UAS Working Groups



FEMA

North Carolina / FEMA Region 04 Government Sector UAS Meeting

FEMA Region IV UAS Working Groups



AL UAS WG Kickoff - Huntsville, AL December 11, 2017



NC UAS WG Kickoff - Wanchese, NC April 20, 2018



NC UAS Workshop - Nags Head, NC April 19, 2018



GA UAS WG Kickoff - GPTSC June 18, 2018



FL UAS WG Kickoff - Tallahassee, FL August 3, 2018



SC UAS WG Kickoff- SC EOC August 28, 2018

FEMA Region IV UAS Working Group Exercises



AL UAS WG Rodeo – October 28, 2019



GA UAS WG Exercise - November 28, 2019



Alabama GEOHuntsville UAS Rodeo Kiosk located at the Public Safety Training Academy

Remote Sensing Cell

The Remote Sensing Cell was created to coordinate the collection of imagery during major disasters. This collection is accomplished by the means of a collaborative collection plan that incorporates an approved collection plan that includes areas of interest identified by the RRCC, ESFs, State partners and other Federal agencies.



The members of the RSC include: RSC Staff, Civil Air Patrol, Air Ops, FAA, FEMA GIS, CISA, Collection Plan Manager, and an Imagery Analyst.





PDA Pocket Guide May 2020



FACT SHEET

Preliminary Damage Assessment Guide 2020 Summary of Changes

On May 8, 2020, FEMA released its <u>Preliminary Damage Assessment Guide</u> (PDA Guide), the update to the 2016 Damage Assessment Operations Manual. The purpose of the PDA Guide and its accompanying <u>PDA</u> <u>Pocket Guide</u> is to define a standard national-level framework for how state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments and FEMA staff collect and validate the cause, location, and details of damage following a disaster. Guidance in the PDA Guide will go into effect on June 8, 2020. This document highlights key changes between the process laid out in the PDA Guide compared to the earlier guidance.

Background

A Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) is the mechanism SLTT governments and FEMA use to determine the impact and magnitude of damage following a disaster and the resulting unmet needs to individuals, businesses, the public sector, and communities. The primary objective of the PDA is to collect information, conduct analysis, and provide situational awareness to state, territorial, or tribal government leaders to determine whether the impacts of a disaster warrant a disaster declaration request under the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 5121 et seq.).

Summary of Changes

1. Inclusion of Desktop Assessments as a Possible Methodology for Public Assistance PDAs

Visual confirmation of damage by FEMA does not necessarily need to be in-person. When a SLTT government has the capability to participate in a desktop assessment, it can submit Initial Damage Assessments (IDAs) to FEMA with documentation, including photographs, that allow FEMA to validate information remotely. The concept of operations for these desktop assessment PDAs will differ slightly from the normal process. For example, there will be more coordination submitted by SLTTs to FEMA for review (remote validation) by a PDA Validator and team.





Scalable Traffic management for Emergency REsponse Operations

STEReO Workshop – February 11-13 2020





The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) led by my Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Integration Office Research, Engineering, and Analysis Division is forming a Peer Review Panel to provide independent assessment and expert guidance for a new FAA research project: UAS Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response. Under Section 359 of H.R. 302 (P.L. 115-254), the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 and recent appropriations, the FAA is congressionally mandated to conduct this research. The goal of this research is to develop a safe, effective, and standardized approach to inform policies, procedures, guidelines, and best practices for UAS operations in response to disasters and emergencies. Additionally, this research is intended to inform how the use of UAS during these events can be optimized in order to aid the public and ultimately increase public safety.



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