

# TOOLS FOR ASSESSING AND MANAGING SOCIAL RISKS

BRANDA NOWELL AND  
TODDI STEELMAN  
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

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 *FIRE CHASERS PROJECT*

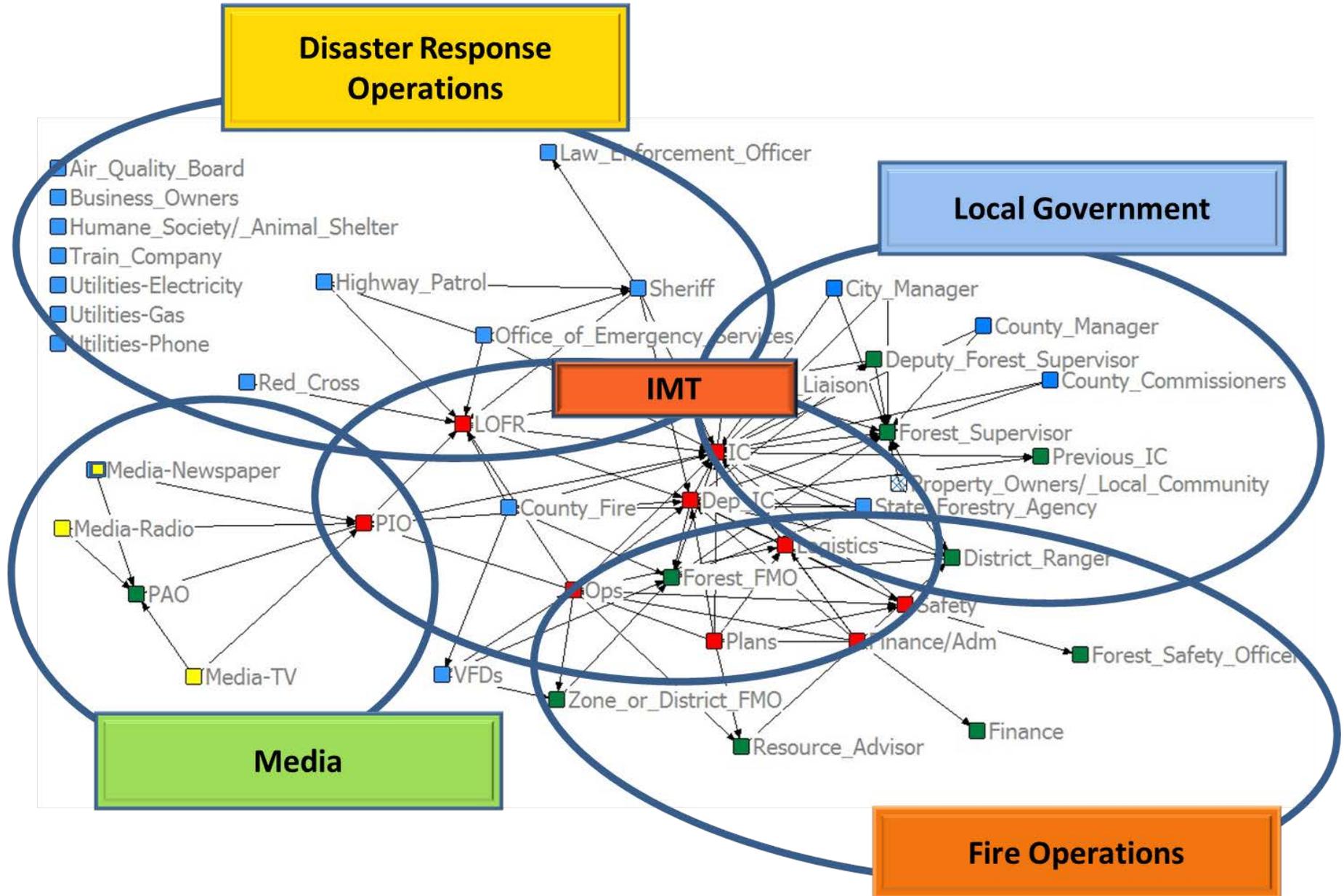
Advancing the science of adaptive capacity toward more disaster resilient communities



# WATCH OUT SITUATIONS

1. Lack of engagement/conspicuous absences of key local cooperators
2. Apparent conflicts or turf battles between or among local cooperators and/or host forest
3. Problematic historic relationships between host Forest and local community
4. Poor or difficult media relations
5. Actions indicated hidden or unspoken agendas on part of host Forest or local cooperators
6. Local community was inexperienced with wildfire
7. Community has had past negative experience with IMTs
8. Anti-fed/outsider/government sentiment was present in the community
9. Local cooperators were prone to taking independent action
10. There were confusing or conflicting management objectives among agencies involved in managing the fire
11. AA disengaged after in-brief
12. AA was overly involved (e.g. exhibited extreme information needs or micro-management)
13. Recent turnover occurred in key positions within the host Forest or among local cooperators
14. Key positions were vacant within the host Forest
15. Local cooperators, local forest, and IMT used different communication systems (radios)
16. Community fatigue was high due to extended duration of incident
17. Incident was under area command
18. Fire involved a greater than average array of local cooperators
19. Fire occurred during time when national resources were heavily committed (PL4 or PL5)
20. Fire threatened a greater than average number of community assets
21. Fire occurred during a local election year
22. Incident resulted in loss of structures, working lands or other critical values at risk
23. A serious injury or fatality occurred on the incident
24. Incident was a result of an escaped prescribed fire or managed wildfire
25. Incident was of significant local, statewide or national political interest
26. Landowners outside of IMT command and control were operationally involved (i.e., private contract fire mitigation, ranchers taking independent action).

