

**FY 2008 NIMS Compliance Activities for States/Territories and Local Governments:
Nationwide Comment Period**

BACKGROUND

Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-5, *Management of Domestic Incidents*, called for the establishment of a single, comprehensive national incident management system. That system is delineated in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) document, originally published in March of 2004 and revised in 2007 to reflect contributions from stakeholders and lessons learned during recent incidents. The revised document also clarifies and refines many of the NIMS concepts and principles, making it more user-friendly. (The draft 2007 NIMS document is located on FEMA's webpage: <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nrf/mainindex.htm>.) The NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable Federal, State, Territorial, and local governments, the private sector and nongovernmental organizations to work together to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity.

The NIMS Integration Center [now known as the National Integration Center (NIC), Incident Management Systems Division (IMSD)] was established by the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide "strategic direction for and oversight of NIMS...supporting both routine maintenance and the continuous refinement of the system and its components over the long term." IMSD oversees all aspects of NIMS, including the development of compliance criteria at Federal, State, Territory, and local levels.

FY 2005, FY 2006 & FY 2007 NIMS COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

On September 8, 2004, a letter to the Nation's Governors, detailed the initial steps that States, Territories, and local jurisdictions needed to take in FY 2005 to implement NIMS. The activities outlined in that letter provide the foundation for current NIMS Compliance and compliance. Since that time, IMSD continues to expand on this foundation and add additional activities – each developed to enhance the way that incidents are managed at all levels of government. In FY 2007, IMSD transitioned measurement of NIMS Compliance from self-certification to performance-based questions and a measurement system (metrics). Additionally, the NIMS Compliance Assistance Support Tool ("NIMSCAST" - formerly NIMCAST) is being expanded to incorporate these metrics and provide stakeholders with a way to collect and report on Compliance activities. This data is being analyzed and will help shape the future of NIMS Compliance.

FY 2008 NIMS COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

In October 2007, IMSD will release the FY 2008 NIMS Compliance Activities. These activities are primarily based upon previous years' requirements; however, there are several new activities for FY 2008 (many of which reflect the revision to the NIMS document). In previous years, one activity often contained several requirements (see example below). In an effort to clarify and streamline each activity and avoid confusion regarding multiple activities being combined together, in FY 2008, each FY 2007 activity was separated into its distinct pieces. It is IMSD's intent that separating the activities will aid jurisdictions in their NIMS Compliance efforts. While this resulted in what seems like an increase in the total number of activities, there are not a significant number of new requirements. To illustrate, there were 29 activities in FY 2007 which have been separated into 42 distinct activities in FY 2008.

For example the following was a single Compliance activity for States and Territories in FY 2007:

- Adopt NIMS at the State/Territorial level for all government departments and/or agencies; as well as promote and encourage NIMS adoption by associations, utilities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private sector incident management and response organizations. Monitor formal adoption of NIMS by all local and tribal jurisdictions.

In FY 2008 the single activity has become nine distinct activities for States and Territories:

- Maintain State/Territory's formal NIMS adoption.
- Promote and maintain formal NIMS adoption by State/Territorial Departments and Agencies.
- Monitor formal adoption of NIMS by State/Territory Departments/ Agencies.
- Monitor implementation of NIMS requirements for State/Territory Departments/Agencies.

**FY 2008 NIMS Compliance Activities for States/Territories and Local Governments:
Nationwide Comment Period**

- Promote and encourage NIMS adoption by infrastructure, private sector, and nongovernmental organizations (to include, but not limited to, associations, utilities, primary/secondary schools, colleges, and universities, hospital and health care systems).
- Monitor formal adoption of NIMS by local jurisdictions.
- Monitor implementation of NIMS requirements by local jurisdictions.
- Assist Tribal Nations with formal adoption of NIMS.
- Assist Tribal Nations with implementation of NIMS.

Similar to FY 2007, the FY 2008 NIMS Compliance Activities are separated into two tiers:

- **Tier 1 activities:** considered critical for NIMS implementation.
- **Tier 2 activities:** introduce concepts that may become Tier 1 activities in future fiscal years.

