

Yurok Tribe



Chemical Emergency Preparedness Plan

October 2002

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PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The purpose of emergency planning is to determine hazard potential and establish a clear system to protect people's lives, the environment and natural resources. This plan should be utilized before, during and after a chemical emergency spill response and/or disaster. Planning for emergencies includes incidents of spilling or dumping of any hazardous, toxic or poisonous material that could impact the land, streams and air of the Yurok Indian Reservation (YIR), Ancestral lands and surrounding area. This plan identifies potential problems, and outlines methods to utilize available resources and obtain assistance when necessary.

Toxic chemicals and hazardous materials are interchangeable terms. By definition they are a toxic substance or mixtures of substances, which are toxic, corrosive, flammable, or reactive and can cause substantial injury, serious illness or death to humans, domestic livestock, fish, wildlife and harm to the environment. The term also includes hazardous waste, which may be by-products or materials no longer intended for use. Emergencies caused by hazardous materials are generally called HazMat incidents or spills. Included are any HazMat releases to the water, ground or air that pose a threat to public health or the environment.

Yurok Indian Reservation Description

The YIR is located in northern coastal California along the Klamath River up river from Weitchpec, near the Trinity River confluence in Humboldt County, to the Pacific Ocean in Del Norte County. The Reservation consists of a 57,000-acre corridor of land including the Klamath River and extends for one mile from each side of the Klamath River. The segment of the Klamath River running through Yurok Tribal lands is approximately 46 miles long, or about 16% of the total length of the Klamath River measured from the outlet of Upper Klamath Lake in Oregon to the Pacific Ocean. The Klamath River defines the very shape of the YIR and includes two disperse, separate populated areas, generally known as the up-river and down-river reservation areas. The up-river portion is located in Humboldt County, and includes the three small communities of Weitchpec, Ke'pel and Wautek. The down-river portion is in Del Norte County and includes Klamath Glen, Klamath, and Requa at the Klamath River mouth. Approximately 960 people live on the Yurok Reservation. Currently, 5,090 acres is held in trust status, while the majority of the remaining lands in the YIR are fee lands owned by Simpson Resource Company (SRC), and are managed intensively for timber products. A small portion of the YIR consists of public lands managed by Redwood National/State Parks (RNSP), the US Forest Service (USFS), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and a number of private landholdings.

Major travel routes to or through the various sections of the Reservation take place on State Highway 101 (SH 101), State Highway 96 (SH 96), State Highway 169 (SH 169) and the Bald Hills Road. SH 101 is a major truck transportation route north and south along the coast and passes through the reservation for approximately five miles. SH 96 is the only route that connects all of the inland communities from Willow Creek through Hoopa and Weitchpec, to Happy Camp and connects to Interstate 5. At Weitchpec, SH 169 joins SH 96. SH 169 is unique within the California state highways system. It is the only route connecting the upriver communities of Weitchpec, Ke'pel (Cappell) and Wautek. From Weitchpec, this very narrow one-lane highway route heads north, down the Klamath River, and ends eighteen miles later at Wautek (Johnson's). There then is a road less section for sixteen miles along the river until Klamath Glen. There, Highway 169 resumes as a standard two-lane highway for another six miles to Highway 101. These truck routes are used to

transport Hazardous Materials, including pesticides, preservatives, fertilizers, and fuels such as gasoline and diesel. For this reason the truck routes constitute the primary source of potential hazardous materials first response and cleanup incidents.

