

# **Somerset County Emergency Operations Plan**

## **ATTACHMENT E - TRANSPORTATION-RELATED MASS CASUALTY INCIDENTS**

### **I. NATURE OF THE HAZARD**

The major traffic routes in the county also provide the avenues of approach for the heavy four-season tourism industry that provides a substantial impact to the economic climate of the county. One finds Somerset County being as diverse in the four season climatic weather changes as it is from four seasons of tourism.

The population of Somerset County grows rapidly during the spring, fall and winter, as the many seasonal or part time residents and recreation enthusiasts meld into the vast forests, rivers and lake shores of the heavily forested northern expanse of the county. The seasonal residents and tourists enjoy the famous camping, hiking, fishing, boating, whitewater rafting and ATV riding during the spring and summer, hunting for upland large game and birds during the fall, and skiing and snowmobiling during the winter. Although not rated, transportation mass casualty incidents were considered and profiled in the Somerset County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

### **II. RISK AREA**

The county begins in the foothills in the central portion of the state and expands approximately 135 miles in length south to north with approximately 30 miles in average width. This long expansion of the county will at times require two hours of travel time to traverse the distance, depending upon the weather and seasonal road conditions.

Somerset County has a major U.S. and Canadian Border Crossing Site (3<sup>rd</sup> largest commercial Maine US/Canadian port of entry) in Sandy Bay Township near Jackman, Maine; the Kennebec River as a major water tributary; three major transportation routes with U.S. Route 2, east to west; U.S. Route 201, north to south from Canada; and Interstate 95, northeast to the south.

Somerset County has public airports in Pittsfield, Norridgewock and Jackman; a private airport in Bingham; the Gifford Rail System in the southern portion of the county and the Canadian Rail System of the Montreal, Maine and Atlantic Railway, Inc., traversing the northern portion from west to east (also considered through the northern port of entry).

### **III. DIRECTION AND CONTROL**

Each municipality will be responsible for conducting emergency response to a transportation-related mass casualty incident. The Incident Commander will request mutual aid from other municipal fire departments and EMS companies in the County. The Incident Commander may also request additional law enforcement support from the Somerset County Sheriff's Department or the Maine State Police.

When the magnitude of a transportation-related MCI reaches a size as to totally overwhelm the municipal and mutual aid resources, the Incident Commander will request additional resources from the State of Maine through the Somerset County EMA. The County EMA will forward the requests to the Maine Emergency Management Agency.

### **IV. COMMUNICATIONS**

Communications will be maintained between the Somerset County RCC, the Somerset County

# Somerset County Emergency Operations Plan

## ATTACHMENT E - TRANSPORTATION-RELATED MASS CASUALTY INCIDENTS

EMA office, and the first responders. It is unlikely that regional telephone or cellular service will be interrupted during transportation MCI. Two-way radio traffic may become congested, since this is the primary means of communication for the municipal fire departments.

### V. WARNING

There will be no prior warning of the occurrence of transportation MCI. However, it is unlikely that such an event will put the general public in harm's way. Local law enforcement will establish road blocks if the event occurs on a highway and reroute traffic around the incident. Local traffic may be hampered in order to establish routes of travel for fire and EMS vehicles.

### VI. EMERGENCY PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Somerset EMA may contact local radio stations to notify the public of any road closures due to the location or needs of the incident.

### VII. EVACUATION

Unless there is hazmat involved, evacuations will most likely not be required.

### VIII. MASS CARE

Mass care for the general public will not be required. Area hospitals will provide acute beds for those injured in the transportation MCI. Additional beds will be coordinated with hospitals outside the county. Somerset County hospitals can bed down up to 120 patients.

Hospital	Beds
Redington Fairview	65
Sebasicook Valley	45

### IX. HEALTH AND MEDICAL

Emergency medical services are provided in the following communities: Skowhegan (Redington Fairview EMS) 3 ambulances; Pittsfield (Segasticook Valley EMS) 2 ambulances; Hartland (Hartland/St. Albans EMS) 1 ambulance; Bingham (Upper Kennebec Valley EMS) 2 ambulances; Anson (Anson/Madison/Starks EMS) 3 ambulances; Harmony (Harmony EMS) 1 ambulance, and Jackman (Jackman EMS) 2 ambulances, for a total of fourteen (14).

Rescue Services are provided by Canaan Fire and Rescue (1 Unit), Detroit Rescue (1 Unit), Fairfield Fire and Rescue (1 Unit), Madison Rescue (1 Unit), Rockwood Fire and Rescue (1 Unit), Smithfield Rescue (1Unit), Starks Rescue (1 Unit), for a total of seven (7).

### X. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Municipalities and hospitals will contact the County EMA office when requesting outside resources that cannot be supported by their mutual aid agreements.