As with FY 2007, to demonstrate compliance in FY 2008, States, Territories and local jurisdictions must respond to the metrics associated with the "Tier 1" activities affirmatively. If a State, Territory or local jurisdiction cannot successfully implement a Tier 1 activity (i.e. not responding affirmatively to the associated metrics); a Corrective Action Plan that outlines how compliance will be attained must be submitted.

COMMENT PERIOD

Stakeholder input is a critical component in the development of the NIMS Compliance Activities as it provides insightful contributions which will help shape activities for FY 2008 and beyond. As such, stakeholders are being asked to participate in a formal nationwide comment period from August 10-24, 2007. A Notice of Availability is being posted in the Federal Register to ensure widest possible review. Once the comments are incorporated, the activities will be finalized and the associated metrics will be derived from those finalized activities. Additionally, the development of the metrics will incorporate changes from the revised NIMS document, as well as preliminary analysis of NIMSCAST data.

The attached packet includes draft activities for both States and Territories, and local jurisdictions. For your convenience, the documents can also be accessed at http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/whats_new.shtm.

To ensure consistency during the comment process, the comment form and associated instructions included in this packet will be utilized as the preferred method for submitting comments. Completed forms can be sent to NIMScomments@hsi.dhs.gov. You may also submit your comments (which must include the page and line numbers) directly to that e-mail address.

**FY 2008 NIMS Implementation Activities for States/Territories:
Nationwide Comment Period**

ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

1. **(Tier 1):** Maintain State/Territory's formal NIMS adoption.
2. **(Tier 1):** Promote and maintain formal NIMS adoption by State/Territorial Departments and Agencies.
3. **(Tier 1):** Monitor formal adoption of NIMS by State/Territory Departments/ Agencies
4. **(Tier 1):** Monitor implementation of NIMS requirements for State/Territory Departments/Agencies.
5. **(Tier 1):** Promote and encourage NIMS adoption by infrastructure, private sector, and nongovernmental organizations (to include, but not limited to, associations, utilities, primary/secondary schools, colleges, and universities, hospital and health care systems).
6. **(Tier 1):** Monitor formal adoption of NIMS by local jurisdictions.
7. **(Tier 1):** Monitor implementation of NIMS requirements by local jurisdictions.
8. **(Tier 1):** Assist Tribal Nations with formal adoption of NIMS.
9. **(Tier 1):** Assist Tribal Nations with implementation of NIMS.
10. **(Tier 1):** Maintain a current single point of contact within the State/Territorial government to serve as the principal coordinator for NIMS implementation State/Territory-wide.
11. **(Tier 1):** Maintain a single point of contact within each of the State/Territory departments/agencies to serve as the principal coordinator for NIMS implementation.
12. **(Tier 1):** Ensure that Federal Preparedness Awards [to include, but not limited to, DHS Homeland Security Grant Program and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Funds] supports NIMS implementation, to make satisfactory progress in meeting all required NIMS implementation activities
13. **(Tier 1):** Audit agencies and review organizations will verify that all Federal preparedness awards are contingent on the achievement of previous required NIMS implementation activities.
14. **(Tier 1):** Maintain State/Territory NIMS implementation strategy that includes a planning process to ensure the communication, monitoring, and implementation of required NIMS activities for State/Territory departments and agencies.
15. **(Tier 1):** Maintain State/Territory NIMS implementation strategy that includes a planning process to ensure the communication, monitoring, and implementation of required NIMS activities for local governments.
16. **(Tier 2):** Maintain State/Territory NIMS implementation strategy that includes a planning process to ensure the communication, monitoring, and implementation of required NIMS activities for Tribal nations.
17. **(Tier 1):** Coordinate and provide technical assistance to local jurisdictions regarding NIMS.
18. **(Tier 1):** Coordinate and provide technical assistance to Tribal Nations regarding NIMS.

