

Mississippi

Urban Search & Rescue

(MS-US&R)



Program Guide

Program Overview

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Mississippi Task Force is to provide a highly specialized, all-hazards response capability to provide services to local jurisdictions that are overwhelmed by natural and man-made disasters and to increase civilian survivability during these disasters.

Mississippi US&R Motto

It is my duty as a Mississippi US&R Team member to save lives and to aid the injured. I will be prepared at all times to perform my assigned duties quickly and efficiently, placing these duties before personal desires and comforts. These things I do, that others may live.

Program Goal

The overall goal of the Mississippi State Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Program is to provide the best possible Search and Rescue Program for the State. An additional intent is to make the best use of available funding and training opportunities to increase the local, regional, and statewide capabilities through regional collaboration.

The MS-US&R program response system includes local, regional, and statewide assets to provide an organized and systematic response to natural and manmade incidents which require specialized assets for an effective search and rescue effort. The overall goal of the MS- US&R Program Manual is to provide guidance for organizing and managing this regional collaborative effort.

Program Guide

This document:

- Describes the composition and capabilities of the Mississippi State Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Program Assets.
- Provides guidance for local teams which desire to be incorporated into MS-US&R Team assets or to be deployable under the MS-US&R Program.
- Describes the process through which MS-US&R assets will be alerted, activated, and deployed for local, regional incidents, or upon implementation of the Robert T. Stafford Act during a major disaster.
- Delineates organizational responsibilities and roles.
- Describes the relationships between MEMA MS-US&R assets and other State resources such as the Mississippi Department of Health response teams and other supporting organizations.
- Outlines how MS-US&R assets will be allocated in times of a disaster.
- Provides procedures and guidelines for transporting MS-US&R and MS-US&R assets to and from a disaster area.
- Identifies the procedures for on-site operations, resource reassignment, and demobilization.
- This Program Manual provides an overview of the MS-US&R concept of operation.

Background

Following the terror acts of September 11, 2001, the State of Mississippi, along with many other jurisdictions realized the need to develop local, regional, and statewide capabilities to support large scale search and rescue efforts, which required more than the basic skills. Hurricane Katrina in 2005, again emphasized the need to develop specialized or advanced search and rescue teams. As Mississippi is not only a hurricane prone state, the state has also been subjected to regional tornado outbreaks requiring multiple teams of search and rescue specialist to be deployed immediately and simultaneously to meet the needs of the local jurisdictions.

In the after math of the September 11th attacks, the State began the development of regional response teams to meet the threat of Chemical, Biological, Nuclear, Radiological, and Explosives (CBRNE) attacks. To fully address these threats, the original concept was expanded to address large scale, technical search and rescue capabilities. Nine multi-jurisdictional teams that could provide assistance in structural collapse, technical rescue and hazardous materials incidents within the State were formed which could be activated by the Governor, Mississippi Office of Homeland Security, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency or regional/local emergency management agencies, as needed. Originally formed under the concept of providing enhanced response capability to terrorist events, the Regional Response Teams transitioned into an all-hazards response capability. The capabilities currently include: hazardous materials response, structural collapse rescue, and technical search and rescue (water, underwater, overland, high-angle, and trench). The Regional Response Teams later transitioned into the three regional Task Forces to provide additional capabilities, consolidate management, and to be fiscally responsible. A fourth Task Force was formed to provide logistics for any deployed Task Force. These four Task Forces transitioned into the MS-US&R Teams, which are considered a Task Force in the National Incident Management System Resource Typing Models (a team of resources with mixed capabilities).

MS-US&R Task Force Capabilities

Includes but is not limited to:

- Conduct physical search and rescue operations in damaged/collapsed structures.
- Emergency medical care for entrapped survivors and task force personnel.
- Reconnaissance to assess damage and needs and provide feedback to local, state and federal officials.
- Assessment/shut off of utilities to houses and other buildings.
- Survey and evaluate hazardous material threats.
- Stabilizing damaged structures, including shoring and cribbing.
- Urban Search & Rescue operations in a water environment.
- Swift & Flood Water Rescue
- Overland Search and Rescue.
- Low and High Angle Rope Rescue
- Confined Space Rescue
- Trench Rescue
- Grain Bin Rescue

Authority to Respond

Mississippi Code 33-15, Mississippi Emergency Management Law

Various sections of MS Code 33-15 address the authority to respond to man-made and natural events. Examples of authority under this section include Section 33-15-11, "Emergency management powers of the Governor" and Section 33-15-19, "Mutual aid agreement".

Mississippi Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, February 6, 2012

Mississippi Statewide Mutual Aid Compact

The Statewide Mutual Aid Compact, or SMAC, began in 1995 as a way for MEMA to provide greater access to resources in times of disaster. It provides a way for cities and counties to request and receive help from each other when local resources are exhausted. SMAC provides a mechanism for assistance to come from different parts of the state. It addresses the issues of liability, compensation, direction, and control in a uniform manner. SMAC allows members of the compact to have a mutual aid agreement with both the state and other compact members.

All Regional Response Team organizations are members of the SMAC and provide the foundation for use of resources within the MS- US&R Program. This foundation is further based on the Cooperative Agreements MS-US&R Program member organizations enter into with the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security, which provide grant funds, training, equipment, and other resources to the member organizations for participating in the MS-US&R program.

Oversight and Policy

The MS-US&R Coordination Group will be responsible for oversight and implementation of the MS-US&R program and serve as the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for the teams, developing program guidance, assuring compliance with program guidelines, and credentialing team members. The program will include minimum prerequisites, training standards, experience, performance standards, and currency requirements. The MS-US&R Coordination Group will be responsible for establishing the minimum standards for Collapse Search and Rescue Teams, Water Search and Rescue Teams, Overland Search and Rescue Teams, and other specialty teams as identified by hazard and threat assessments.

The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency is designated in the State's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan as a primary agency/organization responsible for providing search and rescue and has a State Search and Rescue Coordinator assigned within the agency. As such the Agency has the responsibility for assuring the appropriate resources are available to respond in an emergency, meaning appropriately trained, equipped, and qualified. While the Agency must rely on non-agency resources for response, the Agency reserves the right to designate Task Force Leaders and District Coordinators to the MS-US&R Coordination Group.

Team Coordination and Management

The MS-US&R Task Force Teams are highly specialized Search and Rescue Teams distributed in three areas of the State, (north, central, and south), with an additional Logistical Team to support logistical needs for larger deployments. The goal of the MS -US&R Team is to meet the requirements of a NIMS Type II US&R Team. Each MS-US&R Team is formed from regional assets. A Task Force Leader is selected in each region to serve as a Point of Contact for the region. Within each region, MS- US&R Team Coordinators are appointed by the MS-US&R Task Force Leader.

In an emergency situation, The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) will contact the designated State Search and Rescue Coordinator and request rescue support with an issuance of a mission number for the incident. The State Search and Rescue Coordinator will contact the Leaders of Task Force 1, Task Force 2, Task Force 3, and Task Force 4 and inform them of the incident and mission assignment and request the assistance of the Task Force(s) needed to support the incident with a point of contact, location, and a time to report. The State Search and Rescue Coordinator will support the incident as needed and shall keep the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security Task Force Representatives briefed on information pertaining to the incident. Task Force Leaders will be responsible for the organization and execution of all rescue operations assigned to their Task Force and shall request the assistance of the State Search and Rescue Coordinator to assist with any interagency or interpersonal conflicts that may arise and cannot be resolved.

Team Members

Team members come from a variety of agencies, organizations and backgrounds and serve as the backbone of the MS-US&R Program. Persons serving on teams from the local level to the MS- US&R Team level must be trained and qualified to serve as members of the various teams. Qualified team members desiring to be deployable members of regional strike teams or the MS-US&R Team must make application to the respective team coordinator.

Voluntary Participation

Participation in the MS-US&R program and implementation of these adopted standards and guidelines are voluntary. Each participating organization has the option to decide if they want to participate in the adoption or implementation of the minimum training and experience standards.

MS-US&R Oversight and Management

The oversight and management of this complex and multijurisdictional program is based on the Incident Command System and Multi-Agency Coordination System concepts.

MS-US&R Coordination Group

The MS-US&R Coordination Group is formed through a partnership of State and local agencies with responsibilities for Search and Rescue in the State. The purpose of the Coordination Group is to provide policy and guidance for the MS-US&R program to assure the goals of the program are being met and provide consistency in training, equipping, and funding the most capable technical advanced rescue system affordable to the State. The Mississippi Office of Homeland Security Search and Rescue Coordinator shall serve as the Chairperson of the Coordination Group. The MS-US&R Coordination Group shall meet at least once every six months and as necessary to conduct the business of the committee.

