Vermilion Parish Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness



Multi-Hazard

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

ANNEX D EVACUATION

June 2019

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ANNEX D - EVACUATION

I. PURPOSE

This annex provides the guidelines and direction for an orderly coordinated evacuation of the population of Vermilion Parish should the need arise due to any incident, be it natural or manmade.

The Evacuation Annex will be versatile in scope and the direction may range from small isolated areas to the orderly evacuation of the entire parish. This annex is to be used in conjunction with other annexes for the protection of the population.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. SITUATION

- 1. Vermilion Parish is susceptible to many incidents, both natural and technological, that could result in a need for evacuation.
- 2. The ultimate responsibility for ordering an evacuation rest with the Vermilion Parish Police Jury President.
- 3. For planning purposes, it is presumed the Emergency Operations Staff will be activated and the Emergency Operation Center is operational.
- 4. The residents will act in their own interest and evacuate the area when advised by the Parish Administration and Law Enforcement.
- 5. This annex focuses on evacuations resulting from hazards that provide sufficient warning time to implement a planned evacuation for people identified as being at risk in Vermilion Parish.
- Evacuation of parish residents that occurs with little or no warning should be implemented on an ad hoc basis. Evacuation instructions should be based on known or assumed risk associated with the hazard.
- 7. The incident commander with coordination of the Emergency Operations Staff should initiate any evacuation.
- 8. Spontaneous evacuation will occur when there is sufficient warning of the threat. For planning purposes, it is presumed a percentage of the people at risk will evacuate before being directed to do so.
- 9. Some people will refuse to evacuate, regardless of the threat.
- 10. Only pets of the CTNs (Critical Transportation Needs People) will be evacuated. (See Pet Plan Appendix 6) All other animals are the responsibility of the owner.
- 11. Approximately 20 percent of the population at risk will require shelter in a mass care facility. Many evacuees will seek shelter with relatives, friends, or motels rather than use government-provided mass-care facilities.
- 12. Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness will be available to support evacuation efforts and requests should be made via WebEOC.
- 13. It may be necessary for local officials to carry out a mandatory evacuation.

B. ASSUMPTION

Communication channels will be established to provide the public with timely and accurate information with directions for their response to an emergency. Coordination with the media and a program of pre-disaster education and planning should enable the public to understand and respond to information related to evacuation. The public will act in its own interest and evacuate dangerous areas when advised to do so by local authorities. If necessary, local authorities will order and carry out mandatory evacuation.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Reference to Policy Statements as listed under Basic Plan - Part III - Concept of Operations.

A. GENERAL

- 1. Unless circumstances prevent it, the ultimate responsibility for ordering an evacuation rests with the Vermilion Police Jury President or the Mayor within a municipality and/or their designated representative in the event the stated above are not available or is incapable of ordering said evacuation due to illness or any other incapacity. This decision will be made after coordination with all public officials (as listed in Basic Plan, IV), the On-Scene Commander within the jurisdiction covered by the incident, and the Director of OHSEP. It shall come through the Public Information Officer at the EOC.
- 2. Emergencies that require evacuation may differ in type, size, intensity, speed of onset, and duration. Planning considerations will vary according to the specific hazard, but the objective is the same: the orderly movement of people and traffic from an endangered area. The number of people to be evacuated, and the time of travel necessary to insure safety will have to be determined as each emergency situation is identified. The plan is designed to facilitate the evacuation process regardless of the cause of the evacuation.
- 3. Specific issues to be addressed for evacuation are:
 - a. The availability of evacuation routes, their capabilities, and their vulnerability to the hazard.
 - b. The type of transportation, and arrangements for those persons unable to supply their own transportation.
 - c. Security for evacuated sites/shelters.
 - d. Support for essential operations and services in the hazard area.
 - e. Preparation of designated shelter for the reception of evacuees.
 - f. Dedicated evacuation sites.
 - g. Re-entry into the hazard area.
 - h. Dealing with potential impediments for evacuation.
 - i. The relocation of essential resources to the reception area.
 - j. The Sheriff's Office and/or the Department of Corrections will facilitate the possible relocation of incarcerated persons.
 - k. In case the general public refuses to evacuate law enforcement provisional measures will be taken. (e.g., contact the next of kin)