**FY 2008 NIMS Implementation Activities for States/Territories:
Nationwide Comment Period**

COMMAND AND MANAGEMENT

1. **(Tier 1):** Manage all incidents/planned events in accordance with Incident Command System (ICS) organizational structures, doctrine and procedures.
2. **(Tier 2):** Implement use of unified command (UC), where appropriate, in multi-jurisdictional or multiagency incident management.
3. **(Tier 2):** Implement use of Area Command, where appropriate, to oversee multiple incidents that are handled by separate ICS organizations or to oversee the management of a very large or evolving incident that has multiple incident management teams engaged.
4. **(Tier 1):** Utilize access control measures (including badging) on-scene during incident response.
5. **(Tier 1):** Implement, as appropriate, incident action planning (i.e. use of IAPs) during an incident/planned event.
6. **(Tier 1):** Coordinate and support incident management through the development and use of integrated multiagency coordination systems (MACS) during an incident and/or planned event.
7. **(Tier 2):** Ensure MACS elements are developed and work effectively to coordinate and support incident management activities through a combination of resources integrated into a common framework between ICS (command) and MACS (coordinated via EOC and/or MAC Group).
8. **(Tier 2):** Institutionalize Public Information [e.g. Joint Information System (JIS) and a Joint Information Center (JIC)] during an incident and/or planned event.
9. **(Tier 1):** Ensure that the Public Information procedures and processes can gather, verify, coordinate, and disseminate information during an incident/planned event.

PREPAREDNESS PLANNING

1. **(Tier 1):** Review and validate Emergency Operation Plans (EOPs), as appropriate, to incorporate NIMS components, principles and policies.
2. **(Tier 1):** Review and validate Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)/ Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) to incorporate NIMS components, principles and policies.
3. **(Tier 2):** Develop multiagency and/or multidisciplinary preparedness plans for communications and information management, resource management, and command and management.
4. **(Tier 2):** Include preparedness organizations and elected and appointed officials in the development of emergency operations plans, when appropriate.
5. **(Tier 2):** Plan for individuals with special needs in the development of emergency operations plans, to include individuals with: limited English language proficiency; disabilities; children; the aged and other special needs.
6. **(Tier 1):** Develop mutual aid agreements and/or assistance agreements throughout the State/Territory to ensure the acquisition of resources.
7. **(Tier 2):** Develop mutual aid agreements and/or assistance agreements with private sector and non-governmental organizations to ensure the acquisition of resources.

**FY 2008 NIMS Implementation Activities for States/Territories:
Nationwide Comment Period**

- 1 8. **(Tier 1):** Promote the incorporation of corrective actions into preparedness and response plans and
2 procedures.
3

PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

- 4
5
6 9. **(Tier 1):** Incorporate NIMS concepts and principles into all State/Territory training and exercises.
7
8 10. **(Tier 1):** Identify existing resources, such as programs, personnel, and training facilities, to coordinate
9 and deliver NIMS training.
10
11 11. **(Tier 2):** Promote and encourage delivery of NIMS training in conformance with the Five-Year NIMS
12 Training Plan.
13
14 12. **(Tier 2):** Ensure completion of NIMS training course(s) by chief-elected, executives, and appointed
15 officials in accordance with Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008.
16
17 13. **(Tier 1):** Complete IS-700 NIMS: An Introduction or equivalent by appropriate personnel (as identified
18 in the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
19
20 14. **(Tier 1):** Complete IS-800 NRP: An Introduction or equivalent by appropriate personnel (as identified
21 in the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
22
23 15. **(Tier 1):** Complete ICS-100 training or equivalent by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-
24 Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
25
26 16. **(Tier 1):** Complete ICS-200 training or equivalent by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-
27 Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
28
29 17. **(Tier 1):** Complete ICS-300 training or equivalent by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-
30 Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
31
32 18. **(Tier 1):** Complete ICS-400 training or equivalent by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-
33 Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
34
35 19. **(Tier 2):** Complete IS-701 training by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS
36 Training Plan, October 2008).
37
38 20. **(Tier 2):** Complete ICS-702 training by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS
39 Training Plan, October 2008).
40
41 21. **(Tier 2):** Complete ICS-703 training by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS
42 Training Plan, October 2008).
43
44 22. **(Tier 2):** Complete ICS-704 training by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS
45 Training Plan, October 2008).
46
47

