



Ocean Falls Emergency Response Plan

HAZARD ANNEX – EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE PLAN

Central Coast Regional District

*Updated by Frontier Resource Management Ltd
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Earthquake Emergency Response Plan



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Earthquake Emergency Contact List

- See **Ocean Falls EOC call out list**
- Coast Guard – Denny Island: 250-957-5706
- Power Outage and BC Hydro emergencies: 1-888-769-3766
- Boralex Power – 250- 289-3868
- Telus – repair: 611
- Red Cross: 800-661-9055

Earthquake Occurs

Contact:

Local Emergency Team (LET) - Ocean Falls Deputy EPC

Emergency Executive Committee – Coordinator
- CCRD Rep
- Secretary

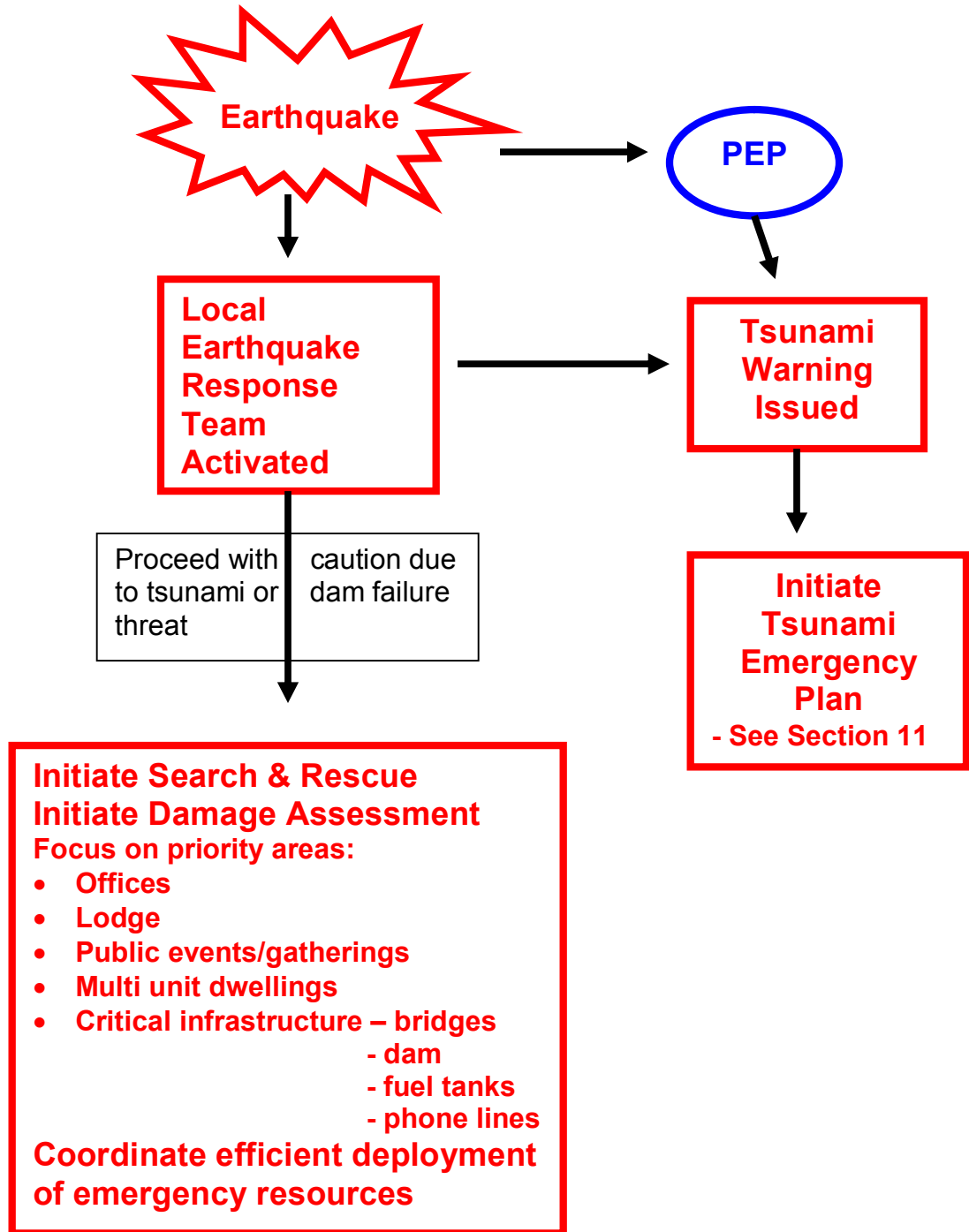
Emergency Response Core Team - Communication Officer
- Public Information Officer
- ESS Officer

Emergency Response Operations – Fire Hall
- Boralex
- Marine Harvest

Contact all of above.

Initiate damage assessment and identify people in distress.