- 4. Pre-determined, detailed plans for specific hazards will be used when these emergencies occur. Appropriate annexes and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be used to coordinate the operation.
- 5. Should an evacuation ever be necessitated as a result of a terrorist incident/attack, procedures are taken from federal/state regulations. The duration of the evacuation will be determined by the Police Jury President or Mayor within the affected municipality, based on technical information furnished by federal, state, and local agencies.
- 6. Neighboring parishes could be impacted from a major disaster which could result in an evacuation of its own residents, thus Vermilion Parish might be considered to serve as a reception center for the displaced evacuees. See Shelter Annex and correlating SOP's for specific guidelines to facilitate this operation.
- 7. Reentry into the evacuated area is to begin after the area has been declared safe by local, state, and/or federal officials. To assist with the return of evacuees' transportation is to be provided for patients/residents of institutions requiring special care or attention (i.e., hospital, nursing homes, schools, etc.). Also, transportation will be provided for other residents with mobility impairments and who do not reside in the above facilities.
- 8. See Annex E for the sheltering of animals and Pet Plan Appendix 6.

B. EMERGENCY ACTION LEVELS

Emergencies will be handled in the sequence described in Policy Statements as listed under Basic Plan - Part III - Concept of Operations. Preparations for evacuation will take place when an incident reaches the appropriate action levels.

C. Phases of Emergency Management

1. Prevention

- a. Educate public on how to prepare themselves to be self-sufficient for 72 hours post-storm.
- b. Educate public on what the different types of evacuations orders (voluntary, recommended, and mandatory) mean and the type of preparation each requires.

2. Mitigation.

- a. The Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is continuously working with committees, taskforces, and other agencies to structurally improve the efficiency of future evacuations.
- b. The Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness identifies potential evacuation areas with hazard analysis
- c. Public education is being provided through the Vermilion Parish Police Jury and the Vermilion Parish OHSEP.

3. Preparedness

The Vermilion Parish Emergency Operations Plan contains the following:

- a. Appendices containing helpful information including the approximate number of people requiring special needs, shelter locations and shelter management teams.
- b. Provisions that have been made to control access to the evacuated area.
- c. Support for essential operations and services in the risk area.
- d. Provisions for rest areas along evacuation routes where evacuees can obtain fuel, water, medical aid, vehicle maintenance, information and comfort facilities, as appropriate.
- e. Mutual aid agreements may be initiated with other jurisdictions as necessary.
- f. Provisions for vehicle security and parking in the reception area.
- g. Plans for essential workers to commute to hazardous areas.
- h. Provisions that have been made to provide security for the protection of property in the area that has been evacuated.
- i. Provisions that have been made for the return of people to their homes
- j. Provisions for special needs populations.
- k. Provisions for assistance to or emergency removal of vehicles with mechanical problems.
- I. Policy and decision authority for reentry into evacuated area.

4. Response

- a. The Police Jury President or the Mayor within a municipality has the ultimate authority to order an evacuation. But in a case where there is not sufficient time, the incident commander with the cooperation of the OHSEP Director is delegated to authorize an evacuation.
- b. The evacuees will be advised to move from the risk area via the safest available route.
- c. The Emergency Alerting System, AM/FM radio stations, and media organizations in neighboring jurisdictions will be used to keep evacuees and the general public informed on evacuation activities and the specific actions they should take.
- d. The modes of transportation that will be used to move evacuees are as follows:
 - Personal vehicles
 - School Buses
 - Handicapped equipped vans (Council on Aging)
 - Ambulance (Acadian)
 - Commercial Buses (as Needed)
- e. Residents who do not have their own transportation are advised to call the Emergency Operations Center to arrange for pick up at a centrally located assembly area.
- f. There exist multiple designated shelters inside and outside the parish that may be used depending on the incident, which is discussed in further detail in Annex E along with the preparation thereof.