PREPAREDNESS EXERCISES

- 48
49
50 23. **(Tier 1):** Participate in an all-hazard exercise program, [for example, Homeland Security Exercise and
51 Evaluation Program (HSEEP)] that involves emergency management/response personnel from
52 multiple disciplines and multiple jurisdictions.
53
54 24. **(Tier 2):** Promote the participation of NGOs and the private sector in an all-hazard exercise program,
55 when appropriate.
56

**FY 2008 NIMS Implementation Activities for States/Territories:
Nationwide Comment Period**

- 1 25. **(Tier 2):** Incorporate interactions between Incident Command, MACS, and Public Information into
2 appropriate exercises.
3

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- 4
5
6
7 1. **(Tier 1):** Identify and inventory State/Territory-wide emergency management/response assets to
8 conform with resources defined by FEMA Incident Management Systems Division.
9
10 2. **(Tier 1):** Determine availability of emergency management/response assets in conformance with "Tier
11 One" NIMS National Resource Typing Definitions and deploy when deemed appropriate.
12
13 3. **(Tier 2):** Inventory and type specific emergency management/response resources and assets to
14 address unique needs beyond current "Tier One" NIMS National Resource Typing Definitions.
15
16 4. **(Tier 2):** Institute mechanisms to track resources utilized during response and recovery.
17
18 5. **(Tier 2):** Institute processes to recover and demobilize resources and to obtain and/or provide
19 reimbursement.
20
21 6. **(Tier 1):** Plan for the receipt of resources in accordance with the National Response Plan (NRP)
22 Catastrophic Incident Annex and Catastrophic Incident Supplement
23
24 7. **(Tier 1):** Credential emergency management/response personnel to ensure proper authorization and
25 access to an incident including those involving mutual aid agreements and/or assistance agreements.
26
27 8. **(Tier 1):** Institute protocols to prevent spontaneous deployment of resources/personnel and/or
28 responding to a request that bypassed official resource coordination processes (i.e., resources
29 requested through improper channels).
30
31 9. **(Tier 1):** Ensure that equipment, communications, and data systems are interoperable throughout
32 State and local acquisition programs.
33
34 10. **(Tier 2):** Incorporate redundant information systems into resource management systems and
35 protocols/procedures.
36

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- 37
38
39
40 1. **(Tier 1):** Apply common and consistent terminology as used in NIMS, including the establishment of
41 plain language (clear text) communications standards.
42
43 2. **(Tier 1):** Utilize systems, tools, and processes that facilitate the collection and distribution of
44 consistent and accurate information during an incident/planned event.
45
46 3. **(Tier 2):** Develop and institute assistance agreements to specify the communication systems and
47 platforms through which jurisdictions/agencies agree to utilize or share information during an incident.
48
49 4. **(Tier 2):** Develop and institute redundant communications systems.
50
51 5. **(Tier 2):** Institute procedures and protocols for operational information security during incident
52 response.
53
54 6. **(Tier 2):** Institute multidisciplinary procedures and protocols for standardization in data collection and
55 analysis.
56

***FY 2008 NIMS Implementation Activities for States/Territories:
Nationwide Comment Period***

- 1 7. **(Tier 2):** Develop procedures and protocols for communications, to include voice, data, access to
2 geospatial information, Internet/Web use, and data encryption, where applicable.

DRAFT

**FY 2008 NIMS Implementation Activities for Local Governments:
Nationwide Comment Period**

ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

1. **(Tier 1):** Maintain local government formal NIMS adoption.
2. **(Tier 1):** Promote and maintain formal NIMS adoption by local government Departments and Agencies.
3. **(Tier 1):** Monitor formal adoption of NIMS by local government Departments/ Agencies
4. **(Tier 1):** Monitor implementation of NIMS requirements for local government Departments/Agencies.
5. **(Tier 1):** Promote and encourage NIMS adoption by infrastructure, private sector, and nongovernmental organizations (to include, but not limited to, associations, utilities, primary/secondary schools, colleges, and universities, hospital and health care systems).
6. **(Tier 1):** Assist Tribal Nations with formal adoption of NIMS.
7. **(Tier 1):** Assist Tribal Nations with implementation of NIMS.
8. **(Tier 1):** Maintain a current single point of contact within the local government to serve as the principal coordinator for NIMS implementation.
9. **(Tier 1):** Identify a single point of contact within each of the local government departments/agencies to serve as the principal coordinator for NIMS implementation.
10. **(Tier 1):** Ensure that Federal Preparedness Awards [to include, but not limited to, DHS Homeland Security Grant Program and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Funds] supports NIMS implementation, to make satisfactory progress in meeting all required NIMS implementation activities
11. **(Tier 1):** Audit agencies and review organizations will verify that all Federal preparedness awards are contingent on the achievement of previous required NIMS implementation activities.
12. **(Tier 1):** Maintain local government NIMS implementation strategy that includes a planning process to ensure the communication, monitoring, and implementation of required NIMS activities for local governments that is consistent with State/Territory strategy
13. **(Tier 2):** Maintain State/Territory NIMS implementation strategy that includes a planning process to ensure the communication, monitoring, and implementation of required NIMS activities for Tribal nations.

