

2012 Evergreen Quake Exercise Series (EQES)



National Earthquake Program Managers Meeting May 1, 2013

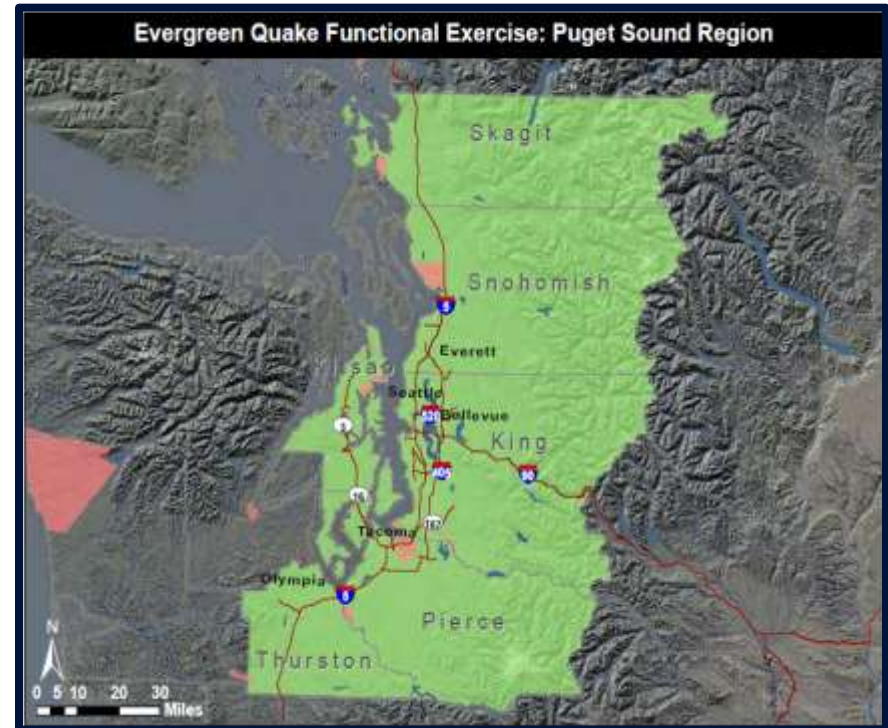
2012 EQES – Mission Statement

Improve our collective capability to **plan for, respond to, and recover from** a major earthquake in the Puget Sound region:

- Collaboratively designed and conducted an exercise series to access participant plans, procedures, logistics, and recovery strategies.
- Practiced integrating emergency management and public safety disciplines' response plans, response capabilities, and communications across all levels of government, tribal nations, private sector and non-governmental organizations.

Exercise Series Purpose

- The six-county Seattle metro region has a population of over 4 million people
- Significant large-scale to catastrophic earthquake risk
- Built environment perhaps more fragile than we care to believe
- Over 75% of the GDP of Washington state



2012 EQES – Exercise Participants

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- ✓ 23 Puget Sound Cities
 - ✓ 6 Counties (Functional) / 9 Counties (Recovery)
 - ✓ 6 Puget Sound Tribes
 - ✓ 6 CPODs / 1 State Staging / 1 Fed ISB (LogEx)
 - ✓ 21 Private Sector Entities
 - ✓ Washington State Agencies
 - ✓ Region 10 (Northwest) Federal Agencies
 - ✓ British Columbia Provincial Agencies
 - ✓ States of Alaska (Functional) & Idaho (Recovery)
 - ✓ Players: 2,267 (FE) / 635 (Log) / 750+ (Recovery)

Exercise Series Overview

Functional Exercise

- StartEx at Earthquake+24 hours
- Addressed multi-agency coordination
- Focus on D+24 to D+72 post-quake actions

Assumptions:

- Local resources largely overwhelmed/exhausted
- Local mutual aid is limited
- A design intended to stress the systems typically relied upon
- Examined EOC to EOC coordination
 - Local to Local
 - Local to State
 - State to Federal

Logistics Exercise

- Exercised the combined local, state, and federal capability to manage resources after a major regional disaster
- Simulated an emergency supply chain including a federal and state staging area and multiple community PODs
- Exercised distribution of medical supplies / operation of a federal medical shelter

Exercise Series Overview

Recovery Tabletop

- A series of educational seminars and workshops –
 - Principles
 - Communications
 - Community Planning
 - Economic Recovery
 - Transportation and Infrastructure
- Culminated in a Regional Tabletop
- Naval Postgraduate School exercised senior & appointed officials

2012 EQES – Exercise Highlights

Designed for and by local jurisdictions and state/federal agencies

- Built on lessons learned from previous exercises
- Tested the priorities of the locals; such as road closures and logistics
- Designed by locals for locals; unlike previous national exercises

Stressed systems and processes with significant events

- Stressed resource management and requests for resources
- Stressed federal mission assignment process across functions (public health, public works, mass care, sheltering, emergency response)
- Stressed the State's policy level decision-making process

Exercise planning timeline provided adequate preparation

- The design model encouraged collaboration
- All player counties and primary state agencies participated in the design
- Many "Day 1" documents developed by players – enhanced "buy-in"
- The Warm Start document allowed for training to specific standards

2012 EQES – Exercise Highlights

Training and public information were integrated into EQ series

- The two-year timeline allowed for an integration of building blocks, such as response capabilities workshop and economic recovery seminar.
- The public and jurisdictional information campaign encompassed a progressive and thoughtful information flow. PIOs engaged.