Recovery

Recovery, as it applies to this annex, essentially will be re-entry. The Emergency Alerting System, AM/FM radio stations and media organizations in neighboring jurisdictions will be

used to keep evacuees and the general public informed on re-entry activities and the specific actions they should take.

IV.ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Police Jury President

- a. Requires the Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Director or designee to report to the Emergency Operations Center when notified of an emergency situation.
- b. Coordinates with the Sheriff a statement on the parish's policy on people that do not comply with evacuation instructions. The statement addresses the consequences for not evacuating and the services that will be discontinued or interrupted in the evacuation area.
- c. Determines evacuation instructions or an evacuation order when appropriate.

2. Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Director

- a. Makes a recommendation to the Police Jury President on the appropriate evacuation option to implement.
- b. Identifies evacuation routes
 - Estimates the traffic capacity of each designated evacuation route.
 - Selects evacuation routes from risk area to designated mass care facilities.
 - Examines access to evacuation routes from each part of the risk area.
 - Oversees the implementation of the evacuation movement control plan.
 - Coordinates with Law Enforcement officials.
- c. Ensures that the Shelter Management Teams are clear on location of mass care facilities outside of the risk area that may be used to house evacuees.
- d. Reviews known information about the emergency situation and makes recommendations to the Police Jury President on the appropriate evacuation option to implement.
- e. Coordinates the opening of routes and shelter areas with neighboring parishes.
- f. Assists, as appropriate, the animal care and control agency's efforts to evacuate animals at risk during catastrophic emergency situation.
- g. Identifying central assembly area for picking up people without transportation.
- h. Development and maintenance of agreements with parish transportation providers for the use of vehicles in the event of an emergency.

3. The School Services Officer is responsible for the following:

- a. Evacuates students from school buildings when the situation warrants or when directed to do so by appropriate authority.
- b. Closes school facilities and releases students from school when directed to do so by appropriate authority.
- c. Coordinates where appropriate, the use of school buses and drivers to support the overall evacuation effort.

- d. Development of plans and procedures in conjunction with OHSEP for the coordination of transportation during an emergency.
- e. Coordinating the movement of persons requiring transportation at the time of an emergency.
- f. Satisfying transportation requests from other Emergency Operations Center staff officers during an emergency.
- g. School students while school is in session.
- h. Children in custody of Day Care Centers.
- g. Institutionalized persons.
- h. Non-institutionalized disabled persons without means of transportation.
- 4. Transportation Officer is Responsible for the Following:
 - a. Serve as liaison between parish government and rail, river, and air transportation systems.
 - b. Provide buses and trucks for Parish evacuations.
 - c. Recruit backup emergency vehicle drivers.
 - d. Prepare status charts and maps with pickup points and routing.
- 5. The Law Enforcement Officer is responsible for the following:
 - a. Providing traffic control during evacuation operations. Operation considerations include:
 - Route assignment, departure scheduling.
 - Road capacity expansion.
 - Entry control for outbound routes.
 - Perimeters for inbound routes.
 - Traffic flow, including dealing with breakdowns.
 - b. Secures, protects, and houses prisoners that must be evacuated.
 - c. Assists in the evacuation of the risk area, as necessary
 - d. Protects property in the evacuated area.
 - e. Limits access to the evacuated area.
 - f. Coordinates with the Transportation Officer.
- 6. The Public Information Officer is responsible for the following:
 - a. Disseminating the following types of instructional materials and information to evacuees:
 - Identification of the specific area to be evacuated.
 - List of items that evacuees should take with them.
 - Departure times.
 - Pick up Points for people requiring transportation assistance.
 - Evacuation routes.
 - Locations of shelters or mass care facilities outside of the evacuation area, if available from DCFS and/or American Red Cross.

- Keeps evacuees and the general public informed on evacuation activities and the specific actions they should take.
- b. Disseminating information on appropriate actions to protect and care for companion and farm animals that are to be evacuated or left behind.
- c. Ensure that rumor control is handled effectively/efficiently and kept to a minimum.
- 7. The Public Works Officer is responsible for verifying the structural safety of routes that will be used to evacuate people.