B. Assumptions

1. Emergency situations may occur at any time, day or night, and in populated as well as remote areas of the YIR.
2. Emergency incidents, even minor ones, often require a multi-departmental, multi-jurisdictional response. For this reason, it is essential that the Incident Command System, and in many instances a unified command, be implemented immediately by responding agencies.
3. Emergency situations may pose significant risks to emergency response personnel. It is imperative that all emergency response personnel and potential first responders be properly trained in appropriate hazardous materials emergency response actions.
4. Emergency situations incidents may require large-scale evacuations or shelter-in-place actions. These operations may present significant challenges in terms of warning and notification, logistics, and agency coordination.
5. Emergency situations may generate widespread media and public interest. The media must be considered an ally in these emergencies; they can provide considerable assistance in emergency public information and warning.
6. Emergency situation incidents may pose serious long-term threats to public health, property, and the environment. These strategic considerations must be addressed in all hazardous emergencies.
7. Large scale emergency situations may require an extended commitment of personnel and resources from involved agencies and jurisdictions.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Yurok Tribal Council has the primary responsibility for emergency preparedness and response activities. The preamble of the Constitution of the Yurok Tribe, states that the Yurok Tribe will “provide for the health and/or safety of its members”. Article IV Section 1 states that the Tribal Chairperson acts as “the principal spokesperson and representative in its dealings with other governmental and non-governmental entities” or may “delegate such duties to other Tribal officers or officials”. The Tribal Chairperson has the authority to take “such actions as may be necessary” ... “to safeguard the Yurok Tribe or its natural resources from imminent danger”.

Emergency Director - The Yurok Tribal Council Chairperson provides the overall management for all emergencies. The Executive Director is the designated Tribal officer that will provide the direction and control of Tribal response. The emergency director assumes the following responsibilities:

- ❑ Activation of the Yurok Tribal Emergency Plan that includes this plan and any other applicable emergency plans
- ❑ Ensures that the proper notification calls have been made by the designated Tribal emergency coordinator(s)
- ❑ Prepares and implements the site safety plan
- ❑ Provides leadership and makes executive decisions, delegates authority
- ❑ Determines priorities, schedules, and strategies
- ❑ Monitors the activities of any outside agency resources while both on and off the Yurok Indian Reservation
- ❑ Provides for briefing and summaries to the Yurok Tribal Council
- ❑ Tracks and documents all expenditures and resource use
- ❑ Designates the Tribal media spokesperson
- ❑ Oversees other communication

Chief, Department of Public Safety - Assumes responsibility for:

- ❑ First Response
- ❑ Isolate the incident area
- ❑ Participates in the preparation/implementation of the site safety plan
- ❑ Manage crowd control
- ❑ Manage traffic control
- ❑ Manage criminal investigations

Chief, Fire Department

- ❑ First Response
- ❑ Determines equipment and personnel needs
- ❑ Determines fire control methods
- ❑ Provides emergency medical aid
- ❑ Participates in emergency evacuation