# INCIDENT RESPONSE NETWORK



## 2X2 MATRIX FOR ASSESSING SOCIAL RISK

	Significant Watchouts/ Low local capacity	Minimal Watchouts/ High local capacity
IMT ties to community STRONG	<p><b>Moderate-High Risk</b></p> <p>Focus: leveraging team social capital to build local capacity</p>	<p><b>Lowest Risk</b></p> <p>Focus: Strengthening relationships and working within existing infrastructure</p>
IMT ties to community WEAK	<p><b>Highest Risk:</b></p> <p>Focus: Building relationships, learning local context and building local capacity</p>	<p><b>Moderate-low Risk</b></p> <p>Focus: Building relationships and learning about local systems to be able to work effectively with them</p>

# NETWORK PERFORMANCE MEASURES

<b>Inter-agency interactions:</b>
1. A coordinated set of fire management objectives were agreed upon among all affected jurisdictions
2. All concerned jurisdictions prioritized maintaining good communication across agencies
3. Credit for success and effort was shared among agencies during public meetings and media events
4. There was a general willingness across agencies to offer assistance to other agencies or jurisdictions
5. “Borrowed resources” were released in a timely fashion to minimize burden on the lending agency
<b>Incident management</b>
1. Community values at risk from wildfire were readily identified
2. Efforts to protect community values were appropriate given available resources and risks to firefighter safety
3. The overall strategy taken in managing this fire was appropriate
4. H8. Local resources were incorporated into the incident management operations
<b>Public information</b>
1. Public information was coordinated among cooperating agencies to ensure continuity of the message
2. Local resources were leveraged to ensure timely dissemination of public information
3. Social media was used effectively to provide timely public updates concerning the status of the fire
4. A system for communication with the media was put in place to ensure timely dissemination of public information
<b>Road closures (if applicable)</b>
1. All cooperating and fire management agencies maintained a timely awareness of the status of road closures
2. Trigger points for making decisions about road closures were proactively communicated to the local community
3. A consistent message was provided to the public about the status of road closures
<b>Evacuation and sheltering (if applicable)</b>
1. Cooperating agencies were able to use existing evacuation plans to quickly establish a coordinated evacuation strategy
2. Residents received timely notification of evacuation status using clear, pre-established language to distinguish between an evacuation warning and an evacuation notice
3. Evacuations were executed in a timely and orderly fashion
4. Adequate sheltering options were prepared to house evacuees
5. Sheltering options were clearly communicated to evacuees
6. Donations for evacuees were well-coordinated
7. Auxiliary care needs of evacuees (e.g., food, water, clothing, transportation, spiritual or mental health assistance) were adequately provided for
8. H24. Adequate sheltering options were made available to evacuate pets and livestock
<b>Re-entry of evacuated areas (if applicable)</b>
1. Cooperating agencies had a prepared plan for how re-entry into evacuated areas would be coordinated
2. Trigger points for when evacuated areas would be opened for re-entry were clearly communicated to the public
3. Re-entry was carried out in an organized and orderly fashion
<b>Cost Share (if applicable)</b>
1. We used pre-agreed frameworks/principles to expedite cost share agreements
2. The process through which cost share was decided upon was fair
3. The resulting cost share agreement was fair

# IMT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Obtaining local context (e.g., burn scars, trail systems, local weather patterns) to inform their operations?
2. Being sensitive to the local community culture and political climate?
3. Incorporating information about local values at risk (e.g., biological, archeological, cultural, recreational) into the management of the fire
4. Being accessible to you
5. Rapidly identifying the key local players they needed to be communicating with during the incident
6. Seeking to understand the organizational culture, values, and capacities of your agency
7. Clarifying roles and responsibilities
8. Engaging affected jurisdictions in planning and decision making from the beginning
9. Including your agency in the dissemination of vital information during the incident
10. Valuing your agency's input
11. Getting your agency the information you needed to be effective
12. Serving as a positive ambassador in interactions with the local community
13. Being flexible in adapting their fire management strategy to account for local preferences
14. Being helpful to cooperating agencies
15. Staying in their lane and not over-stepping their delegation of authority
16. Valuing local knowledge and local input
17. Sharing credit with your agency
18. Acknowledging cooperation
19. Using the incident as a training opportunity to build local capacity

# HOST AGENCY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. Providing up to date information regarding the location of residential populations that could be at risk
2. Providing up to date information about local values at risk (e.g., biological, archeological, recreational, cultural, etc.) in the fire area
3. Providing information regarding the bio-physical aspects of the landscape (e.g., roads, burn scars, vegetation, weather patterns, etc.)
4. Articulating clear fire management goals
5. Clearly articulating priorities and risk tolerance with regards to values at risk
6. Helping the IMT understand the political sensitivities of the impacted community(s)
7. Providing the IMT timely information about all pertinent media contacts
8. Providing the IMT timely contact information for all pertinent local cooperators
9. Coordinating with the IMT on public information to ensure a consistent message
10. Facilitating introductions between the IMT and important local cooperators
11. Providing an agency administrator who was effectively engaged with the IMT
12. Demonstrating familiarity with how IMTs operate
13. Providing good maps of values at risk needed by IMT
14. Providing up-to-date information on key locations for PIO traplines