Membership of the MS-US&R Coordination Group includes:

- The Mississippi Office of Homeland Security Search and Rescue Coordinator.
- The four MS-US&R Task Force Leaders, their Deputy Leaders, and their designees

The MS-US&R Coordination Group responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Develop overall guidance for program strategic plans, policies, and guidelines.
- Routinely review the MS-US&R Program and make revisions as necessary
- Ensure that the policies and guidelines for training and professional conduct are consistent with all teams accepted into the MS-US&R Program
- Ensure that training is consistent with acceptable standards and practices such as the National Fire Protection Association Standards, Federal Emergency Management Agency Urban Search and Rescue Program, and/or the National Association of Search and Rescue Standards.
- Approve the application process for MS-US&R Team membership and credential team members as qualified and eligible for deployment with the MS-US&R Team.
- Assign sub-committees as it deems necessary to work on specific projects or issues related to the program and comprised of one MS-US&R Coordination Group member to serve as chairperson of the sub-committee and other members of recognized Search and Rescue Teams or Technical Experts from other agencies or organizations.
- Bring forth Task Force Leader recommendation to The Mississippi Office of Homeland Security Search and Rescue Coordinator for approval by the Director of Homeland Security.

Task Force Leadership

Task Force Leader

The Task Force Leader is responsible for the management, preparedness, and operational readiness of the regional MS-US&R Team. The MS-US&R Task Force Leader collaborates with member agencies and organizations to ensure the readiness of the team to deploy, through joint planning, training, and exercises. The Task Force Leader serves as the Point of Contact within the region for deployment of MS-US&R Teams. The Task Force Leader may serve as or appoint a qualified MS-US&R Team Coordinator or designee to manage the team during deployments and assist in day to day management functions to assure team readiness. The Task Force Leader also serves as a member of the MS-US&R Coordination Group. The Task Force Leader shall be evaluated annually.

Task Force Leader responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Ensure the policies and guidelines of the MS-US&R Coordination Group are implemented throughout the regional and consistently among regional teams.
- Review and approve for recommendation to the MS-US&R Coordination Group a list of qualified local search and rescue teams for inclusion as a deployable asset of the MS-US&R Program.
- Conduct routine hazard and threat assessments to determine the capabilities required of the region to provide the best possible search and rescue capabilities within the region.
- Coordinate with counties and municipalities in the region to identify and attempt to meet any specific planning, training, and exercise needs of the local jurisdiction that will enhance the overall capability of the region and state.
- Provide planning, training, and exercise recommendations to the MS-US&R Coordination Group as requested to meet the needs of the region.
- Coordinate with local jurisdictions when training and exercises are available for the region Ensure consistency of planning, training, and exercises of the region to meet the overall goal of the MS-US&R Program and develop teams which can be integrated into the MS-US&R Team as necessary during a major incident.
- Appoints and/or reappoints 3 team members annually to the Task Force Work Group to serve on a 3-year staggered rotation.

MS- US&R Deputy Task Force Leader(s)

MS-US&R Deputy Task Force Leaders are appointed annually by Task Force Leaders.

Deputy Task Force Leader's responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Filling the role of Task Force Leader in his or her absence.
- Assurance of the policies and guidance of the MS-US&R Group.
- Ensuring that deployable members meet all qualification and membership requirements.
- Determining regional training needs.
- Coordinating regional training courses.
- Delivering regional training refreshers.
- May serve as appointee to the Task Force Work Group.

Task Force Work Group

The Task Force Work Group is composed of a minimum of (3) Members of Task Force 1, (3) Members of Task Force 2, (3) Members of Task Force 3, and (1) Member of Task Force 4-Logistics. Each appointee is selected to serve a staggered 3-year term by his or her Task Force Leader or supervisor. Only (1) Task Force Work Group appointee from each Task Force can be removed within (1) calendar year.

The Task Force Work Group responsibilities may include but are not limited to:

- Review training needs of the MS-US&R program.
- Recommend training courses based off training needs to the MS-US&R Coordination Group.
- Review and revise the MS-US&R Program Manual as needed.
- Review and recommend revisions and alterations of Task Force MOU.
- Review and revise team Position Descriptions and required training.
- Evaluate and advise on team operational capabilities across multiple disciplines. Identify needs and capability gaps. Make appropriate recommendations to MS US&R Coordination Group.
- Identify team needs among the rank and file during refreshers, training, operational readiness exercises, and deployments. Communicate these needs to the MS US&R Coordination Group.
- Evaluate and revise US&R, Water, and Overland, Concept of Operation. Create and disseminate standard operating guidelines (SOGS) and preferred practices to team membership and leadership.

MS-US&R Team Description

MS US&R Task Force Teams are “Typed” based off FEMA Typing Definitions. Each MS US&R Task Force Team shall roster a Type IV US&R Team on a rotating deployment schedule to maintain a state of readiness in the event that a deployment is warranted.

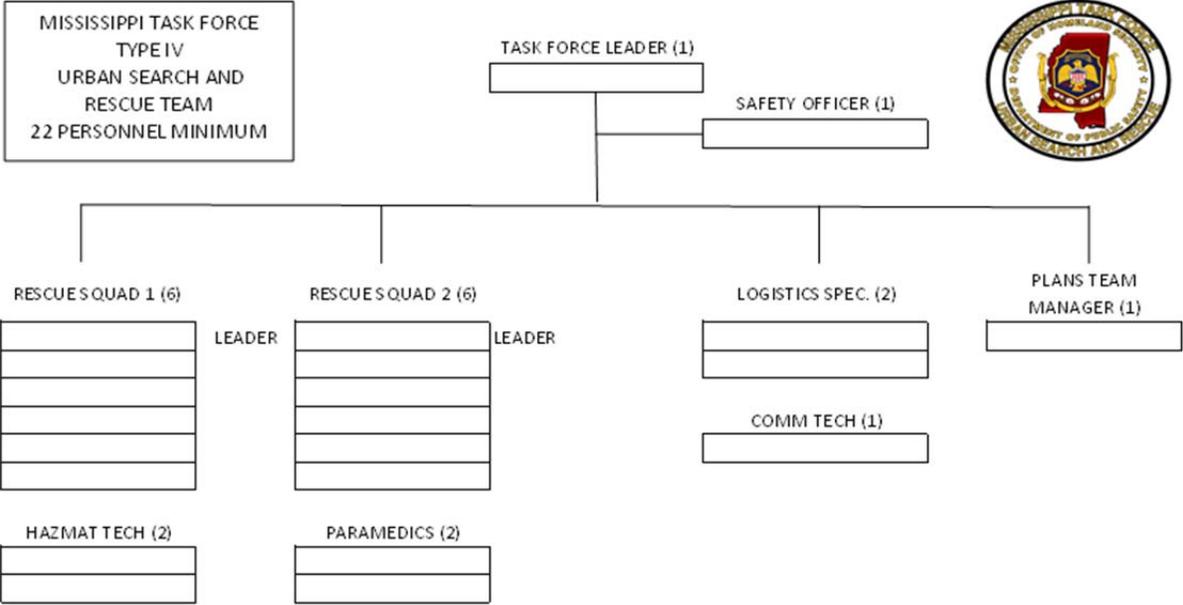
In addition the state of Mississippi has the ability to form the following using one or more task force teams:

FEMA Type	Description
<p>Type IV US&R Team:</p> <p>Personnel: 22 Person Minimum</p> <p>Deployment Time: less than 6hrs</p> <p>Operational Period: 12 hours</p> <p>Sustained Operations: 72 hours</p> <p>Deployable: Up to 14 days</p>	<p>MS-US&R Team Light Urban Search and Rescue Team This is a MS-US&R Program asset comprised of regional resources with the personnel, equipment, and training equivalent to one-third of a FEMA US&R Type II Task Force. The unit is capable of working one twelve-hour operation. This is a scaled down version of a light Task Force and is capable of handling some collapse incidents and may require the need for additional resources.</p> <p>The unit includes 23 personnel, logistics, and an incident management team, capable of working one 12-hour operation.</p> <p>Incident: Performs in light or medium construction. Performs functions of rescue, search, medical, logistics, planning, and safety in structures including limited operations in hazardous materials or contaminated environments.</p>
<p>Type III US&R Team:</p> <p>Personnel: 35 minimum</p> <p>Deployment Time: less than 6 hours</p> <p>Operational Period: 12-hour shift</p> <p>Sustained Operations: 72 hours</p> <p>Deployable: Up to 14 days</p>	<p>MS-US&R Team Light Urban Search and Rescue Team This is a MS-US&R Program asset comprised of regional resources with the personnel, equipment, and training equivalent to one-half of a FEMA US&R Type II Task Force. The unit is capable of twelve hour operations without the need of outside resources. This is a scaled down version of a full Task Force and is capable of handling some collapse incidents without the need for additional resources.</p> <p>The unit includes 35 personnel, logistics, and an incident management team, capable of working one 12-hour shift, deployable for 7 to 14 days. An additional Task Force is required for 24 hour operations.</p> <p>Incident: Performs in heavy reinforced masonry structures, performs functions of heavy rigging, structural assessment, capable of performing operations in a Stillwater/flood water environment. Equipment: Partial FEMA Type II Cache, i.e. Structural Collapse, Shoring Equipment.</p>
<p>Type II US&R Team:</p> <p>Personnel: 70 minimum</p> <p>Deployment Time: less than 6 hours</p> <p>Operational Period: 24 hours</p> <p>Sustained Operations: 72 hours</p> <p>Deployable: Up to 14 days</p>	<p>This is a MS-US&R Program asset comprised of regional resources with the personnel, equipment, and training equivalent to one FEMA US&R Type II Task Force. The unit is capable of twenty-four hour operations without the need of outside resources and is capable of handling collapse incidents without the need for additional resources.</p> <p>The unit includes 70 personnel, logistics, and an incident management team, capable of working 24 hour operations, deployable for 7 to 14 days.</p> <p>Incident: Same as Type III plus capable of continuous 24-hr operations which can split into two 12-hour operational periods Task Forces. Equipment: FEMA Type II Cache, i.e. Structural Collapse, Shoring Equipment.</p>