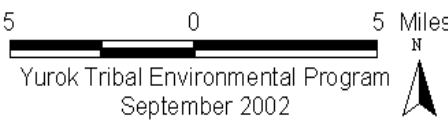
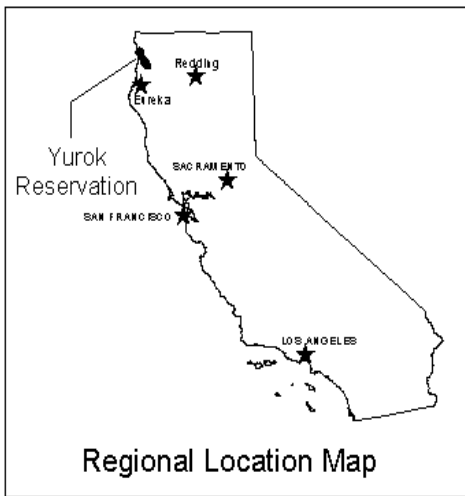
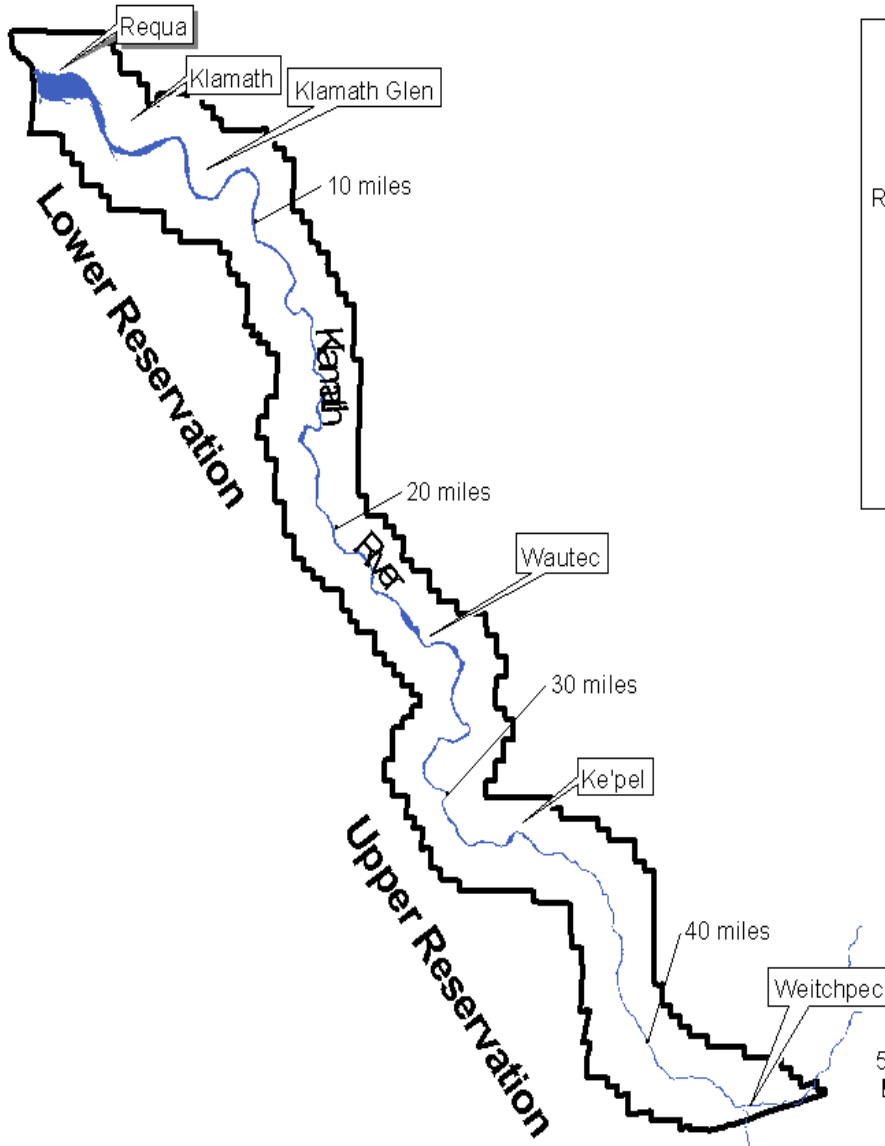
Environmental Director

- ❑ Provide and coordinate HazMat training for staff
- ❑ Facilitate emergency plan updates and the Tribal Emergency Response Commission (TERC)
- ❑ Manages Emergency Response environmental monitoring activities
- ❑ Plans and conducts mock exercises