8. Health and Medical Officer

- a. Ensures patient population is reduced in hospitals, nursing homes, and other health care facilities, if evacuation becomes necessary.
- b. Ensures transport and medical care is provided for the patients being evacuated.
- c. Ensures continued medical care is provided for patients who cannot be moved when hospitals, nursing homes, and other health care facilities are evacuated.
- 9. Rabies Control, LSU Extension Service and Department of Agriculture
 - a. Makes an initial estimate of the numbers and types of animals that may need to be evacuated.
 - b. Coordinates with the Transportation Officer to arrange travel routes and to schedule the timing for evacuation of farm animals, animals in kennels, veterinary hospitals, pet stores, animal shelters, and wildlife from the risk area.
 - c. As appropriate, mobilizes transportation vehicles that may be used to evacuate the animals.
 - d. Implement evacuation by sending evacuation teams to load and transport the animals being evacuated.
 - e. As appropriate, dispatches search and rescue to look for animals left behind by their owners, stray animals, and other needing transport to a safe location.
- 10. All organizations tasked by the Emergency Operations Plan
 - a. Make provisions to protect and secure facilities and equipment not taken out of the area to be evacuated.
 - b. Identify and make provisions to relocate the organizational equipment and supplies that will be moved from the evacuation area.

V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

A. GENERAL

The Police Jury President or the Mayor within a municipality has the overall authority for the evacuation effort. All activities will be coordinated through the Emergency Operations Center, which will serve as the source of all direction and control.

1. Hurricane

Citizens' evacuation could possibly be ordered upon the receipt of a Hurricane Watch or Warning from the National Weather Service (NWS) or the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and a state-of-emergency declaration from local government has been issued. The areas to be evacuated, together with routes of travel and other pertinent information are found in Appendices 3 & 4 within this Annex.

2. Hazardous Materials Incident

(See Hazardous Materials Annex)

3. Flood

In the event of flooding, some low-lying areas may have to be evacuated. Warning will be provided in accordance with Annex C - Warning. Law enforcement personnel will be responsible for providing on-site assistance to evacuees.

4. Localized Evacuation

All small-scale evacuations will be coordinated through the Incident Commander or the OHSEP Director at the Emergency Operations Center. Law enforcement personnel will have the primary responsibility for on-scene control.

VI.CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

A Continuity of government operations must be maintained in an emergency evacuation situation. Detailed procedures for accomplishing this are included in the Direction and Control Annex and in the attachments to this annex. Essentially, Continuity of Government will be maintained by relocating government operations to an alternate Emergency Operations Center. Lines of succession to all key positions will be clearly established within this Plan as well as the Vermilion Parish COOP, and all essential records will be protected from destruction or loss.

VII. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

- 1. Reference to Policy Statements as listed under Basic Plan Part VII Administration and Logistics.
- 2. Legal Authority

State Constitution, Article 6, Section II.

A. EVACUEES ARE ASKED TO MAINTAIN A SURVIVAL KIT. THIS KIT MAY CONTAIN ANYTHING IT TAKES FOR THAT EVACUEE TO MAINTAIN REASONABLE COMFORT FOR 72 HOURS.

VIII. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- 1. Reference to Policy Statements as listed under Basic Plan Part VIII Plan Development and Maintenance.
- 2. Reference to Policy Statements as listed under Basic Plan Part IX Authorities and References.