<p>Type IV Swiftwater/Floodwater Search and Rescue Team</p> <p>Personnel: 5 minimum</p> <p>Deployment Time: less than 6 hours</p> <p>Operational Time: 12 hours</p> <p>Sustained Operations: 72 hours</p> <p>Deployable: Up to 14 days</p>	<p>This is a MS-US&R Program asset comprised of regional resources with the personnel, equipment, and training equivalent to one FEMA Swiftwater/Floodwater Type IV SAR Team. The unit is capable of twelve hour operations without the need of outside resources for 72 hours and is capable of performing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Performs Class 3 water operations, per American Whitewater (AW) Section VI Safety Code, specific to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Paddle and powerboat operations b. Offensive water rescue c. Flood response operations 2. Performs first aid to include cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) 3. Requests rope rescue and aviation resources as needed
<p>Type III Swiftwater/Floodwater Search and Rescue Team</p> <p>Personnel: 5 minimum</p> <p>Deployment Time: less than 6 hours</p> <p>Operational Time: 12 hours</p>	<p>This is a MS-US&R Program asset comprised of regional resources with the personnel, equipment, and training equivalent to one FEMA Swiftwater/Floodwater Type III SAR Team. The unit is capable of twelve hour operations without the need of outside resources for 72 hours and is capable of performing:</p> <p>Same as Type 4, PLUS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Performs Class 1 through 3 water operations, per AW Section VI Safety Code 2. Operates in hazardous materials contaminated environments 3. Manages search operations 4. Performs medical care to include BLS 5. Performs low angle rope rescue
<p>Type II Swiftwater/Floodwater Search and Rescue Team</p> <p>Personnel: 19 minimum</p> <p>Deployment Time: less than 6 hours</p> <p>Operational Time: 12 hours</p> <p>Operational Time: 12 hours</p>	<p>This is a MS-US&R Program asset comprised of regional resources with the personnel, equipment, and training equivalent to one FEMA Swiftwater/Floodwater Type II SAR Team. The unit is capable of twelve hour operations without the need of outside resources for 72 hours and is capable of performing:</p> <p>Same as Type 3, PLUS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Performs technical rope rescue using technical rope systems to include high line 2. Performs medical care to include Advanced

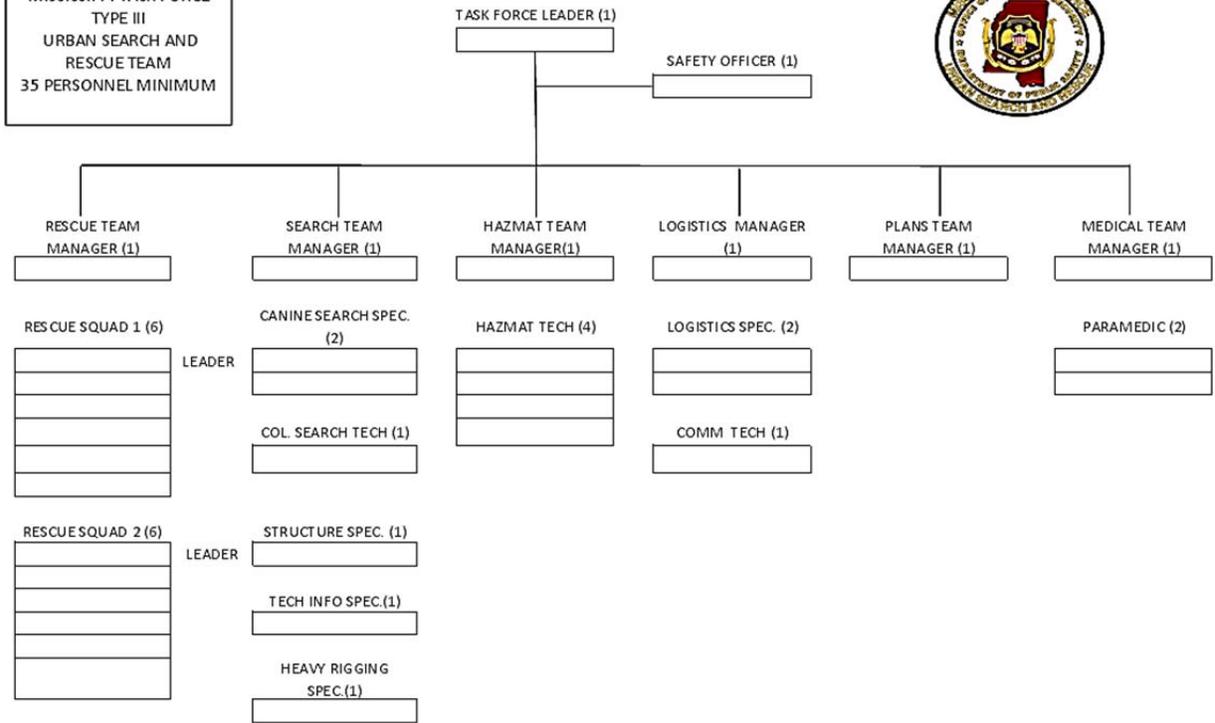
<p>Sustained Operations: 72 hours</p> <p>Deployable: Up to 14 days</p>	<p>Life Support (ALS)</p>
<p>Type I Swiftwater/Floodwater Search and Rescue Team</p> <p>Personnel: 19 minimum</p> <p>Deployment Time: less than 6 hours</p> <p>Operational Time: 12 hours</p> <p>Operational Time: 12 hours</p> <p>Sustained Operations: 72 hours</p> <p>Deployable: Up to 14 days</p>	<p>This is a MS-US&R Program asset comprised of regional resources with the personnel, equipment, and training equivalent to one FEMA Swiftwater/Floodwater Type II SAR Team. The unit is capable of twelve hour operations without the need of outside resources for 72 hours and is capable of performing:</p> <p>Same as Type 2, PLUS: Capable of supporting helicopter water rescue operations in conjunction with NIMS typed SAR Aircraft - Helicopter/Rotary Wing</p>
<p>Type IV Wilderness Search and Rescue Team</p> <p>Personnel: 4 minimum</p> <p>Deployment Time: less than 6 hours</p> <p>Sustained Operations: 24hrs</p>	<p>This is a MS-US&R Program asset comprised of regional resources with the personnel, equipment, and training equivalent to one FEMA Type IV Wilderness Search and Rescue Team. The unit is capable of searching high probability local wilderness terrain for short durations (24 hours or less)</p>
<p>Type III Wilderness Search and Rescue Team</p> <p>Personnel: 4 minimum</p> <p>Deployment Time: less than 6 hours</p> <p>Sustained Operations: 24hrs</p>	<p>This is a MS-US&R Program asset comprised of regional resources with the personnel, equipment, and training equivalent to one FEMA Type IV Wilderness Search and Rescue Team. The unit is capable of searching high probability local wilderness terrain for short durations (24 hours or less)</p>
<p>Type II Wilderness Search and Rescue Team</p> <p>Personnel: 4 minimum</p> <p>Deployment Time: less than 6 hours</p> <p>Sustained Operations: 48hrs</p>	<p>This is a MS-US&R Program asset comprised of regional resources with the personnel, equipment, and training equivalent to one FEMA Type II Wilderness Search and Rescue Team. The unit is capable of conducting self-sustaining full search operations for 48 hours in all weather and low-angle wilderness terrain with competent and experienced Incident Command staff.</p>
<p>Type I Wilderness Search and Rescue Team</p> <p>Personnel: 4 minimum</p> <p>Deployment Time: less than 6 hours</p> <p>Sustained Operations: 72hrs</p>	<p>This is a MS-US&R Program asset comprised of regional resources with the personnel, equipment, and training equivalent to one FEMA Type I Wilderness Search and Rescue Team. The unit is Capable of conducting self-sustaining full search operations for 72 hours in all weather and low-angle wilderness terrain with competent and experienced Incident Command staff.</p>