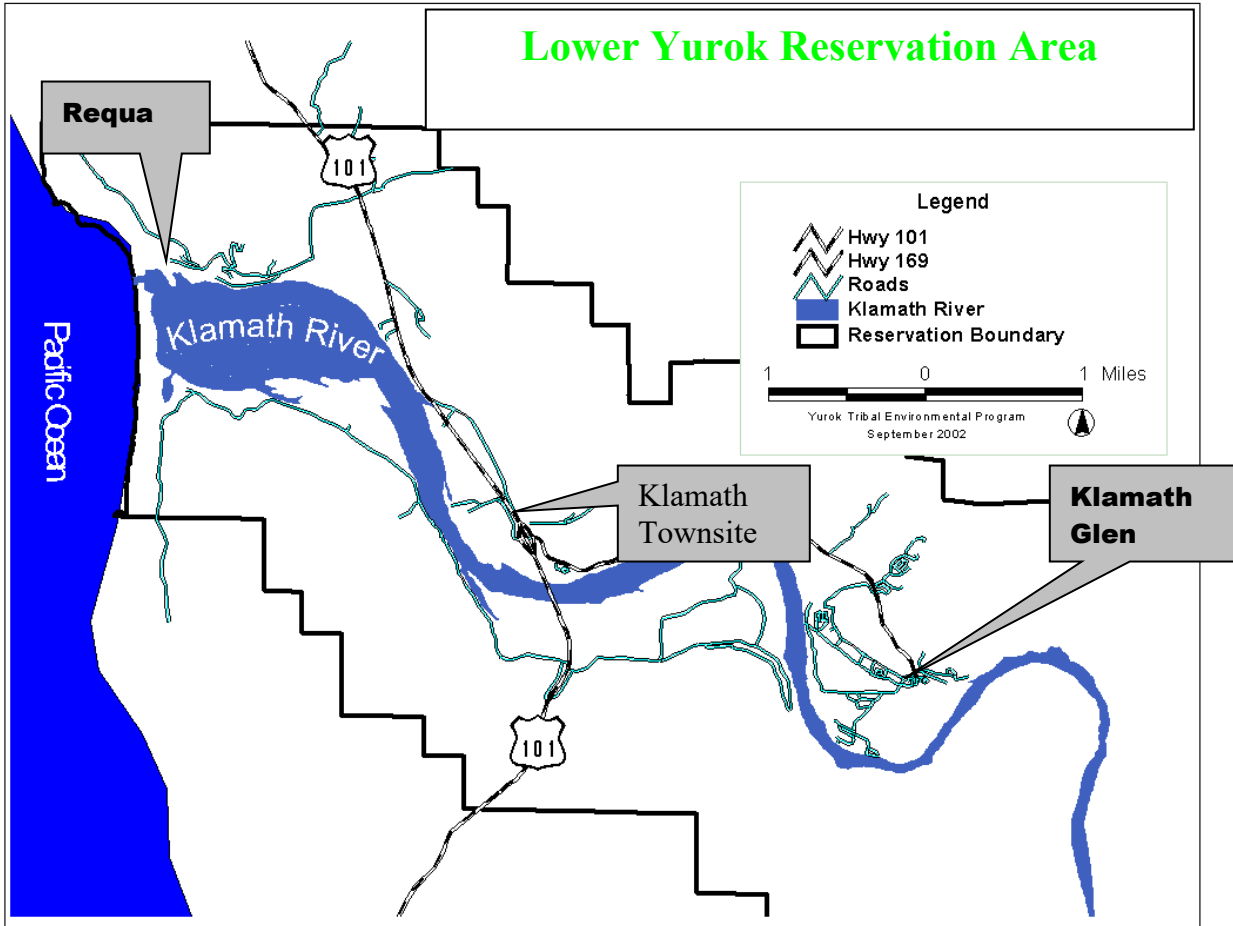
Tribal Employees

- Provide support and assistance
- Knowledge of locale and residences

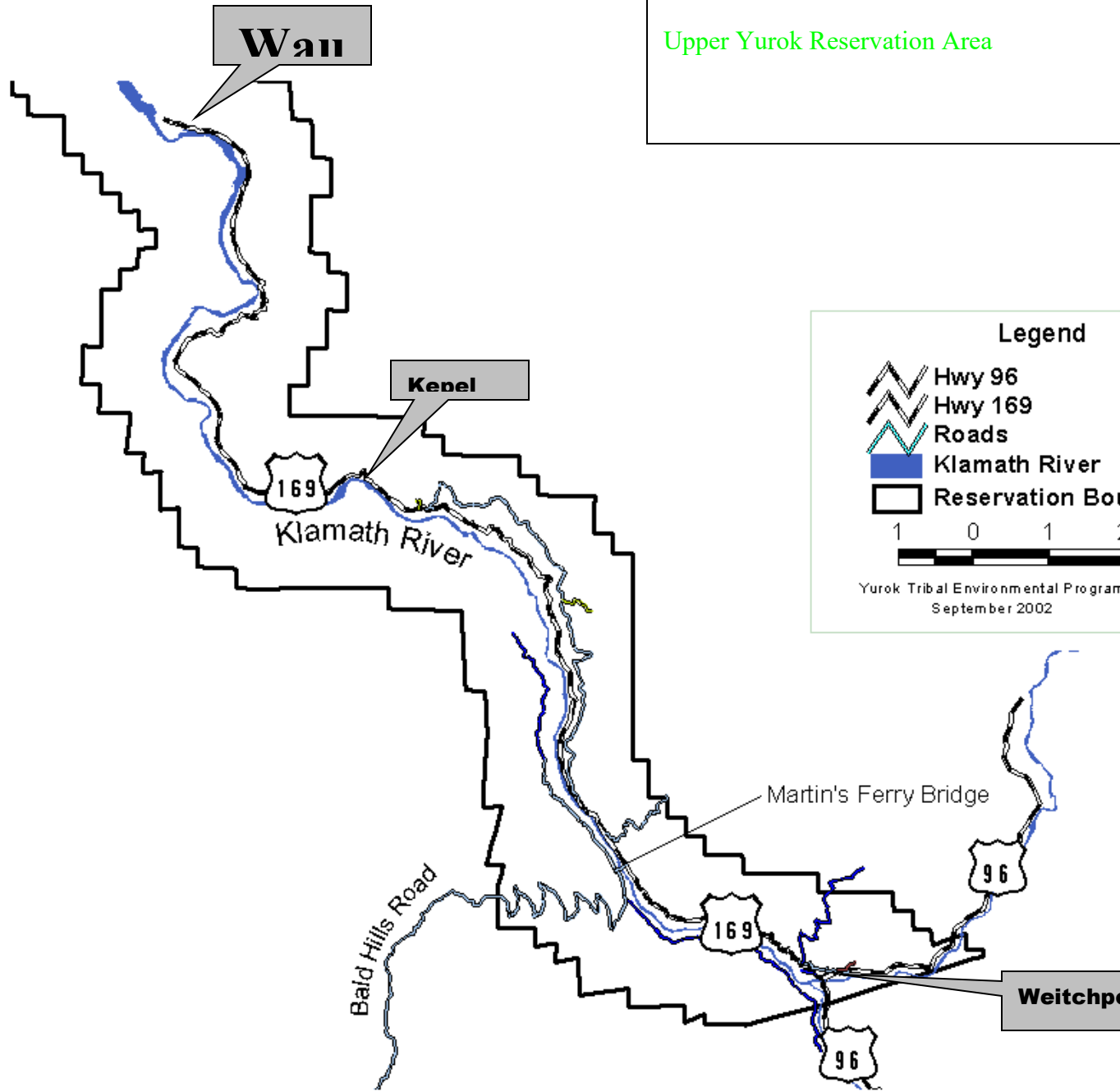
First Responder Operations (FRO) level employees that have received certified HazMat training should have a degree of knowledge of the following items: 1) Health risks associated with hazardous material; 2) Physical hazards associated with the hazardous material; 3) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements; 4) Site safety planning; 5) Site access control and zones; 6) Containment. Key employees should keep themselves current with the required yearly HazMat refresher training.



Lower Yurok Reservation Area



Upper Yurok Reservation Area



Legend

- Hwy 96
- Hwy 169
- Roads
- Klamath River
- Reservation Boundary



Yurok Tribal Environmental Program
September 2002

A GUIDE FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE RESOURCES

Yurok Tribe Department of Public Safety

Tribal Law enforcement will respond to most Hazardous Materials incidents. Depending on incident factors, law enforcement may be a partner in Unified Command or may participate as an assisting agency. Some functional responsibilities that may be handled by law enforcement are:

- a. Isolate the incident area
- b. Manage crowd control
- c. Manage traffic control
- d. Manage public protective action
- e. Provide scene management/assistance for on-highway incidents
- f. Manage criminal investigations

Yurok Tribe Volunteer Fire Department

Responds to emergency calls including fire emergencies, medical emergencies, and rescue operations throughout the upper YIR Area. Each local Fire Department has a number of trained volunteers. Each volunteer has some or all of the following qualifications: Fire Fighter, EMT I, EMT II, Mountain Rescue, hazardous materials awareness/operations level.

Emergency Responsibilities

- Fire suppression
- Assist in first aid with ambulance service
- Recommend mutual aid as required
- Provide all information gathered to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
- Maintain contact with EOC

Emergency Responsibilities (non-fire emergency assistance)

- Assist in search and light rescue
- Recommend mutual aid as required
- Provide all information gathered from fire agencies
- Maintain contact with EOC

Humboldt County

Humboldt County Sheriffs Department

The Sheriff is the Director of Emergency Services for Humboldt County. The Office of Emergency Services (OES) assists the Sheriff in controlling and directing the effort of the emergency organization of the county. The Humboldt County portion of the YIR is within the Humboldt Operational Area (OA). Humboldt County subscribes to the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and Incident Command System (ICS).