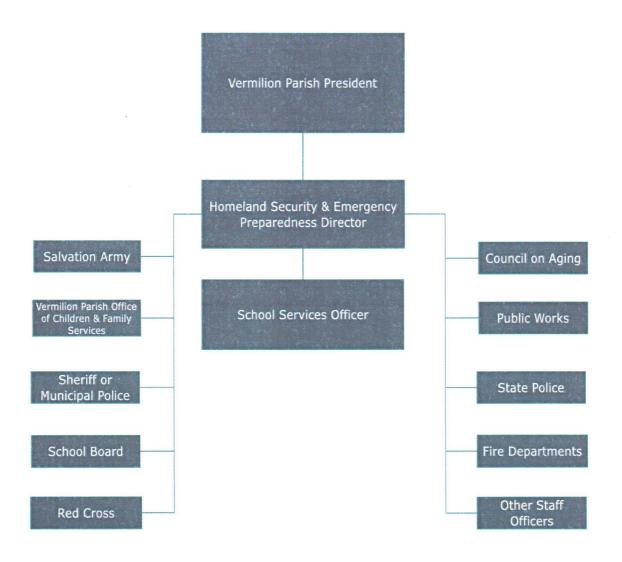
IX.GLOSSARY/DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

Reference to Policy Statements as listed under Basic Plan - Part X - Glossary and Definitions of Terms.

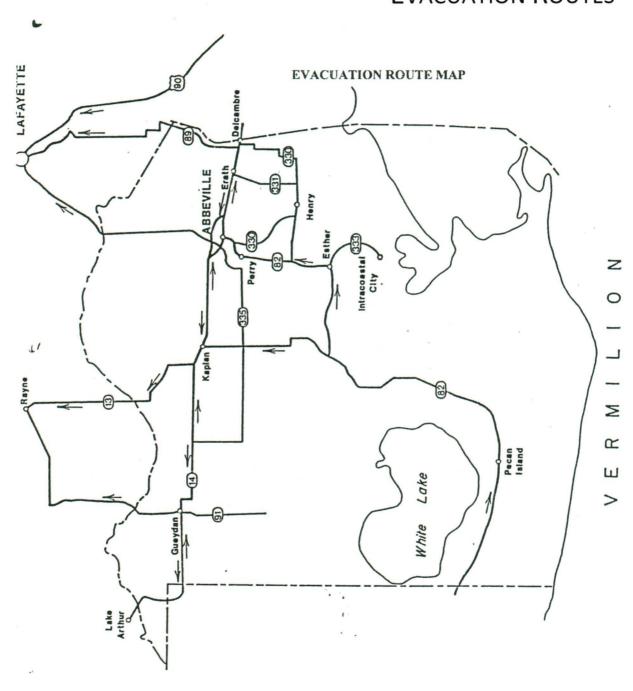
X. APPENDICES TO ANNEX

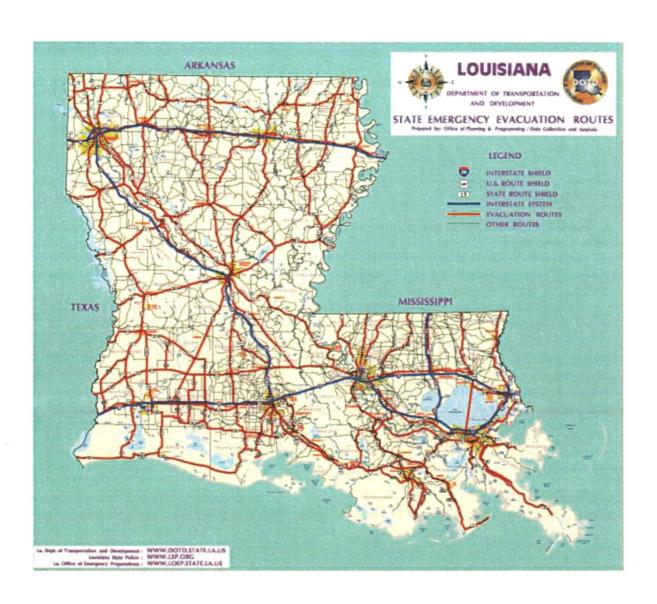
- 1. Evacuation Organizational Chart
- 2. Evacuation Routes
- 3. Zone Maps
- 4. Flood Prone Areas
- 5. Pick-up Points
- 6. Traffic Control Points
- 7. Evacuation Procedures

ANNEX D – APPENDIX 1 EVACUATION ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