Type IV US&R Team



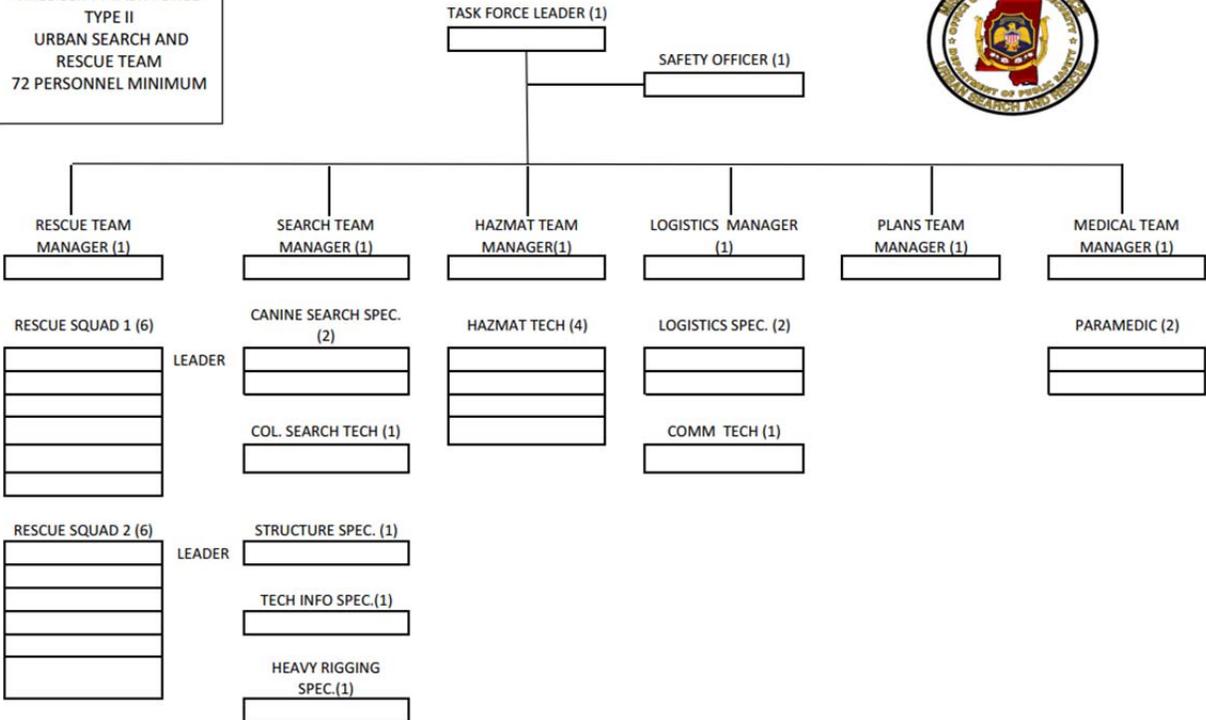
Type III US&R Team

MISSISSIPPI TASK FORCE
TYPE III
URBAN SEARCH AND
RESCUE TEAM
35 PERSONNEL MINIMUM



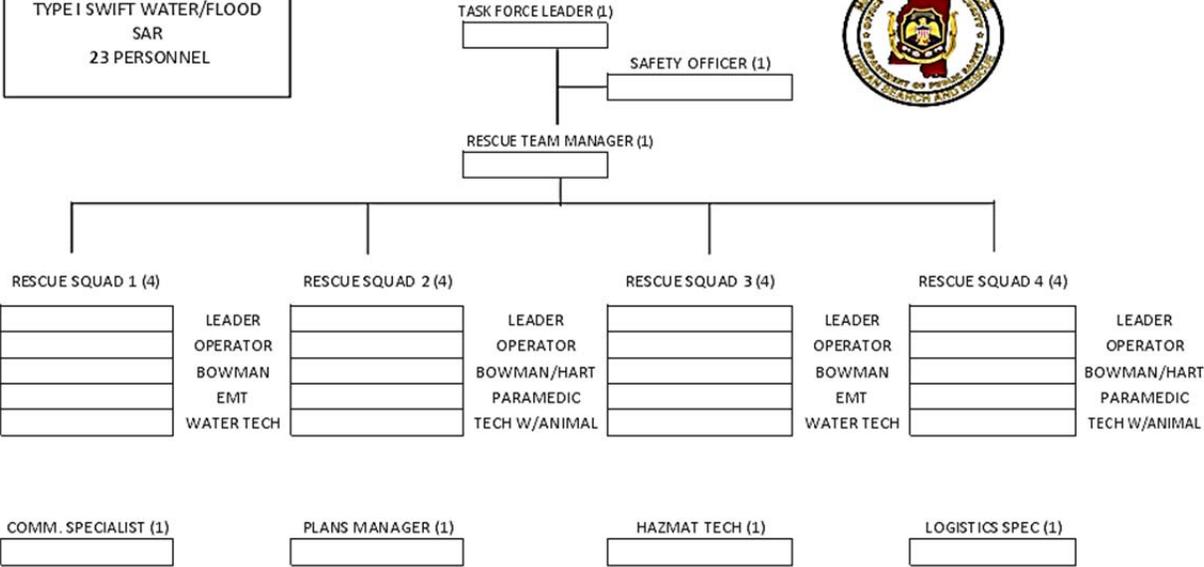
Type II US&R Team (Chart X2)

MISSISSIPPI TASK FORCE
TYPE II
URBAN SEARCH AND
RESCUE TEAM
72 PERSONNEL MINIMUM



Type I Swiftwater/ Flood SAR

MISSISSIPPI TASK FORCE
TYPE I SWIFT WATER/FLOOD
SAR
23 PERSONNEL



MS-US&R Logistics Team Description

The purpose of the MS -US&R Logistics Team (Figure 4) is to provide a Base of Operations (BoO) or on the ground support for the MS-US&R Teams or other State Public Safety assets during a major response. The team provides a camp environment with sleeping, feeding, and bathroom facilities. The intent is lessening the impact of response teams on the local community during a disaster by providing a self-sufficiency capability to response teams and provide a safe environment for public safety personnel to stay during rest periods.

This unit is capable of providing a standalone service to Public Safety Agencies but typically is deployed on major incidents in support of MS -US&R Teams in which case the Logistics Task Force Leader would assume the role of Task Force Logistics Manager.

Incident: Hurricane events that include both structural collapse rescues and water rescues to include; Structural collapse, collapse situations including heavy wall, heavy floor, and pre-case concrete construction, and water rescues from tidal surge on inland waters

Equipment: Logistical Support Equipment.

Personnel: Based on incident needs.

Deployment Time: less than 6hours

Recommended Training:

Crew Members (as assigned):

ICS Basic Courses, NFPA 1670 or equivalent Awareness Level:
Structural Collapse, Rope Rescue, Confined Space, Vehicle
and Machinery, Trench, and Excavation, Overland Search and
Rescue, Water, Wilderness SAR

Team Manager (as assigned): Logistics Unit Level Courses or ICS Strike Team Leader, or Division/Group
Supervisor and/or Basic Food Safety Course

Logistics Task Force Leader: Logistics Section Chief, Operation Section Chief or Incident Command ICS
Position Specific Course

Operational Period: 12 -24-hour operation

MS-US&R Program Position Descriptions

Rescue Specialist
Rescue Squad Officer
Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialist
Rescue Team Manager
Water Rescue Specialist
US&R Boat Operator
Helicopter Search and Rescue Technician
Technical Search Specialist
Search Team Manager
Hazardous Materials Specialist
Hazardous Materials Team Manager
Task Force Leader
Overland / Wilderness Search and Rescue Technician
Overland / Wilderness Search and Rescue Squad Officer

Rescue Specialist

Position Specific Requirements:

The Rescue Specialist is responsible for performing the rescue function of the Task Force incident operation. The Rescue Specialist reports directly to a Rescue Squad Officer.

Description of Duties:

The Rescue Specialist is responsible for:

- Implementing technical skills and operating equipment necessary for completing the rescue portion of the action plan
- Performing rescue operations under the direct supervision of a Rescue Squad Officer and providing periodic progress reports as needed
- The operation and routine field maintenance of rescue tools and equipment
- Ensuring accountability and maintenance for all issued equipment
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned
- Evaluating and modifying rescue tactics as needed

Position Requirements and Criteria:

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Rescue Specialists in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing the rescue tactics and techniques required in a disaster environment.

Required Training & Certifications:

The Rescue Specialist shall:

1. Complete all Administrative and General Training requirements
 - a. NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, & 800
2. Meet requirements of NFPA 472 (2013) Chapters 5 & 6: HazMat Operations Level
3. Meet requirements of NFPA 1006 (2013) Technical Rescuer Level 1 & 2 (Excluding Chapter 1 Administration: Section 1.3.3)
 - a. Chapter 5: Job Performance Requirements
 - b. Chapter 6: Rope Rescue (Level 1 & 2)
 - c. Chapter 7: Confined Space Rescue (Level 1 & 2)
 - d. Chapter 8: Trench Rescue (Level 1 & 2)
 - e. Chapter 10: Vehicle (Level 1 & 2)
 - f. Chapter 9: Structural Collapse Rescue (Level 1 & 2)
4. Current Certification in Basic First Aid for First Responders or equivalent

Recommended Training & Certifications:

1. NREMT-B or greater certification
2. NASAR SARTECH 2

Rescue Squad Officer

Position Specific Requirements:

The Rescue Squad Officer is responsible for supervising one or more Task Force Rescue Squad(s). The Rescue Squad Officer reports directly to the Rescue Team Manager.

Description of Duties:

The Rescue Squad Officer is responsible for;

- Directly supervising Rescue Squad(s) and other assigned personnel
- Implementing the rescue component of the Task Force Tactical Action Plan
- Determining organizational and logistical needs for the Rescue Squad(s) and work site
- Providing periodic progress reports to the Rescue Team Manager
- Maintaining records and reports
- Preparing performance evaluations for assigned personnel
- Ensuring accountability and maintenance for all issued equipment
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned
- Evaluating and modifying rescue tactics as needed

Position Requirements and Criteria: Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Rescue Squad Officers in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select functional officers capable of effectively managing and supervising the Rescue Squad(s) and assigned personnel in the urban disaster environment.