The Humboldt County OES manages the OA response from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) located in the basement of the County courthouse in Eureka. When a request for assistance is received by the OA, the OA will provide whatever resources and assistance that can be mobilized locally from county, city and special districts. The OA will call for assistance from the state OES to provide state resources and when necessary.

Eureka Fire Department – Hazardous Materials Unit

- a. Unit normally has twelve HazMat specialists, and are available at all times.
- b. Primary area of responsibility is Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. Unit will respond to other areas if needed.
- c. Unit response is determined by any agency needing specialized hazardous materials containment, identification or handling.
- d. Unit will respond to stop the spread of hazardous materials, and they carry the equipment to make entries if necessary. They do not do cleanup work.

Del Norte County

Del Norte County Sheriffs Department/Del Norte OES

The primary Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for Del Norte County is the Sheriffs Office located on 5th street in Crescent City. The County Director of emergency Services is the Operational Area Commander (OAC).

Klamath Volunteer Fire & Rescue (KVF&R)

a. Jurisdictional responsibility for fire and emergency response within the lower YIR area.

b. **Location**

Equipment

Klamath Glen
tanker truck

Fire engine, rescue truck, 2500-gallon

Redwood Drive
tanker truck, HazMat kits (2)

Fire engine, rescue truck, 2500-gallon

Hunter Creek

Two fire engines

c. Under a joint powers agreement the KVF&R maintains a standing mutual aid agreement with all Fire Districts in Del Norte County and the Humboldt Hazardous Materials Unit.

Crescent Fire Protection District (CFPD)

a. Provides support for local fire district for lower YIR.

b. Resources may be utilized as needed or required by responding local fire units.

California Department of Transportation (CalTrans)

State agency that is responsible for emergency response to all hazardous materials incidents or spills within California state highway right-of-ways.

Generally assumes the role of Incident Command until the arrival of the primary law enforcement agency representative.

Will perform incidental response to a release of a known hazardous material where the material can be absorbed, neutralized or otherwise controlled at the time of release or where the spilled material poses no immediate safety or health hazard.

California Highway Patrol (CHP)

a. Act as the Incident Commander for hazardous materials incidents, which occur on a highway or highway right-of-way within CHP jurisdiction.

b. Provide traffic supervision and control on all highways constructed as freeways, highways and roadways (state or county) within the unincorporated areas of the YIR.

c. Act as the State Agency Coordinator for all hazardous materials incidents occurring on California highways.

d. Serve as statewide information, assistance, and notification coordinator for all on-highway hazardous materials incidents.

e. Evaluate and report road conditions to the Incident Commander.

- f. Provide traffic control in support of evacuation and/or relocation.
- g. Reroute traffic under CHP jurisdiction in coordination with local authorities.
- h. Prevent unauthorized entry into contaminated areas.
- i. Assist local authorities in maintaining law and order.

California Department of Forestry (CDF)

- a. CDF may be dispatched or requested to carry out responsibilities of local fire suppression agencies as they relate to hazardous materials emergency incidents.
- c. Assist with hazardous materials incident management when requested by local officials under the joint powers agreement.
- d. Provide communications and logistics support as requested by the State Agency Coordinator or the Incident Commander.
- e. Support local fire fighting in accordance with fire mutual aid agreements.
- f. Coordinate and manage the use of inmate, ward, and California Conservation Corps personnel under their control in support of hazardous materials emergency mitigation efforts.

Department of Fish and Game (DFG)

- a. Within their jurisdiction, DFG may act as the State Agency Coordinator for off-highway hazardous materials incidents and participate in a unified command.
- b. Take action necessary to protect or minimize the impact of a hazardous materials incident to fish and wildlife.
- d. Provide technical advice on the impact proposed containment and clean-up operations will have on fish, wildlife, and their habitats.
- e. In the event of a declared emergency, cooperate with other local, state and federal agencies in providing requested communications and law enforcement support.

State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)

- a. Provide technical assistance to the State Agency Coordinator and the State Department of Health Services in evaluating the potential impact of hazardous materials incidents to water resources.
- b. Within their jurisdiction, issue clean up and abatement or cease and desist orders to responsible parties, assesses fines, and pursues recovery of costs for abatement, mitigation, or contract clean up.
- c. Conduct water sampling, analysis, and monitoring activities to assist in the evaluation and mitigation of hazardous materials releases.