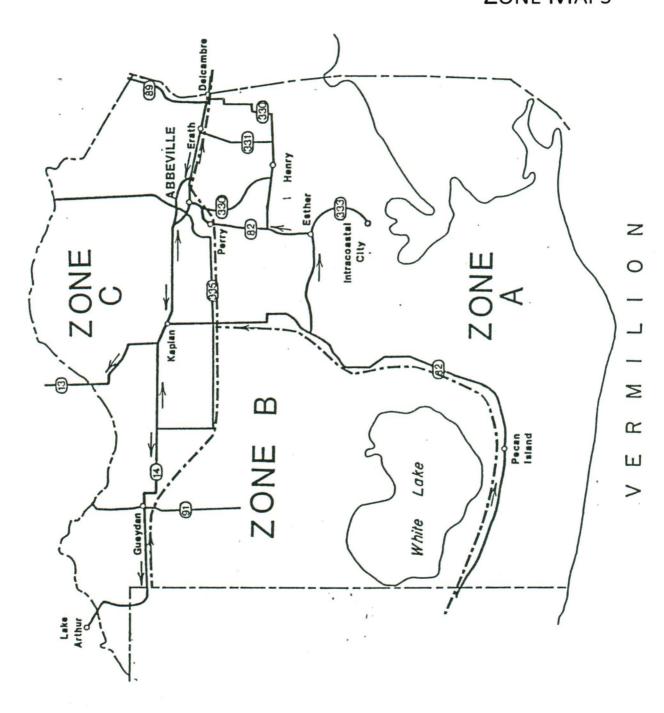


ANNEX D – APPENDIX 2 EVACUATION ROUTES





ANNEX D – APPENDIX 3 ZONE MAPS



ANNEX D — APPENDIX 4 FLOOD PRONE AREAS

Vermilion Parish subject to flooding over a major portion of the Parish, as was determined with floods of 1982.

Therefore, no specific area can be identified as a flood area. See Flood Zone map of Vermilion Parish and its municipalities.

ANNEX D – APPENDIX 5 PICK-UP POINTS

- I. Approximately 12% of evacuated population will need public transportation.
- List of pick-up points kept on file in EOC.
 Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana, Inc.
 Vermilion Unit
 301 AA Comeaux Memorial Drive
 Abbeville, La

Kaplan High School 608 N. Eleazar Avenue Kaplan, La 70548

ANNEX D — APPENDIX 6 TRAFFIC CONTROL POINTS

- 1. LA 14 at Delcambre
- 2. LA 89 at Parish Line
- 3. Intersection of LA Highway 14 and LA 89
- 4. LA 14 at Erath
- 5. La 331 and LA 330
- 6. LA 330
- 7. LA 14 at Abbeville
- 8. US 167 at Parish Line
- 9. LA 82 and LA 333 at Esther
- 10. LA 82 and LA 35
- 11. LA 35 and LA 335
- 13. LA 14 and LA 35 at Kaplan
- 14. LA 13 and LA 14
- 15. LA 13 at Parish Line
- 16. LA 3039 and LA 14
- 17. LA 14 and LA 91 at Gueydan
- 18. LA 91 at Parish Line
- 19. LA 14 at Parish Line
- 20. LA 82 at Parish Line

Annex D – Appendix 7 Evacuation Procedures

VERMILION PARISH

EVACUATION PROCEDURES

This is a summary of the evacuation procedures that will be used in Vermilion Parish.

- 1. Review definitions of Alert Periods and actions to accomplish during each period.
- 2. Brief EOC staff during Preparatory Period (Increased Readiness) on their responsibilities.
- 3. Identify resources and possible deficits. Coordinate resources with other parishes in the hazard area conglomerate and with State EOC.
- 4. Activate EOC (Annex A) prior to Relocation Period.
- 5. Be Prepared to activate Warning Systems (Annex C) and Emergency Public Information (Annex N).
- 6. At time of evacuation, implement functional annexes/appendices with special emphasis on:

Annex D, Evacuation

Annex E, Shelters

Annex G, Law Enforcement

Annex L, Resource Management

Annex M, Welfare Services

Annex N, Public Information