Required Training & Certifications:

The Rescue Squad Officer shall:

1. Meet all requirements for US&R Rescue Specialist
2. Be certified as an NFPA 1021 Fire Officer Level 1 & 2
3. NASAR SARTECH 2
4. Complete ICS-300 in accordance with the National Standard Curriculum Training Development Guidance
5. Shall have experience in structural collapse operations to include participation in field exercise(s) and/or a deployment as a Rescue Specialist

Recommended Training & Certifications:

1. NRT EMT-B or greater certification
2. NASAR SARTECH 1

Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialist

Position Specific Requirements:

The Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialist is responsible for performing various assessments and construction-related liaison for the task force during incident operations. The Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialist reports directly to the Rescue Team Manager.

Description of Duties:

The Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialist is responsible for:

- Ensuring the safety of Task Force members by assessing hazards at disaster sites pertaining to the operations of cranes and other heavy equipment
- Assessing the need for and capabilities of various types of construction-related equipment to assist task force personnel in US&R activities
- Assessing disaster site for safe and efficient location of cranes and other heavy equipment
- Preparing site for and assisting with positioning and setup of cranes and other heavy equipment
- Identifying various rigging techniques to assist in the rescue of victims or stabilization of collapsed buildings, including the development of rigging plans and procedures
- Interacting with and coordinating efforts between the task force personnel and heavy equipment operators, contractors and organized labor
- Adhering to all safety procedures
- Providing documentation to assist Task Force in procuring cranes and other heavy equipment, as well as maintaining daily logs
- Providing accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned

Position Requirements and Criteria:

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialists in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing competent assessments and advice to task force personnel in the urban disaster environment.

Required Training:

The Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialist shall:

1. Complete all Administrative and General Training requirements
 - a. NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, & 800
2. Meet all requirements for US&R Rescue Specialist
3. Complete the FEMA Equivalent US&R Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialist Course

Other Specific Requirements:

The Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialist shall be:

1. Experienced in heavy construction field, such as heavy equipment operator, crane operator, iron worker, rigger, or other applicable field

– OR –

2. A minimum of three years' experience as a Rescue Specialist on a Task Force

Recommended Training:

The Heavy Equipment Rigging Specialist should:

Recommended Training & Certifications:

1. NRT EMT-B or greater certification
2. NASAR SARTECH 2

Rescue Team Manager

Position Specific Requirements:

The Rescue Team Manager is responsible for managing and coordinating all operational functions of the task force. The Rescue Team Manager reports directly to the Task Force Leader.

Description of Duties:

The Rescue Team Manager is responsible for;

- Assisting in the development and implementation of the Task Force Tactical Action Plan
- Coordinating, managing, and supervising all functional groups involved in rescue activities
- Determining rescue organizational and logistical needs
- Receiving briefings and situation reports and ensuring that all rescue personnel are kept informed of mission objectives and status changes
- Providing situation updates and maintaining records and reports
- Preparing performance evaluations for assigned personnel
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned
- Ensuring accountability and maintenance for all issued equipment
- Ensuring accountability of all assigned personnel
- Provide a mission specific Rapid Intervention Plan including personnel & equipment needs

Position Requirements and Criteria:

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Rescue Team Managers in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select functional managers capable of effectively managing and supervising rescue operations in the urban disaster environment.

Required Training & Certifications:

The Rescue Team Manager shall:

1. Meets all Requirements of US&R Rescue Squad Officer
2. Be certified as an NFPA 1021 Fire Officer Level 1 & 2
3. Complete ICS-300 & ICS-400 in accordance with the National Standard Curriculum Training Development Guidance

Recommended Training & Certifications:

1. Certification as NFPA 1021 Fire Officer 3 & 4
2. Designation of National Executive Fire Officer
3. NASAR SARTECH 1

Water Rescue Specialist

Position Specific Requirements:

The Water Rescue Specialist is responsible for performing water operations of the Task Force incident operation. The Water Rescue Specialist reports directly to a Rescue Squad Officer.

Description of Duties:

The Water Rescue Specialist is responsible for:

- Implementing technical skills and operating equipment necessary for completing the water rescue portion of the action plan in a safe manner
- Performing supervised water operations and providing periodic progress reports as needed
- The operation and routine field maintenance of watercraft and equipment
- Ensuring accountability and maintenance for all issued equipment
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned
- Evaluating and modifying water operational tactics as needed

Position Requirements and Criteria:

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Water Rescue Specialists in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing the water operational tactics and techniques required in a disaster environment.

Required Training & Certifications:

The Water Rescue Specialist shall adhere to the following:

1. Complete all Administrative and General Training requirements
 - a. NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, & 800
2. Meet requirements of NFPA 1006 (current edition):
 - a. Chapter 5: Job Performance Requirements
 - b. Chapter 6: Rope Rescue (Level 1 & 2)
 - c. Chapter 11: Surface Water Rescue (Level 1 & 2)
 - d. Chapter 12: Swift water Rescue (Level 1 & 2)
3. Current Certification in Basic First Aid for First Responders or equivalent

Recurring Training:

Annual waterman ship test such as IADRS Swim Test or *Complete a minimum swim requirement. Example of a recommended swim requirement: Swim of 500 yards without stopping using a forward stroke and without using swim aids such as dive mask, swim goggles, fins, snorkel, or flotation device. Stopping or standing up in the shallow end of the pool at any point during the exercise will constitute a failure. To be completed within 19 minutes. (NFPA 1670, Annex A, 1670-51 Stamina Exercise #1)*

Recommended Training & Certifications:

1. NRT EMT-B or greater certification
2. NASAR SARTECH 2

US&R Boat Operator

Position Specific Requirements: The US&R Boat Operator is responsible for performing the water rescue operations of the Task Force. The US&R Boat Operator reports directly to a Rescue Squad Officer.

Description of Duties:

The US&R Boat Operator is responsible for:

- The safe operation of all marine vessels in possession of the US&R Task Force
- Routine field maintenance of watercraft and equipment
- Implementing technical skills and operating equipment necessary for completing the water rescue portion of the action plan in a safe manner
- Performing supervised water operations and providing periodic progress reports as needed
- Ensuring accountability and maintenance for all issued equipment
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned
- Evaluating and modifying water operational tactics as needed

Position Requirements and Criteria:

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become a US&R Boat Operator in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing the water operational tactics and techniques required in a disaster environment.

Required Training & Certifications:

The US&R Boat Operator shall adhere to the following:

1. Complete all Administrative and General Training requirements
 - a. NIM ICS 100, 200, 700, & 800
2. Meet all requirements of a US&R Water Rescue Specialist
3. Safe boating certificate by the National Safe Boating Council or equivalent
4. Boat operator requirements as outlined in the US&R Boat Operator Position Task Book. All objectives are to be completed while operating in each type of vessel in possession of the Mississippi US&R Task Force.

Helicopter Search and Rescue Technician (HSART)

Position Specific Requirements:

A *Helicopter Search and/or Rescue Technician* is an operations level position within a helicopter rescue unit (single resource) that performs search and/or rescue functions inside and outside the aircraft and typically may include rappelling, short haul, hoist operations, and water insertions on any of the following credential-specific disciplines: search, rescue, urban, wilderness, mountain, disaster, surface water, & swift water.

Description of Duties:

- Responsible for conducting air search and rescue (SAR), utilizing helicopters to locate lost, stranded, and/or abandoned individuals who may or may not be injured or in need of medical attention.
- Basic Life Support (BLS) medical treatment may be performed if needed. Air rescue and BLS may include but not be limited to technical rescues utilizing hoist or short-haul techniques in urban and rural areas, swift water, still water, or off-shore rescues and on-scene medical evacuations of disaster victims with life threatening injuries.
- Reconnaissance and hazard assessment for ground & surface water assets.
- Light rescue and extrication of entrapped patients in cars, homes, attics, or aircraft.

Required Training & Certifications:

1. Complete all Administrative and General Training requirements
 - a. NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, & 800
2. Meet all requirements of a US&R Water Rescue Specialist
3. Meet all requirements for US&R Rescue Specialist
4. NRT EMT-B or greater certification
5. H.S.A.R.T. School (1 Week)
6. Completion of H.S.A.R.T. Task Book

Recommended Training & Certifications:

1. NASAR SARTECH 2
2. NASAR SARTECH 1

Recurring Training:

1. Annual IADRS Waterman ship
2. Annual 1.5 Mile Run
3. Annual Helicopter Dunker Restraint Orientation & Escape
4. Annual Rope Rescue / Rigging Skills (knots under 15 seconds)
Figure Eight with a Bight
Double Loop Figure Eight with a Bight
Directional Figure Eight
Bowline w/ Yosemite Finish
Double Fisherman's Bend
Prusik Hitch
Water Knot in Webbing
Rig and Descend a Rope Under 2 Minutes
Rig a Tensionless Anchor / H.S. Tie-off Under 2 Minutes
Construct an In-Line 3:1 / Z-Rig Under 2 Minutes
Construct a 4:1 Block and Tackle System Under 2 Minutes

Technical Search Specialist

Position Specific Requirements:

The Technical Search Specialist is responsible for performing the technical search function of the task force incident operation. The Technical Search Specialist reports directly to the Search Team Manager.

