Teton County, WY
2017 TSE Planning Efforts
November 3rd, 2016
Teton County, WY
Teton County, WY Profile

• Regional nickname is “Jackson Hole”
• One incorporated city in the county: Town of Jackson
• 97% of the County is Federal land
• Population is approximately 22,000, but can easily triple any given day in the summer with pass-through traffic
• Only County in Wyoming without any commercial natural resource extraction
• Economy almost entirely dependent on sales tax revenue from tourism
  • Mid-August is peak tourism season
• Teton County frequently tops lists for “richest” county in US
  • Also recently identified as the highest in the US for income inequality by Economic Policy Institute
Transportation

- Essentially 5 ways in and out of the County by road
  - Two are through landslide and avalanche prone canyons
  - Two are over mountain passes
  - One heads north into Yellowstone National Park
- Teton County has START Bus public transportation system
  - Ridership is over 900,000 annually
- Private shuttles run daily to Idaho Falls and Salt Lake City
- Teton County has the busiest commercial airport in Wyoming
  - 627,397 arrivals/departures in 2015 at Jackson Hole Airport
- No rail access
Emergency Management

- Teton County Emergency Management is the Emergency Management Agency for both Teton County and the Town of Jackson
  - 3 person office consists of EM Coordinator, EM Program Assistant, and Communications Coordinator
  - TCEM maintains the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and emergency plans

- Typical incidents include:
  - Wildfires
  - Floods
  - Search & Rescue
  - Landslides/Avalanches
2017 TSE Preparations

- **July 2015** – Preliminary TSE planning meetings with Jackson PD, JH Fire/EMS, and Teton EMA

- **March 2016** - Rendezvous Fest JH Mountain Resort 60th Anniversary Concert
  - With 16,000 attendees, was the largest single special event in Teton County history
  - Ran under ICS with Unified Command of Teton County Sheriff’s Office, JH Mountain Resort, and Concert Producer
  - Began planning in January 2016

- **June 2016** – Conducted required Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA) workshop using TSE as planning scenario

- **August 2016** – Town & County Administrators approve Teton EMA’s TSE planning framework

- **September 2016** – Present TSE planning framework and Emergency Support Function (ESF) responsibilities to Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and JH Airport Board

- **October 2016** – Monthly TSE ESF Coordinator Meeting
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What we know

- Hotel rooms that book this far out are all full in Teton County and have been for over a year
- The middle of August is still peak tourism season for our area; local infrastructure is already at capacity
- Although General Aviation does not take reservations, they have had people calling and they believe they will have significant parking issues
- All local vendors for port-a-johns have been sold out for this time period
- Local golf courses are renting greens to various groups for eclipse viewing
- Local astronomy clubs are planning to host several public events
- JH Mountain Resort opened up sales for their tram to the top of Rendezvous Mountain and it sold out in a matter of 3 hours without any advertisement
What we don’t know

- How many people are coming, when, and for how long
- What the weather and wildfire season will be like in our area and surrounding areas
Moving Forward

- Need further coordination with neighboring jurisdictions and states
- Will conduct monthly planning meetings, increasing in frequency about 3 months out from eclipse
  - ESF Coordinators are requested to have meetings and develop plans in their areas
- Exercises are planned, but not necessarily focused on the TSE
- Continued work on estimating number of events and visitors to help with emergency services budgeting and planning
- Developing Joint Information System (JIS) with major stakeholders to create unified TSE messaging
Questions?

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