

DISASTER RESPONSE: HELPING ORGANIZATIONS LEVERAGE THEIR TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT

with Russ Johnson and Chris McIntosh, Bent Ear Solutions

**THURSDAY
JANUARY 29, 2026**

Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Talk 6:15 – 7:15 p.m.

**University of Redlands, Orton Center
1240 E Brockton Ave, Redlands, CA 92374**

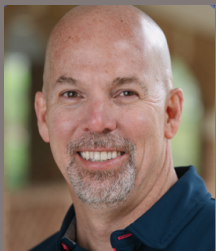


RSVP by January 23
(in-person or virtual)
tinyurl.com/CSBbentear

The Esri Disaster Response Program was created to provide free software and services to organizations impacted by major emergencies. However, many were not leveraging its full potential, particularly in the area of web GIS. Bent Ear Solutions was formed to help organizations bridge this gap—ensuring that technology investments translate into sustainable, operationally effective decision-support capabilities.

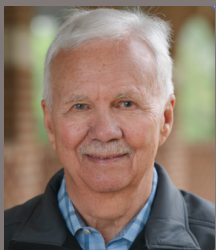
An actual disaster example demonstrates how real-time situational awareness, mobile field reporting, and other spatial tools were utilized. Unfortunately, once the crisis ended, these tools often fell out of use, leaving organizations no better prepared for the next emergency.

The presenters emphasize that modern web GIS platforms can support long-term, real-time collaboration and integrate data from diverse systems to provide what decision-makers need during critical operations. To make these capabilities sustainable, organizations must evolve their emergency management by developing new workflows, SOPs, training programs, and more effective governance and organizational structures.



ABOUT CHRIS MCINTOSH, CEO, CO-FOUNDER, BENT EAR SOLUTIONS

Before building his successful company, Chris was the Director of Public Safety for Esri, the world's largest GIS company. Previously, Chris served as Virginia's Interoperable Communications Officer, responsible for coordinating the numerous local, state, and federal communications systems, and began his career as a Naval Officer for the National Ballistic Missile Defense Program.



ABOUT ROSS JOHNSON, CMO & CO-FOUNDER, BENT EAR SOLUTIONS

Russ served for over 30 years with the U.S. Forest Service, retiring as Fire Chief of the San Bernardino National Forest. During his tenure, he served as the Incident Commander of one of the National Incident Management teams. Upon leaving, he joined Esri and established their Public Safety Solutions program. Recognizing the critical need to support government and private sector enterprises with their technology capabilities, Russ co-founded Bent Ear.

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