Description of Duties:

The Technical Search Specialist is responsible for:

- Searching structures in US&R environments or other locations indicated in the mission assignment, utilizing appropriate technical search equipment and techniques
- Documenting and marking locations of victims, potential victims and hazards
- Making assessments through the use of technical search equipment
- Land navigation and site mapping
- Cooperating with and assisting other search and rescue resources
- Providing accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs of all issued equipment
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned
-

Position Requirements and Criteria:

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Technical Search Specialists in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select competent personnel, fully capable of providing state-of-the-art search techniques and tactics required, in the urban disaster environment.

Required Training & Certifications:

The Technical Search Specialist shall:

1. Meet all General Training requirements
 - a. NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, & 800
2. Complete the FEMA Equivalent Technical Search Specialist Course
3. Complete the US&R Structural Collapse Technician course or NFPA 1006 Chapter 9: Structural Collapse Rescue (Level 1 & 2)
4. NASAR SARTECH 2

Recommended Training & Certifications:

The Technical Search Specialist should:

1. Complete a FEMA Equivalent Canine Search Specialist course
2. Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Search Planning & Management course
3. Complete a canine emergency field care course
4. Meet requirements of NFPA 1006 (2013) Technical Rescuer Level 1 & 2 (Excluding Chapter 1 Administration: Section 1.3.3)
 - a. Chapter 5: Job Performance Requirements
 - b. Chapter 6: Rope Rescue (Level 1 & 2)
 - c. Chapter 7: Confined Space Rescue (Level 1 & 2)
 - d. Chapter 8: Trench Rescue (Level 1 & 2)
 - e. Chapter 10: Vehicle (Level 1 & 2)
5. NASAR SARTECH 1

Search Team Manager

Position Specific Requirements:

The Search Team Manager is responsible for managing the search function of the task force and supervising the Canine Search Specialists and Technical Search Specialists. The Search Team Manager reports directly to the Task Force Leader.

Description of Duties:

The Search Team Manager is responsible for:

- Developing and implementing the search component of the Task Force Tactical Action Plan
- Coordinating, managing, and supervising all search and reconnaissance activities
- Participating in the oversight, administrative and operational control of the development, implementation and operational aspects of search component training (Canine Search Specialists, Technical Search Specialists and Search Team Managers)
- Management of Wilderness Search Technician teams in wide area & overland setting.
- Providing research and development input at the task force level for the implementation and evaluation of new technologies, equipment, tactics and skills as they pertain to the search component
- Land navigation and site mapping
- Determining search and reconnaissance operational, organizational and logistical needs
- Ensuring that all assigned personnel are kept informed of mission objectives and status changes to include briefings and debriefings
- Preparing performance evaluations for assigned personnel
- Providing situation updates, documenting and maintaining records and reports
- Providing oversight for accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued/assigned equipment
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned

Position Requirements and Criteria:

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Search Team Managers in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select functional managers, capable of effectively managing and supervising the search component, in the urban disaster environment.

Required Training & Certifications:

The Search Team Manager shall:

1. Meet all Administrative and General Training requirements
 - a. NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, & 800
2. Complete the Technical Search Specialist Course
3. NASAR SARTECH 1
4. NASAR: Managing the Lost Person Incident
5. Be certified as an NFPA 1021 Fire Officer Level 1 & 2
6. Complete ICS-300 & ICS-400 in accordance with the National Standard Curriculum Training Development Guidance

Recommended Training & Certifications:

1. Complete the FEMA Equivalent System Canine Search Specialist Course
2. Certification as NFPA 1021 Fire Officer 3 & 4
3. Designation of National Executive Fire Officer

Hazardous Materials Specialist

Position Specific Requirements:

The Hazardous Materials Specialist is responsible for performing the various hazardous materials functions for the task force during incident operations. The Hazardous Materials Specialist reports directly to the Hazardous Materials Team Manager.

Description of Duties:

The Hazardous Materials Specialist is responsible for:

- Providing an initial and ongoing survey (detection, monitoring and sampling) for, and identification of, the presence of hazardous materials at search and rescue sites
- Proficiency with the set up and use of the decontamination system in the US&R cache
- Directing decontamination procedures for any task force member victim, canine, or equipment
- Assisting Team Managers in providing information to personnel regarding chemical data and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) compatibility and capability for tactical operations
- Document all related information regarding the incident
- Adhering to all safety procedures
- Properly utilizing the detection monitors and devices in the US&R cache
- Proficiency in donning and doffing all personnel protective equipment in the US&R cache
- Proficiency in building triage and US&R marking systems
- Working with Logistics Team personnel to establish and maintain a regular maintenance scheduled for hazmat cache items as required, including calibration, battery charging, function tests and field repair
- Performing regular assessments of the base of operations for hazardous conditions, such as carbon monoxide from generators, or any other contaminants
- Establishing and maintaining a liaison with hazmat personnel from the Incident Support Team (IST) and other task forces
- Advising and overseeing decontamination of responders operating in contaminated floodwater and swift water environments.
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned during a mission

Position Requirements and Criteria:

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Hazardous Materials Specialists in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing competent hazardous materials assessments and advice to Task Force personnel in the urban disaster environment.

Required Training & Certifications:

The Hazardous Material Specialist shall:

1. Meet all Administrative and General Training requirements
 - a. NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, & 800
2. Meet and maintain the AHJ competencies in accordance with National Fire Protection Association standard 472 Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents to the level of Hazardous Materials Technician
3. Complete a FEMA National US&R WMD Considerations for Hazardous Materials Specialist course
4. Complete the Weapons of Mass Destruction Radiological/Nuclear for Hazardous Materials Technician (Course PER-241), U.S. Department of Energy National Security Administration Nevada Test Site.
5. Complete the WMD Hazardous Materials Technician Training (HT) (Course PER- 261), Centers for Domestic Preparedness, Anniston Alabama.
6. National Fire Academy Chemistry for Emergency Response RO233
7. Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings (IRTB) PER 230-1

Recommended Training & Certifications:

The Hazardous Materials Specialist should:

1. Attend National Fire Academy Hazardous Materials Site Operating Practices R0229
2. Attend Highway Emergency Response Specialist (HERS) — PER-291
3. Attend Tank Car Specialist (TCS) — PER-290

Hazardous Materials Team Manager

Position Specific Requirements:

The Hazardous Materials (hazmat) Team Manager is responsible for managing the Hazmat functions of the task force and supervising the Hazardous Materials Specialists of the Task Force. The Hazardous Materials Team Manager reports directly to the Task Force Leader.

Description of Duties:

The Hazardous Materials Team Manager is responsible for:

- Developing and implementing the Hazmat component of the Task Force Tactical Plan.
- Coordinating, managing, and supervising all Hazmat activities.
- Providing input in the development of the safety plan in cooperation with Medical Team Manager and Safety Officers; and adhering to all safety procedures.
- Determining Hazmat organizational and logistical needs.
- Receiving briefings and situation reports and ensuring that all Hazmat personnel are kept informed of mission objectives and status changes.
- Providing situation updates and maintaining records and reports.
- Preparing deployment performance evaluations for assigned personnel.
- Ensure documentation of tasks completed in the Hazmat Specialist task book.
- Providing accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment.
- Advising and overseeing decontamination of responders operating in contaminated floodwater and swiftwater environments.

Position Requirements and Criteria:

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Hazardous Material Team Managers in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select functional managers capable of effectively managing and supervising the hazmat component in the urban disaster environment.

Required Training & Certifications:

The Hazardous Material Team Manager shall:

1. Meet all Administrative and General Training requirements
 - a. NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, & 800
2. Meet all training requirements of the Hazardous Materials Specialist
3. Be certified as an NFPA 1021 Fire Officer Level 1 & 2
4. Complete ICS-300 & ICS-400 in accordance with the National Standard Curriculum Training Development Guidance

Recommended Training & Certifications:

1. NRT EMT-B or greater certification
2. Attend National Fire Academy Hazardous Materials Site Operating Practices R0229
3. Attend Highway Emergency Response Specialist (HERS) — PER-291
4. Attend Tank Car Specialist (TCS) — PER-290

Task Force Leader

Position Specific Requirements:

The Task Force Leader is responsible for managing all aspects of a mission including operational and administrative issues from the time of activation through the return to the home jurisdiction. This includes all personnel and equipment resources as well as overseeing and directly supervising the task force management. The TFL is responsible for the development and completion of all task force tactical objectives as well as the proper reporting, record keeping, and after-action requirements. The TFL reports directly to the State SAR Coordinator during the mobilization and demobilization phases of the mission and possibly an IST at a mission location.

