter becomes degraded to the point Public Health declares the conditions are unsafe.

Shelter evacuation protocols are specified in state and county plans and include “evacuation levels” and “GO notifications.” Red Cross guidance is detailed in the Emergency Action Plan.

Workforce Minimums: COVID-19 Shelter Teams

The Red Cross achieves primary shelter staffing capability in evacuation shelters by establishing pre-trained teams supported by shelter residents. If needed, the Red Cross identifies and trains event-based volunteers (EBVs) for full shifts. Shelter Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that all shelter staff – pre-trained staff, shelter residents, and event-based volunteers – understand and comply with Red Cross shelter fundamentals.

Shelter Size	Pre-Trained Supervisors	Pre-Trained Shelter Support	Event-Based Volunteers: Just in Time	Shelter Residents: Task Based
50-250 Clients	2	5	2	As Needed
500 Clients	2	5	4	As Needed
1,000 Clients - Not Ideal	4	10	8	As Needed
2,500 Clients - Not Ideal	10	25	20	As Needed

- Shelters above the 500-person capacity are not recommended for Wildland Fire Season 2020.
- Disaster Health Services assigns additional staffing as necessary.
- DRO Headquarters (region or disaster response area) assigns at least two people to support wildland fire evacuation sheltering with an additional person added for every five shelters.

Mass Care Logistics

The disaster relief operation prioritizes achieving all Red Cross sheltering standards as promptly as possible for any congregate shelter that opens.

The below table lists the standard minimum material requirements used when planning for wildland fire congregate evacuation shelters. Division Disaster Executives may request approval from the Vice President, Disaster Operations & Logistics (or designee) for adjustments based on local seasonal planning. For specific guidance for the Pacific and Caribbean Islands, the Pacific and Southeast and Caribbean Division Disaster Executives (DDEs) may authorize adjustments based on local agreements and Red Cross commitments.

Minimum Material Requirements for Wildland Fire Evacuation Shelters and Shelters (this is not for outdoor Temporary Evacuation Sites):

Resource	Evacuation Shelters	Shelters
Space for People	60 square feet per person in safest area without cots Families may cluster together	110 square feet per person with a cot
Cots	10 percent of shelter capacity 110 square feet per person (with cots)	1 cot per person
Bariatric/Medical	1 percent of shelter capacity	1 for each person who needs one
Blankets	20 percent of shelter capacity	2 blankets per person
Comfort Kits	10 percent of shelter capacity	1 kit per person plus 1 towel
Nursing Kit	1 per shelter	Quantities as needed
Health Screening Supplies	1 per shelter covering 3 days based on capacity	Quantities as needed
Isolation Area Supplies	1 per shelter covering 3 days based on capacity	Quantities as needed
Red Cross PPE Supplies	1 per shelter covering 3 days based on capacity	1 per shelter based on capacity
Shelter Admin Kit	1 per shelter	1 per shelter
Disability Shelter Kit	1 per shelter	As required and available
ADA Showers	As exist at shelter facility (site selection should always prioritize facilities with accessible restrooms and showers)	As required and available
Hand Washing Stations	Hand sanitizer	As required and available
Mass Care Procurement Cards	4 per shelter assigned to pre-trained staff	2 per shift per shelter
Weather/AM Radio	1 per shelter	Shift to TV post-impact, if power is live
Shelf-stable snacks, water, and food in areas likely to be without power	Meals for 2 days, 2 meals a day at a minimum; plus, snacks and water (1,500 – 1,800 calories per day). Some island locations may have local meal plans.	3 meals a day plus snacks and water (1,800 – 2,000 calories per day)

Resource	Evacuation Shelters	Shelters
Snacks, water, and food, in areas expected to have power	3 meals per day based on current Red Cross guidelines	3 meals per day based on current Red Cross guidelines

DRO Support of Shelters

Deliberate planning and actions occur to ensure that disaster relief operations provide support to wildland fire evacuation shelter teams and their residents. DRO Directors ensure the following.

- Establish communications between DRO Headquarters and ***all*** Red Cross-managed and Red Cross partner-managed shelter facilities where Red Cross workers are providing dormitory management:
    - Every shelter receives at least one fully charged Red Cross cell phone and at least one fully charged portable charging station prior to opening.
    - Ideally, ensure amateur radio communications are available at all locations.
    - Collect multiple phone numbers for shelter facility and shelter team members.
    - Ensure all shelters have multiple phone numbers to contact DRO Headquarters.
- If Disaster Health Services is not on location at any Red Cross-managed shelter, establish a phone or radio support system for health services.
- DRO Headquarters maintains communication with at least one Red Cross worker when a team of workers is assigned to an independent shelter site or facility for any reason.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Shelter / DRO Headquarters Information Sharing

DRO Directors ensure that a communications plan is in place to gather shelter counts and receive information about the unmet needs of clients when communications infrastructure is compromised.