COMMAND AND MANAGEMENT

1. **(Tier 1):** Manage all incidents/planned events in accordance with Incident Command System (ICS) organizational structures, doctrine and procedures.
2. **(Tier 2):** Implement use of unified command (UC), where appropriate, in multi-jurisdictional or multiagency incident management.
3. **(Tier 2):** Implement use of Area Command, where appropriate, to oversee multiple incidents that are handled by separate ICS organizations or to oversee the management of a very large or evolving incident that has multiple incident management teams engaged.
4. **(Tier 1):** Utilize access control measures (including badging) on-scene during incident response.

**FY 2008 NIMS Implementation Activities for Local Governments:
Nationwide Comment Period**

- 1 5. **(Tier 1):** Implement, as appropriate, incident action planning (i.e. use of IAPs) during an incident/
2 planned event.
- 3
- 4 6. **(Tier 1):** Coordinate and support incident management through the development and use of
5 integrated multiagency coordination systems (MACS) during an incident and/or planned event.
- 6
- 7 7. **(Tier 2):** Ensure MACS elements are developed and work effectively to coordinate and support
8 incident management activities through a combination of resources integrated into a common
9 framework between ICS (command) and MACS (coordinated via EOC and/or MAC Group).
- 10
- 11 8. **(Tier 2):** Institutionalize Public Information [e.g. Joint Information System (JIS) and a Joint Information
12 Center (JIC)] during an incident and/or planned event.
- 13
- 14 9. **(Tier 1):** Ensure that the Public Information procedures and processes can gather, verify, coordinate,
15 and disseminate information during an incident/planned event.
- 16

PREPAREDNESS PLANNING

- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20 1. **(Tier 1):** Review and validate Emergency Operation Plans (EOPs), as appropriate, to incorporate
21 NIMS components, principles and policies.
- 22
- 23 2. **(Tier 1):** Review and validate Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)/ Standard Operating
24 Guidelines (SOGs) to incorporate NIMS components, principles and policies.
- 25
- 26 3. **(Tier 2):** Develop multiagency and/or multidisciplinary preparedness plans for communications and
27 information management, resource management, and command and management.
- 28
- 29 4. **(Tier 2):** Include preparedness organizations and elected and appointed officials in the development
30 of emergency operations plans, when appropriate.
- 31
- 32 5. **(Tier 1):** Develop mutual aid agreements and/or assistance agreements throughout the area to
33 ensure the acquisition of resources.
- 34
- 35 6. **(Tier 2):** Develop mutual aid agreements and/or assistance agreements with private sector and non-
36 governmental organizations to ensure the acquisition of resources.
- 37
- 38 7. **(Tier 1):** Promote the incorporation of corrective actions into preparedness and response plans and
39 procedures.
- 40

PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

- 41
- 42
- 43
- 44 1. **(Tier 1):** Incorporate NIMS concepts and principles into all training and exercises.
- 45
- 46 2. **(Tier 1):** Identify existing resources, such as programs, personnel, and training facilities, to coordinate
47 and deliver NIMS training.
- 48
- 49 3. **(Tier 2):** Promote and encourage delivery of NIMS training in conformance with the Five-Year NIMS
50 Training Plan.
- 51
- 52 4. **(Tier 2):** Ensure completion of NIMS training course(s) by chief-elected, executives, and appointed
53 officials in accordance with Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008.
- 54
- 55 5. **(Tier 1):** Complete IS-700 NIMS: An Introduction or equivalent by appropriate personnel (as identified
56 in the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).