Description of Duties:

The Task Force Leader is responsible for:

- Developing and implementing the Task Force Tactical Action Plan
- Addressing the coordination, management, and supervision of all TF activities
- Supervising the following positions:
 - Search Team Manager
 - Rescue Team Manager
 - Medical Team Manager
 - Logistics Team Manager
 - Planning Team Manager
 - Hazardous Materials Team Manager
 - Safety Officer
- Ensuring the development of all TF organizational and logistical needs
- Interacting with the IST Leader and/or his/her designee for coordination of all TF activities and support requirements
- Receiving briefings and ensuring that all TF personnel are kept informed of mission objectives and status changes
- Providing regular situation reports to the IST / MEMA / State EOC / SAR Coordinator
- Providing regular reports to the Sponsoring Agencies' Chiefs or POCs
- Performing additional tasks and duties, as assigned during a mission
- Ensuring the completion of all the required reports and maintenance of records
- Ensuring incident stress management activities are planned and conducted
- Ensuring resource acquisitions are properly processed
- Preparing performance evaluations for assigned personnel
- Manage all demobilization and return to readiness issues
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned

Position Requirements and Criteria:

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Task Force Leaders in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select functional managers capable of effectively managing and supervising all aspect of the task force in the urban disaster environment.

Required Training & Certifications:

The Task Force Leader shall:

1. Meet all Administrative and General Training requirements
 - a. NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, & 800
2. Complete ICS-300 & ICS-400 in accordance with the National Standard Curriculum Training Development Guidance
3. Complete FEMA National US&R Task Force Leaders' Course
4. Be certified as an NFPA 1021 Fire Officer Level 1 & 2

Recommended certifications:

- 1). NFPA 1021 Fire Officer 3 & 4 or
- 2). Designation of National Executive Fire Officer

Overland / Wilderness Search and Rescue Technician

Position Specific Requirements:

The Wilderness Search and Rescue Technician is responsible for search and light rescue in a wilderness or an urban wilderness setting. The duties of the Wilderness Search and Rescue Technician in the US&R environment are the some of the earliest aide rendered in the event of a wide area disaster. The Wilderness Search and Rescue Technician reports to the Wilderness Search and Rescue Squad Officer or the Rescue Squad Officer.

Description of Duties:

- The Wilderness Search and Rescue Technician is responsible for:
- Wide area search and rescue in large scale disasters
 - Rapid / Hasty searches of high value life-safety priority structures and areas
 - Early damage assessment and triage of life-safety threats and infrastructure damage
 - Door-to-door welfare checks and verifying person's last known points
 - Supporting the heavy-rescue mission of US&R Rescue Squads and personnel
 - Location and extrication of missing persons in the wilderness environment
 - Providing local knowledge and interface with local public safety agencies including FD, EMS, and LE assets.
 - Possible grid search for human remains, evidence, or tracking sign.
 - Self-sufficient using a SAR Ready-Pack, Water, & MREs, for 24-36 operational period.
 - Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned

Position Requirements and Criteria:

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Overland / Wilderness Search and Rescue Technicians in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing the wilderness search and rescue tactics and techniques required in a disaster environment, wilderness, or urban wilderness.

Required Training & Certifications:

1. Complete all Administrative and General Training requirements
 - a. NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, & 800
2. Meet requirements of NFPA 472 (2013) Chapters 5 & 6: HazMat Operations Level
3. NFPA 1006 Chapter 6: Rope Rescue (Level 1)
4. NASAR SARTECH 2
5. Current Certification in Basic First Aid for First Responders or equivalent

Recommended Training & Certifications:

1. NRT EMT-B or greater certification
2. NASAR SARTECH 1
3. NFPA 1006 Chapter 6: Rope Rescue (Level 2)

Overland / Wilderness Search and Rescue Squad Officer

Position Specific Requirements:

The Wilderness Search and Rescue Squad Officer is responsible for supervising a squad of five or more Wilderness Search and Rescue Technicians. Supervises the search and light rescue in a wilderness or an urban wilderness setting. The Wilderness Search and Rescue Technician reports to the Search Team Manager or the Rescue Team Manager depending on the nature of the response.

Description of Duties:

The Wilderness Search and Rescue Squad Officer is responsible for:

- Directly supervising Wilderness SAR Squad(s) and other assigned personnel
- Wide area search and rescue in large scale disasters
- Rapid / Hasty searches of high value life-safety priority structures and areas
- Early damage assessment and triage of life-safety threats and infrastructure damage
- Door-to-door welfare checks and verifying person's last known points
- Supporting the heavy-rescue mission of US&R Rescue Squads and personnel
- Location and extrication of missing persons in the wilderness environment
- Providing local knowledge and interface with local public safety agencies including FD, EMS, and LE assets.
- Possible grid search for human remains, evidence, or tracking sign.
- Self-sufficient using a SAR Ready-Pack, Water, & MREs, for 24-36 operational period.
- Determining organizational and logistical needs for the Rescue Squad(s) and work site
- Providing periodic progress reports to the Rescue Team Manager or Search Team Manager
- Maintaining records and reports: ICS 214s
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned

Position Requirements and Criteria: Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Overland / Wilderness Search and Rescue Technicians in the Mississippi US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing the wilderness search and rescue tactics and techniques required in a disaster environment, wilderness, or urban wilderness.

Required Training & Certifications:

1. Complete all Administrative and General Training requirements
 - a. NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, & 800
2. Complete ICS-300 in accordance with the National Standard Curriculum Training Development Guidance
3. Meet requirements of NFPA 472 (2013) Chapters 5 & 6: HazMat Operations Level
4. NFPA 1006 Chapter 6: Rope Rescue (Level 1 & 2)
5. NASAR SARTECH 1
6. Be certified as :

- 1). NFPA 1021 Fire Officer Level 1 & 2 or Certification as
- 2). Mississippi Volunteer Fire Officer I & 2
7. Current Certification in Basic First Aid for First Responders or equivalent

Recommended Training & Certifications:

1. NRT EMT-B or greater certification
2. Complete ICS-300 in accordance with the National Standard Curriculum Training Development Guidance
3. Complete the NASAR Managing the Lost Person Incident (MLPI) Course
4. Complete a Wide Area Search(WAS) Course

MS-US&R Membership Information

MS-US&R Member Code of Conduct

The conduct of personnel of the MS-US&R Team is of high interest to the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security, the Sponsoring Agencies, and/or the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). Team members are perceived as representatives of a well-organized, highly trained group of specialists who have been assembled to help communities in need of assistance. At the conclusion of a mission, members must ensure that their performance has been positive, and that they will be remembered for the outstanding way they conducted themselves both socially and in the work environment.

As a general definition, a code of conduct consists of the rules of standards governing the demeanor of a person or the members of a profession. The MS-US&R Team is concerned with the work environment of its members and has established this Code of Conduct. Since each member is a representative of their team and their Sponsoring Agency, a violation of principles or adverse behavior demonstrated will be looked upon as unprofessional. Such behavior may discredit the good work that the resource completes and will reflect poorly on the entire team's performance and its Sponsoring Agency and the MS- US&R Team.

It is the responsibility of the Sponsoring Agency to prepare employees before allowing membership to the MS-US&R Team regarding conduct expectations. Each MS-US&R Team member is bound by a regulation regarding professional conduct established by his/her employer or sponsoring agency.

It is the responsibility of the Task Force Leaders to reinforce the Code of Conduct during all planning sessions, trainings, and/or deployments and to monitor compliance. Any violation will be addressed and documented, with follow-up action taken by a Task Force Leader, the employer/sponsoring agency, the MS-US&R Coordination Group, as appropriate. Violations of the MS-US&R Code of Conduct may result in an immediate suspension or termination of membership.

The most important responsibility for following the MS-US&R Code of Conduct falls upon the MS-US&R Team member. It is expected that he/she will conduct himself/herself in a most ethical manner at all times. As a basic guide, members will base all action and decisions on the ethical, moral, and legal consequences of their actions. Accordingly, members are expected to:

- At all times keep the value of life and the welfare of the victims constantly in mind
- At no time during meetings, training, or missions will members take personal advantage
- of any situation
- Refrain from discrimination based on race, religion, gender and nationality
- Refrain from sexual harassment and report any suspected infractions immediately
- Refrain from creating a hostile work environment and work place violence.
- Follow the Chain of Command
- Abide by the State of Mississippi and federal regulations regarding weapons when
- Deployed
- Abide by the State of Mississippi and federal regulations regarding sensitive information
- Respect the privacy of victims
- Refrain from possession of alcohol and illegal drugs during missions
- Only procure equipment through appropriate channels
- Refrain from removing property from an operational worksite for personal gain Refrain from accepting gratuities
- Demonstrate proper response for public and private property Demonstrate proper respect for other team members
- Any violations of the MS-US&R Code of Conduct should be immediately reported

MS-US&R Application Process

MS-US&R Teams are comprised of specific, technical and management positions. The teams are also allocated a limited number of members for planning and budgeting reasons. Thus, the application process allows the Task Force Leaders assure that team members are qualified for the position for which they are assigned and ensures accountability for routine planning and during activation. Persons wishing to apply for team membership should review the requirements set forth in the program manual and submit an application online. The Task Force Leader will review the application to assure that applicant meets the requirements for the position for which he/she has applied. Simply submitting an application does not guarantee an applicant's acceptance onto the MS-US&R Team.

