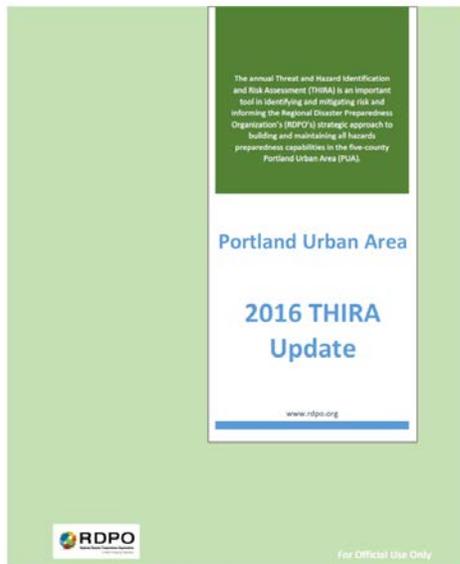


RDPO's THIRA 2016 Update Summary

The RDPO completed its annual Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) update for FEMA in December 2016. The THIRA is an assessment that presents scenario-driven impacts, performance



For a copy of the 2016 THIRA Update for the Portland Urban Area, contact Laura Bruno, RDPO Planning Coordinator, at Laura.Bruno@portlandoregon.gov.

targets and associated resource needs across 32 Core Capabilities (spanning Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response and Recovery Mission Areas) in the Portland Urban Area (the RDPO five-county region). THIRA is a requirement for our federal Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grant funding, as well as feeds into the National Preparedness Report. RDPO coordinates its THIRA efforts with the Oregon Office of Emergency Management and FEMA Region 10.

In 2016, FEMA did not issue specific guidance (i.e., new instructions); therefore, we took advantage of the timely Cascadia Rising Exercise conducted in June 2016 to focus on deepening our THIRA analysis of Response Core Capabilities related to the Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake scenario. In doing so, we deepened the gap analysis of those core capabilities to capture critical information about priorities for future planning efforts, as well as identified some potential investments in training, exercise, equipment or/ or specialty teams within the region. This year's efforts contributed to the RDPO Strategic Plan for 2017-2021.

The 2016 THIRA made comprehensive updates to two core capabilities with new/updated definitions in the 2015 guidance:

Fire Management and Suppression, and Logistics and Supply Chain Management. Other response core capabilities of focus included: Critical Transportation; Mass Care; Public Health and Medical Services; Fatality Management; Environmental Health and Safety; and Mass Search and Rescue. In addition, updated capability targets were developed for the Interdiction and Disruption Core Capability.

Primary updates to the 2016 THIRA include:

- Incorporated Transit into the Critical Transportation capability targets and gap analysis.
- Updated Mass Fatality estimates and resource requirement updates.
- Updated Mass Care displacement figures and staffing and equipment requirements for sheltering and feeding the PUA.
- Added new content for Logistics and Supply Chain management focused on supply of generators and fuel for county / city governments, mobile water treatment, the establishment of CPODs, etc.
- Updated casualty estimates, hospital damage estimates, and new data on hospital generator and fuel needs; incorporation of pediatric surge into Public Health and Medical Services.
- Added new content for Fire Management and Suppression with details on Fire Flow Planning for fire following earthquake, special equipment needs, etc.

- Updated content for both Mass Search and Rescue and Environmental Response/Health and Safety highlighting needs for increased training, certification and exercise for USAR and HazMat.
- Updated capability targets established for the Interdiction and Disruption core capability in the Prevention and Protection Mission Areas.



Observations & Recommendations:

- *Cross Cutting constrained resources highlighted by most subject matter experts for THIRA:*
 - 1) **Fuel**- primary concern of most groups, recognized as major constraint for response for all responders, across core capabilities. The region would benefit from a more comprehensive picture of fuel needs for emergency contingency planning post CSZ.
 - 2) **Generators**- primarily a concern for Emergency Managers/Logisticians, Public Works/Transportation, Medical Services, as well as Mass Care. The region would benefit if inventories of generators were maintained, and if generators for critical facilities in these disciplines were tracked.
 - 3) **Water**- a concern for fire following earthquake, for hospitals, for public works, and for logistics for mass distribution. Portland's Fire Flow Planning sets a good example for the region; other fire and water bureaus should consider replicating. A regional effort to understand competing priorities for water post CSZ will move forward with a February 2017 CSZ water management exercise hosted by the City of Portland.
 - 4) **Personnel**- Public Works, Medical Examiners and Fire Bureaus all highlighted the need for more trained (NIMs- compliant) personnel in the region to operate equipment, and to handle highly technical response needs (such as collapse search and rescue). The region's strategic plan highlights investment in special teams over the next 5 years.
- *Challenges*
 - 1) **THIRA annual requirement:** stakeholders note is very frequent for the level of detailed planning it entails. Hopefully FEMA will decide to reduce frequency in future.
 - 2) **Aspirational v. realistic approach:** FEMA instructs to take an aspirational approach; to outline bold capability targets and our wish list of associated resource requirements. Stakeholders in the region find it more useful to be practical and realistic about what we will be able to achieve and what resources we can require. This resulted in a revision to more modest capability targets and timelines in some of our core capabilities this year.

- 3) **Value of process v. report:** The value of THIRA for local stakeholder planning is in the process; the discussions it stimulates across the region provide value, more than the final content it produces (because most jurisdictions plan locally, not regionally). This leads to limited buy-in to participate among some stakeholders in the region.
- 4) **Resource lists and inventories:** Resource requirement lists are time consuming and require a lot of guesswork, due to the diversity of resource needs in the region, but also because there is a general lack of inventories maintained at jurisdictional or regional levels. As a result, it is hard to say what we need to the State or Federal government when we do not know what we have in the region.

Looking ahead to 2017 and beyond...

- Some appetite among regional members to move away from a CSZ-focused scenario for Response Capabilities to more frequent, smaller-scale events like winter storms, and flooding.
- Interest to work on Prevention and Protection Mission Areas with law enforcement, and perhaps build on State-level 2016 THIRA efforts, by replicating their Cybersecurity scenario-driven update for the PUA in 2017.
- Recovery Mission Area will be likely focus of 2018 THIRA update because of the Recovery Framework project initiating in 2017.