California State Fire Marshal (CSFM)

- a. Provide technical assistance and advice on fire and life safety impacts associated with hazardous materials incidents, as requested.
- b. In the event of a declared emergency, cooperate with other state and/or local agencies in providing requested communications and law enforcement/code enforcement support.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)

- a. Provide the Federal On-Scene Coordinator for incidents within their jurisdiction.
- b. Ensure that timely and effective response action is taken to control and remove discharges of oil and releases of hazardous substances, including threats of substantial discharges and releases, into the inland zones unless such removal actions are being conducted properly by the responsible party.
- c. Access federal funding for abating and mitigating releases of hazardous materials.

US Forest Service (USFS)

- a. USFS may be dispatched to cover State Area of Responsibility (SAR).
- b. Support local fire fighting in accordance with fire mutual aid agreements.

American Red Cross (ARC)

- a. Provide relief for persons affected by disaster, including serious hazardous materials emergencies:
 - (1) Provide food, clothing, and lodging.
 - (2) Provide supplemental medical and nursing assistance in accordance with established agreements.
 - (3) Provide family services.
- b. Assist local government with evacuation and shelter-in-place operations (i.e., selection and staffing of shelter sites and dissemination of shelter information).

The Salvation Army

- a. Provide mobile feeding for disaster victims and emergency workers.
- b. Provide emergency housing.
- c. Provide medical assistance.
- c. Provide referrals to appropriate government and private agencies

for special services required by victims.

Mutual Aid

The State of California Office of Emergency Services is the primary agency for coordinating the State's response to requests for assistance from local jurisdictions. This does not preclude direct contact between County agencies and counterpart agencies at the State level.

Media

During an incident local area radio broadcast is used to alert residents and provide emergency and/or general information. (See telephone directory for numbers to call).

Local Radio Broadcast- Wautek-Weitchpec Area

KIDE 91.3 FM

Local Radio Broadcast – Klamath Area

KPOD 97.9 FM /1240 AM

KCRE 94.3 FM

Local Radio Broadcast – Throughout YIR

KEKA 101.5 FM

KRED 92.3 FM

KKHB 105.5 FM

KFMI 96.3 FM

OVERVIEW OF POTENTIAL HAZMAT EMERGENCIES

I. Transportation Incidents

Location	Potential	Areas effected
Highway 101	High	Klamath, Requa, Klamath River downstream to mouth
Highway 96	Medium	Weitchpec, Klamath River, Trinity River
Highway 169 Down river	Medium	Klamath Glen, Klamath, Klamath River, Turwar Creek, Hoppaw Creek
Highway 169 Up river	Low	Weitchpec, Wausek, Kenek, Ke'pel, Morek, Notchko, Sregon, Pecwan, Wautek, Klamath River, Creeks
Bald Hills Road	Low	Klamath River, Tulley Creek Road, Dowd Road, Creeks

Basis of above potential ratings:

Rating factor	Conditions
Low	Light use by chemical transport truck, county road or dead end state highway, few commercial vehicle accidents, no industrial facilities
Medium	State highway, not a major commercial route, few commercial sites, limited commercial vehicle use
High	Major highway artery, heavy commercial vehicle use, commercial accident potential highest in area

Hazard classes of transported hazardous materials:

Class 1- Explosives

Class 2 - Compressed Gases

Class 3 - Flammable Liquids

Class 4 - Flammable Solids

Class 5 - Oxidizers

Class 6 - Poisonous and Infectious Substances

Class 7 - Radioactive Materials

Class 8 - Corrosives

Class 9 - Miscellaneous Hazardous Materials

(For class definition: refer to Appendix 1)

II. Illegal Drug Labs

Potential hazards created from the materials used in and the manufacturing of methamphetamine:

Toxic or dangerous substance	Hazard/risk	D.O.T Guide Number
Alcohol	Toxic, highly flammable, easily ignited	127
Toluene	Toxic, highly flammable, easily ignited	130
Ether	Highly flammable, easily ignited	127
Sulfuric Acid	Toxic, severe burns	137
Methanol	Toxic	131
Trichloroethane	Vapors, dizziness	160
Anhydrous Ammonia	Toxic, vapors corrosive	125
Sodium Hydroxide	Toxic, inhalation skin contact	154
Red Phosphorous	Toxic gases, burns	133
Muriatic Acid	Toxic, burns	157
Acetone, gasoline, kerosene, paint thinner, campfire fuel	Highly flammable, easily ignited	127/128
Ephedrine/pseudoephedrine	Toxic ingestion	NA

Note: Above ingredients in liquid form may also cause pollution hazards due to run off.