DRO Headquarters and Shelter Site Managers share the following information.

- Wildland fire impact:
    - Containment
    - Perimeters
    - Evacuation Routes
    - Road Closures
    - Proximity to any Evacuation Shelter
    - Fire damage and impact information
    - Official and partner briefings

- Critical shelter facility needs including accessibility modifications for those with functional and access needs
- Logistics requests and feedback
- Staffing information and needs
- Safety information
- Facility damage

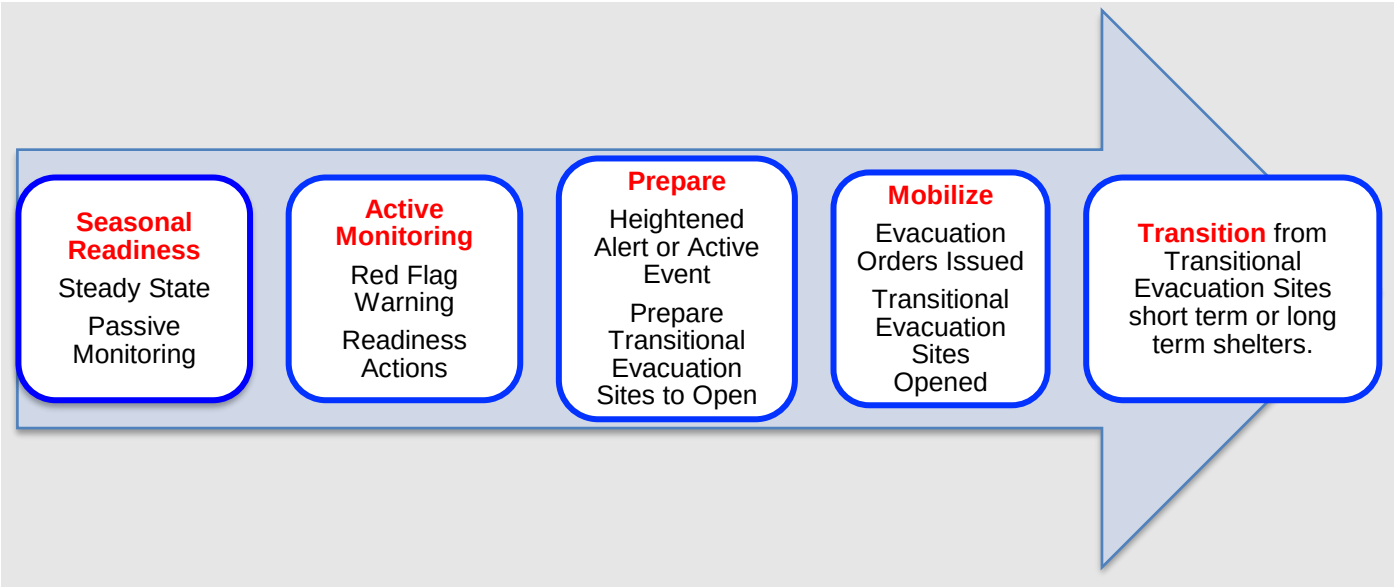
- Partner agency activities
- Supportive voice / coaching

Planning for a Wildland Fire Evacuation Sheltering Response

Opening shelters for an evacuating population requires careful timing, planning, and execution, both at the Red Cross and with partners.

1. Determine sheltering requirements with emergency management.
2. Based on available staff and safe shelter facility space, determine how many shelters the Red Cross has the capability and capacity to open.
3. Determine final list and align with county/state emergency management.
4. Discuss the timing and process of potential voluntary and mandatory evacuation orders for geographical areas of concern. Do this in communication with local and state emergency management. This is complicated, due to challenges in identifying specific wildland fire evacuation areas; however, regions should identify high-risk geographies based on long-range weather forecasting and other indicators such as prior burn areas and historical evacuations.

Region Action Timeline – Wildland Fire



Regions prepare, mobilize, and activate wildland fire evacuation shelters on a defined regional action timeline. The timing for these actions is variable due to the unpredictability of wildland fire initiation, containment, and impact. In general, regions complete actions as follows:

- **Seasonal Readiness** – Regions monitor fire weather forecasts, prepare for defined wildland fire season, and ensure enough appropriate shelter facilities or locations, material resources, and trained shelter workers. Regions communicate material and workforce shortfalls to the division

and national headquarters. Regions plan for recruiting, training, and engaging new shelter workforce based on assumed need.