**FY 2008 NIMS Implementation Activities for Local Governments:
Nationwide Comment Period**

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55

6. **(Tier 1):** Complete IS-800 NRP: An Introduction or equivalent by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
7. **(Tier 1):** Complete ICS-100 training or equivalent by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
8. **(Tier 1):** Complete ICS-200 training or equivalent by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
9. **(Tier 1):** Complete ICS-300 training or equivalent by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
10. **(Tier 1):** Complete ICS-400 training or equivalent by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
11. **(Tier 2):** Complete IS-701 training by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
12. **(Tier 2):** Complete ICS-702 training by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
13. **(Tier 2):** Complete ICS-703 training by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).
14. **(Tier 2):** Complete ICS-704 training by appropriate personnel (as identified in the Five-Year NIMS Training Plan, October 2008).

PREPAREDNESS EXERCISES

1. **(Tier 1):** Participate in an all-hazard exercise program, [for example, Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)] that involves emergency management/response personnel from multiple disciplines and multiple jurisdictions.
2. **(Tier 2):** Promote the participation of NGOs and the private sector in an all-hazard exercise program, when appropriate.
3. **(Tier 2):** Incorporate interactions between Incident Command, MACS, and Public Information into appropriate exercises.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

1. **(Tier 1):** Identify and inventory emergency management/response assets to conform with resources defined by FEMA Incident Management Systems Division.
2. **(Tier 1):** Determine availability of emergency management/response assets in conformance with “Tier One” NIMS National Resource Typing Definitions and deploy when deemed appropriate.
3. **(Tier 2):** Inventory and type specific emergency management/response resources and assets to address unique needs beyond current “Tier One” NIMS National Resource Typing Definitions.
4. **(Tier 2):** Institute mechanisms to track resources utilized during response and recovery.

**FY 2008 NIMS Implementation Activities for Local Governments:
Nationwide Comment Period**

- 1 5. **(Tier 2):** Institute processes to recover and demobilize resources and to obtain and/or provide
2 reimbursement.
- 3
- 4 6. **(Tier 1):** Plan for the receipt of resources in accordance with the National Response Plan (NRP)
5 Catastrophic Incident Annex and Catastrophic Incident Supplement
- 6
- 7 7. **(Tier 1):** Credential emergency management/response personnel to ensure proper authorization and
8 access to an incident including those involving mutual aid agreements and/or assistance agreements.
- 9
- 10 8. **(Tier 1):** Institute protocols to prevent spontaneous deployment of resources/personnel and/or
11 responding to a request that bypassed official resource coordination processes (i.e., resources
12 requested through improper channels).
- 13
- 14 9. **(Tier 1):** Ensure that equipment, communications, and data systems are interoperable throughout
15 State and local acquisition programs.
- 16
- 17 10. **(Tier 2):** Incorporate redundant information systems into resource management systems and
18 protocols/procedures.
- 19
- 20

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- 21
- 22
- 23 1. **(Tier 1):** Apply common and consistent terminology as used in NIMS, including the establishment of
24 plain language (clear text) communications standards.
- 25
- 26 2. **(Tier 1):** Utilize systems, tools, and processes that facilitate the collection and distribution of
27 consistent and accurate information during an incident/planned event.
- 28
- 29 3. **(Tier 2):** Develop and institute assistance agreements to specify the communication systems and
30 platforms through which jurisdictions/agencies agree to utilize or share information during an incident.
- 31
- 32 4. **(Tier 2):** Develop and institute redundant communications systems.
- 33
- 34 5. **(Tier 2):** Institute procedures and protocols for operational information security during incident
35 response.
- 36
- 37 6. **(Tier 2):** Institute multidisciplinary procedures and protocols for standardization in data collection and
38 analysis.
- 39
- 40 7. **(Tier 2):** Develop procedures and protocols for communications, to include voice, data, access to
41 geospatial information, Internet/Web use, and data encryption, where applicable.