III. Forest Fire Retardants

Phos-Chek fire retardant is currently the retardant in use by CDF from their aircraft. Phos-Chek is an essentially odorless, granular reddish powder. Ingredients of Phos-Chek are listed as no more than slightly toxic and do not irritate the skin.

IV. Illegal Dumping

Illegal dumping not only contributes to general degradation of reservation lands but also includes potential hazards. These include household and commercial hazardous waste, pesticides, acids, caustic lye, and heavy metals such as lead and zinc. There may be no way to determine the nature of a substance until samples are collected and analyzed. When used motor oil, paint and varnish containers and other containers are disposed of by "throwing it over the bank", the containers may break open, spilling contents and contaminating the soil and any nearby waterways and drinking water sources.

FIRST RESPONDER INSTRUCTIONS

Awareness Level

- Always approach from **upwind, uphill and upstream!!** Toxic materials may not be visible or present an odor – minimize all exposures and do not allow yourself to become contaminated by driving to, through, or in the area of an active release.
- If you discover a hazardous material or an unlabeled container and suspect it contains a hazardous material:

Do not move the container or attempt to determine if
full

Retreat to an upwind, uphill, upstream position

- Make notifications to alert and activate emergency response.

Notifications include:

1. Emergency Operator (911)
2. Your supervisor or nearest supervisor
3. A law enforcement officer
4. Fire Department personnel
5. Other available public agency personnel with two-way radio capability

Definitions of U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Hazard Classes

Class 1 – Explosives: An explosive is any chemical compound, mixture or device, the primary or common purpose of which is to function by explosion, e.g., with a substantial instantaneous release of gas and heat.

Class 2 – Compressed Gases: A flammable material or mixture having a vapor pressure exceeding 40 psi absolute at 100° F.

Class 3 - Flammable Liquids: A liquid having a flash point below 140° F.

Class 4 – Flammable Solids: Any solid material, other than an explosive, which under conditions normally incident to transportation is likely to cause fire through friction or retained heat from manufacturing or processing, or which can be ignited readily and when ignited burns so vigorously and persistently it creates a serious transportation hazard.

Class 5 – Oxidizers: An oxidizer is a substance that yields oxygen readily to stimulate the combustion of other material.

Class 6 - Pesticides, Poisons and Infectious Substances: Pesticides are chemical agents used to destroy pests. Poisons are substances that, through chemical action, usually kill, injure, or impair an organism. Infectious Substances are substances or materials hosting or contaminated by communicable pathogens. Examples include medical waste, laboratory samples, etc.

Class 7 – Radioactive Materials: Radioactive materials contain charged particles (ions) and have specific activity greater than 0.002 micro curies per gram. These charged particles may cause damage to molecules, cells, or tissues. Atoms that emit ionizing radiation are said to be radioactive; radioactivity is the process whereby atomic changes, known as decay or disintegration, occur through the emission of ionizing radiation.

Class 8 – Corrosives: Any liquid or solid, including powders that can destroy tissue, or a liquid that has a severe corrosion rate on steel or aluminum.

Hazardous Materials Incident notification/report

Date _____

Time _____

Material involved _____

Location of incident _____

Quantity released _____
Fire _____ Dust _____ Other Conditions _____
Contained _____ Not Contained _____
Number of people injured/ contaminated _____
Best access route _____
Area/population affected _____
Reported by _____

Notification Check List

911 _____	Cal Trans _____
Tribal Chairperson _____	Hum Co. Sheriff _____
Executive Director _____	Del Norte Co. Sheriff _____
Emergency Director _____	Highway Patrol _____
Chief, Public Safety _____	CDF _____
Chief, Fire Department _____	USFS _____
Other (specify) _____	Other (specify) _____