State agencies and local jurisdictions gained experience through cross training by outside evaluation and control

- Several state agencies, such as Corrections and Office of Insurance Commissioner, provided controllers and evaluators. (Transportation and Health were major benefactors.)
- Twelve “outside” county emergency management departments, law enforcement or fire response worked in exercise counties for evaluation or control.
- State benefitted from British Columbia and Alaska support.

2012 EQES - Functional Exercise

Staffing and Facility Needs

- The exercise stressed EOC operations at all levels
- Many EOCs have insufficient space to accommodate surge personnel
- Jurisdictions must consider depth, sustaining operations, EOC expansion capability, and comprehensive and scalable staffing strategies

Resource Typing and Visibility

- Understanding the precise need of the requesting organization expedites filling. The exercise at all levels uncovered training need to communicate the desired capability in addition to the resource type and kind.
- Multiple AND disparate technology platforms hindered the visibility of the request process. Must explore cross-platform integration.

Prioritization of Resources

- A mechanism for prioritizing and assigning limited life-safety resources could not be determined.
- Players uncovered need for collaborative policy for resource prioritization.

2012 EQES - Functional Exercise

Holistic View of Transportation Infrastructure

- Recommend including multi-modal stakeholders into transportation infrastructure assessments and providing a consolidated common operating picture

Alternate Route Coordination

- When jurisdictions independently determine alternate routes – it leads to redundancy and inconsistency throughout the region
- We need a process for coordinating alternate routes for transportation

Information Sharing

- A complete picture of impacts wasn't delivered to all stakeholders. Also, a graphical display of road/rail/maritime information was lacking.
- We are good at collecting raw data, such as street closures. However, there was a lack of analysis of the impacts and no mechanism for correlating regional transportation impacts
- All levels of government need a process for sharing information

2012 EQES - Logistics Exercise Highlights

Logistic Exercise built on Functional Exercise Platform

- Tested the request process for local to state to federal during functional and followed through during first day of LogEx.

Mutual Aid

- Tested EMAC (state-to-state) with full A-Team employment.
- Tested PNEMA (province-to-state) with integration of BC staff.

Community Points of Distribution (CPODs) established

- Five local county CPODs established.
- Counties had opportunity to practice CPOD management and public distribution of food and supplies.

Movement Control

- Initial test for delivering state and federal resource from staging area to counties. Kudos to DES.
- Established and practiced staging area, their plans and processes.

2012 EQES – Recovery Tabletop Themes

Develop multi-level working groups to build a cohesive and collaborative effort considering all interdependencies

Public Information

- Public messaging requires sustained coordination by all post disaster/recovery entities

Populations

- Equity for all citizens in affected areas
 - Low income and Vulnerable populations
 - Schools are the health of any community

Leadership

- Leadership is critical
 - Trust and transparency essential
- Interdependencies must be determined and represented
 - Plan for the worse case scenario now
- Business community is resilient and innovative

2012 EQES – Recovery Tabletop Highlights

Economic Recovery

- Develop incentives for businesses to have plans (continuity plans, risk management plans) and insurance before a disaster
- Innovation required to develop and nurture relationships / Insert post disaster recovery “thinking” and needs into existing processes
- Develop post disaster, flexible financing programs
- Involve elected officials to ensure economic stability
- Recognize potential supply chain disruptions (rail, port, air, sea, land)

Transportation / Infrastructure

- Infrastructure requires multi-agency, cross-jurisdictional, and multi-functional task forces to address the challenges
- Prioritize repairs by determining what infrastructure should be operational first (prior to a disaster)

2012 EQES – Recovery Tabletop Highlights

Health and Social Services

- The continuum for healthcare planning requires recognizing partners
 - Environmental health
 - Public health
 - Behavioral health (group homes, DSHS, social services, counseling,
 - Hospitals/clinics/extended care facilities/Outpatient services
- Must consider the numbers of disciplines required to draft a comprehensive plan (schools, special populations, pharmacies, social services) – adds to complexity
- Hospitals and the healthcare system depend on potable water to remain operational; e.g. Dialysis need fresh water every 4 hours

Long Term Housing

- Recovery of schools = indicates that recovery is progressing
- Expect 25,000 people to need interim housing (1 - 7 years). What will interim look like? FEMA trailers?
- Permitting and repairs of damaged housing are synonymous
 - Opportunity to rebuild – what will it look like?

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Questions?



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