- **Active Monitoring** – Regions monitor predicted significant fire weather, and communicate with emergency management, fire departments, and other key informants. Regions contact their trained workforce for potential availability, and stage material resources in locations based on general risk. Regions poll potential shelter facilities or locations for availability and train new shelter workforce as required to meet planned need.
- **Prepare** – Regions identify key fire weather indicators or receive elevated warning information from emergency management, fire departments, and other key informants. Regions contact trained workforce for potential engagement/scheduling, and stage material resources in defined areas based on specific incident risk. Governments place available transitional evacuation sites and shelter locations on standby and complete additional workforce training/engagement as required.
- **Mobilize** – Government activate available transitional evacuation sites and regions activate shelters, engage trained workforce, and move material resources to meet specific sheltering needs. Shelter residents may move through government-managed transitional evacuation sites on the way to evacuation shelters. Regions liaise with key personnel including those on Type 1 and 2 Incident Management Teams, e.g., the Planning Section Chief, Situation Unit, Fire Behavior Analyst (FBAN), Public Information Officer (PIO), and Incident Meteorologist (IMET), to obtain forecast and predictive information supporting the appropriate and safe siting of evacuation shelters. Shelters should be located where they will not be threatened by fire patterns/direction change. This minimized the risk of having to move locations. Ideally, all Red Cross shelters will be open when evacuation orders for an area are first issued.
- **Transition** – Regions or disaster relief operations maintain appropriate material resources and trained workforce support for shelters as they shift from evacuation to short-term or longer-term congregate shelters with defined service delivery structures and protocols.

Disaster leadership determines the timeline for opening shelters based on forecast data, regular contact with emergency management and fire departments, and ongoing situational awareness. Shelters must be open and active when the evacuation order is given if possible. The Red Cross sets this timeline in collaboration with emergency management by determining how long it takes to:

- Activate and open the sheltering facilities;
- Activate and deploy shelter teams to facilities;
- Purchase and move food to shelters;
- Move cots, blankets, and other supplies;
- Activate event-based volunteers and conduct operational training;
- Contract/procure and place portable showers, toilets, handwashing stations, dumpsters, air handling/cleaning systems, and other critical shelter support resources onsite;
- Determine if there are any traffic restrictions that might impact movement of Red Cross assets.

Wildland fires may not always allow time for planned evacuations, and quick action is needed to get evacuation shelters open to provide a temporary safe haven. It's critical that regions understand the triggers for moving from an ***active monitoring*** to a ***mobilization*** posture.

An average of 1,100 Red Flag fire warnings are issued nationwide every year. There is no nationally consistent set of weather or forestry forecast triggers that automatically moves regions from one readiness posture to another, as there would be with hurricanes, for example. It is incumbent upon regions to monitor fire weather, engage in regular communications with subject matter experts and government partners, and to maintain an appropriate level of readiness. Regions should use the following resources to maintain situational awareness and support readiness actions during wildland fire season:

- National Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook
- Latest Detected Fire Activity
- Fire Weather Outlook - Day 1, Day 2, Day 3-8
- Drought Information
- InciWeb
- Geographic Area Coordination Centers
- Wildland Fire Assessment System

This is not an all-inclusive list. Always review county, city, and municipal information resources. A comprehensive index of fire weather links and potential triggers is in development for release by July 2020.

Critical forecast indicators and terms to be monitored include:

- Relative humidity
- Burning Index (BI) – Relates to the intensity of the fire
- Energy Release Component (ERC) – Describes the available energy at the head of a fire
- Drought conditions
- Specific wind events, e.g., Santa Ana Winds
- “Extreme” Red Flag Warning – National Weather Service (NWS) Western Region only
- “Critical fire weather” statement
- “Values at Risk” or “People at Risk” in Wildland Urban Interface forecasting
- Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) declaration
- Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) actions or similar incident mitigation measures

Given the variability of weather forecasting, triggers, and related timelines, regions **must proactively and regularly** engage with agencies and partners to identify the appropriate timeline for mobilizing the workforce and material assets. Regions communicate timelines to divisions and national headquarters, emergency management, and their workforce.

Related Resources

This job tool supports current Sheltering doctrine and is used in conjunction with the following:

- Disaster Cycle Services COVID-19 Compendium
- Sheltering Standards and Procedures
- Operating a Shelter Job Tool

- Shelter Staffing Template Job Tool
- Emergency Action Plan
- Shelter Relocation Plan
- Doctrine Bulletin – Regional Services During Planned Power Outages

For Further Information

For further information, contact the Disaster Operations Coordination Center (DOCC) at 202-303-5555 in an evacuation situation, or for steady state, please email shelter@redcross.org.