1 Earthquake Emergency Action Plan



2 Introduction

Earthquakes generally happen without warning, so initial emergency response actions must be virtually automatic and based on the locally available emergency resources. The activation of the local emergency program would be immediate once an earthquake is felt. Earthquakes can occur as a series of shocks so even if an earthquake appears minor, it is recommended that the local Earthquake Response Team be alerted in case there are more severe aftershocks. **Furthermore, given Ocean Falls' proximity to the sea and distance to the main seismic fault in the Pacific Ocean, damage from tsunami poses a greater risk than damage caused by a typical earthquake. Therefore, an earthquake automatically triggers the Tsunami Emergency Response Plan as well. In addition, the potential for Dam Failure increases and the Dam Failure Emergency Response Plan should also be considered.**

The primary role of local emergency response following an earthquake is to initiate search and rescue along with damage assessment. This information would then be used to coordinate response to address areas of greatest need.

Refer to the "British Columbia Earthquake Response Plan" in CCRD EMP Annex D for additional information.

3 Earthquake Response Team

The following individuals and organizations comprise the Bella Coola Earthquake Response Team:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Local Emergency Team | - Coordinator |
| | - CCRD Rep |
| | - CCPC Manager |
| Regional Emergency Response | - RCMP, Bella Bella |
| | - BC Ambulance |
| | - CCRD Emergency Coordinator |
| | - Communication Officer |
| | - Public Information Officer |
| | - ESS Officer |
| | - Hospitals |
| Emergency Response Operations | - Harbour Master |
| | - Highways |
| | - Interior Roads |
| | - Rangers (Bella Coola) |

4 Response Action

When an earthquake is experienced, the local Earthquake Response Team would be activated by the Team members or other government agencies. The ERT would immediately initiate response actions. The level of response would depend on the severity of the event and would vary from simple acknowledgement of the occurrence with no additional action needed to full deployment of search and rescue and comprehensive assessment of damage. **In initiating response and deploying personnel, the threat of tsunami or dam failure must be carefully considered and integrated into response actions.**

When an earthquake is experienced, the following steps are recommended:

1. LET ascertain whether ERT callout is required
2. Earthquake ERT and/or Tsunami ERT callout initiated
3. EOC established – Martin Valley
4. Search and rescue initiated
5. Damage assessment initiated.
6. Remedial and recovery action coordinated.

4.1 Search & Rescue

For significant earthquake events, search and rescue would be initiated immediately under the direction of the EOC. In a significant event, RCMP, outside Fire Departments and ambulance may be called in for assistance. It is important that EOC is notified of response and deployment of emergency services and that EOC initiates a coordinating function to deploy emergency help on a priority needs basis.

4.1.1 S & R Callout

- Neighbourhood Emergency Team (NET) Captains initiates neighbourhood callout and field check.
- RCMP
- Bella Coola SAR Team
- Rangers

4.1.2 S & R Priority Areas

- Power plant
- Coast Lodge
- Multi unit dwellings

- Public functions – Sunday church, Lobelco Hall, Nuxalk Hall
- Offices – OFID, Pan Fish

4.2 Damage Assessment

4.2.1 Damage Assessment Callout

- Utility operators
- Government Ministries - MOT
- Government damage assessors.
- Insurance adjustors.

4.3 Coordination of Resource Deployment

Following a significant earthquake event, the immediate establishment and co-ordination of emergency service deployment is critical for effective response. Therefore:

1. EOC needs to be quickly established.
2. Operational contact links with RCMP, Fire Department and ambulance needs to be established immediately.
3. Documentation of reported injuries, infrastructure damage and transportation disruption.
4. Ranking of reported emergency situations.
5. Deployment of emergency assistance to highest priority needs.

5 Damage Potential

An earthquake capable of structural damage (greater than 5 on the Richter scale) can be expected to strike somewhere in southwestern British Columbia once every ten years, and there are predictions that a very serious (8 to 9) earthquake is overdue for the Lower Mainland - Vancouver Island region. Such a quake would likely cause some problems in Ocean Falls in terms of structural shake damage and disruption of power and supply lines. However, the greatest threat of damage from earthquake in Ocean Falls would likely result from an associated tsunami, landslide or dam failure.

Sever damage can be expected in areas within 100 km of epicenter and moderate amounts of damage within 300 km of epicenter. Injury to death ratios are 30:1 and hospitalization injury to death ratio is 4:1. In case of a large earthquake, other parts of the Province will likely be affected thus

limiting the availability of outside emergency assistance as larger population centers will receive priority help.

Ocean Falls is fortunate in the sense that there are relatively few multistory buildings, large structures or facilities that would be vulnerable to earthquake effects. However, damage to buildings, roads and runway ramp, power and telephone lines, fuel lines, water lines and sewage systems; diversion of stream channels, and blockage of streams with subsequent flooding are possible. Damage may be minor or nearly total, local or regional. Debris removal and cleanup will be a concern after the event.

Fires can also be triggered by earthquakes and although it is not anticipated that these fires would be multi-structure catastrophes, it is conceivable that there would be numerous single structure fires that would severely tax fire fighting resources.

5.1 *Primary Local Vulnerabilities*

- CCPC Dam
- Power lines
- Phone lines
- Bridges
- Fuel tanks at harbour
- Multi story buildings - Government Agent building, Coast Lodge
- Townsite and Martin Valley water distribution lines