If the applicant is accepted to serve on a task force the applicant must have a MOU on file with the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security. If the members sponsoring agency has not already completed a MOU the sponsoring agency will be asked to sign a MOU indicating a level of commitment to support the applicant by allowing time off for training, exercises, and most importantly during deployments. Membership on a MS-US&R Team is a commitment required of both the applicant and the employer/sponsoring agency.

Maintaining Qualifications

All MS-US&R Team members are required to maintain a state of readiness for their assigned role within the Task Force in order to maintain an active deployment status with the team. Members have the opportunity to maintain their skills through regional refreshers that are offered in their Task Force region.

To maintain currency, member must attend two regional refreshers annually and demonstrate skill competency.

Appeals Process

Appeals relative to denial of eligibility for qualification and team membership may be made by utilizing the following procedures:

- Appeals shall be in writing by the Applicant to the Task Force Leader no later than 30 days from the notification of initial review and denial of the application and forwarded to the MS-US&R Coordination Group.
- Appeals must contain at a minimum, a description of the reason or circumstances leading to the appeal, supporting documentation, and the desired outcome.
- The MS-US&R Coordination Group will appoint a three member "Appeals Committee" for the purpose of reviewing the appeal. The Appeals Committee shall include at least one member of an MS-US&R Team that is qualified for the position being appealed.
- The Appeals Committee Chairperson will render the opinion of the committee to the MS-US&R Coordination Group Chairperson within 30 days of receipt of the appeal.
- The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final.

Activation and Mobilization

The process for requesting MS-US&R Program assets in no way circumvents normal mutual or automatic aid agreements which are in place locally or regionally. This process is utilized when local mutual aid or automatic aid resources are not sufficient to address the incident or resources have been exhausted.

MS-US&R Teams may be mobilized in accordance with State Emergency Operations Plans in anticipation of a major incident or to support major events. The State Emergency Operation Center ESF 9 Coordinator will coordinate any pre-incident or major event mobilization in accordance with established plans and procedures for SMAC & EMAC request.

Requests for MS- US&R Program responses should include specific mission assignments or requests in order to ensure the appropriate capabilities are mobilized. Requests must also include contact information, reporting locations, and in some instances a delegation of authority may be required.

Deployment/Alert Status Notification of Task Force Members

In the event of a deployment or potential deployment Task Force Leadership will incorporate the use of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agencies ATHOC system for Task Force notifications. The four message types that a team member should expect to receive are:

1. **Advisory Notice**

Upon the occurrence of a significant disaster event or an impending event, MOHS may issue an Advisory Notice to all US&R Task Forces. All appropriate information related to the event will be provided as it becomes known. The advisory is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a directive to begin any mobilization activities.

Advisory Notices may also be issued periodically during an incident to inform all task forces of any mission information updates.

2. **Alert Notice**

If US&R Task Force resources have a probability of being requested within the next 24 hours, MOHS may issue an Alert Notice.

All appropriate information related to the event will be provided, as it becomes known.

3. **Activation Order**

If an event or disaster requires US&R Task Force activation, an activation order will be issued.

4. **Stand down Order**

If an Alert Notice has been issued, and subsequent information indicates that mobilization of the task force is not warranted, a stand down order will be issued.

MS-US&R Deployment Process

Pre-Deployment

- State Search and Rescue Coordinator will notify the Task Force Leaders of a MS- US&R Team Deployment.
- State Search and Rescue Coordinator will contact Task Force Leaders requesting a conference call authorizing a deployment.
- The State Search and Rescue Coordinator and Task Force Leader will determine the Kind and Type of Team to deploy based on the known information. The Task Force Leader will initiate the development of an ICS 203 Organizational Assignment List for the team to be deployed.
- The State Search and Rescue Coordinator and the Task Force Leader will determine the need to assign an MS-US&R Liaison Officer (LOFR) to a local jurisdiction to become an Agency Representative (ARep) of the MS-US&R Teams. This may be accomplished through the use of ESF 9 Coordinators being assigned from the MEMA IMAT or through the use of MS-US&R representatives. The MS-US&R ARep will become the interface between the local jurisdiction and the MS-US&R Team Leader.
- The Task Force Leader will initiate a Unit Log ICS 214 form to document actions and incident response. All responding personnel should begin to track resources at the time of activation.
- Request the SEOC ESF 9 Coordinator forward the MS-US&R 211 Form to the SEOC ESF 8 Coordinator to ensure "Medical Control" is granted to EMT- Basic and EMT-Paramedics, as required by the incident
- Basic mobilization objectives when developing a Mobilization/Incident Action Plan should include:
- Complete an Organizational Assignment List (Form ICS 203 MS-US&R) and Check-in Sheet (Form ICS 211 MS-US&R) and forward to the SEOC ESF 9 Coordinator and MEMA IMAT ESF 9 Coordinators (if IMAT is deployed).
- Update MS-US&R Team member personnel information during check-in process at Mobilization Point.
- Ensure that all MS-US&R Team equipment is in working order and plan for logistical needs and support.
- Establish a Convoy Communication Plan, either by radio communications (ICS 205) or telephone communications (ICS 205A).
- Ensure the development of a traffic/travel plan and provide maps as required. Conduct a Convoy Safety Briefing prior to departure from the Mobilization/Assembly Point.

Prior to departure from the Mobilization Point the Task Force Leader will:

- Ensure that all equipment checks have been completed and logistical matters are resolved (food, water, fuel, etc). If unmet needs are to be filled by MEMA at the SEOC or other location, ensure that travel plans include stops at the appropriate pick up point.
- Complete an internal and external communication check which includes communications with the SEOC ESF 9 Coordinator, MEMA IMAT ESF 9 Coordinator, and local Emergency Management Agency.
- Conduct an Operational Briefing which covers the Mobilization/Incident Action Plan including, mobilization objectives, convoy safety briefing, communications plan, assignments, and travel route/plan.
- Upon departure communicate departure time and expected time of arrival with the State Search and Rescue Coordinator, the SEOC ESF 9 Coordinator and/or the MEMA IMAT ESF 9 Coordinator.

En-Route

- While en route the MS-US&R Team Leader will maintain contact with all vehicles traveling in the convoy.
- The MS- US&R Team Leader will report any delays or departures from the expect arrival times to the logistics pick up point or incident location to the State EOC ESF9 Coordinator.
- If assigned, the MS-US&R Liaison Officer(s) will establish communications with the assigned jurisdiction and report expected arrival time approximately 30-90 minutes before the expected arrival at the local Emergency Operations Center. The MS-US&R Liaison Officer(s) will obtain a current situation report. This information will be relayed to the MS-US&R Team Leader.
- Upon arrival at the Base of Operations, forward staging area, and/or the incident location the MS-US&R Team Leader will communicate arrival via the radio or telephone to the State EOC ESF9 Coordinator. If assigned the MS-US&R Liaison Officer(s) will report arrival at the Incident Command Post or local Emergency Operation Center to the MS- US&R Team Leader.

On-Going

- The MS-US&R Liaison/Agency Representative will routinely provide situational awareness to the local Emergency Management Agency, SEOC ESF 9 Coordinator, and/or MEMA IMAT ESF 9 Coordinator.

Mississippi Emergency Management Agencies Tropical Storm/Hurricane Plan Mississippi Urban Search & Rescue (MS US&R)

I. PURPOSE

To provide search and rescue resources identified by the Coastal Emergency Management Directors in advance of a tropical storm and/or hurricane based on the category of storm and historical needs of the Emergency Management Agency to supplement local resources.

II. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

The Mississippi US&R Tropical Storm/Hurricane Response Guideline is based off the anticipated needs of Jackson, Harrison, and Hancock Counties. This approach allows the pre-assignment of MS-US&R assets to a specific county or counties, which in return allows the MS US&R Teams to plan, train, and conduct exercises on a routine basis with their assigned jurisdictions.

B. Assumptions

1. The local Emergency Management Directors know historically what search and rescue assets are typically needed to address gaps in resources.
2. The local Emergency Management Directors know historically what types of search and rescue events are required at various categories and storm surge levels of tropical storms/hurricanes.
3. Full or partial deployment of Mississippi US&R-Task Forces will meet the resource gaps identified as required for tropical storms and lower category hurricanes.
4. The state Emergency Support Function #9 (ESF #9) Coordinator will deploy MS-US&R asset in sufficient time to arrive at the staging area prior to the arrival of tropical storm force winds.
5. The state ESF #9 Coordinator will coordinate deployment, re-assignment, and demobilization of MS-US&R assets.
6. MS-US&R teams will be assigned a specific county or counties and conduct planning, training, and exercises with the assigned county to facilitate a rapid response.
7. MS-US&R teams will work directly with the local Emergency Management Director and local ESF #9 coordinator for assignments to local jurisdictions or local Incident Commander.
8. Each MS-US&R team will be managed by an appropriate Incident Command System Structure requiring minimal assistance with planning and logistics from the local jurisdiction.
9. Each MS-US&R team and/or crew may be assigned to work directly with the local Incident Commander and/or other state or federal assets.

C. ESF #9 Timeline

The following timeline provides general guidance of the expected actions of the Mississippi State Emergency Operations Center and the MS-US&R Regional Coordinators assigned under this plan, with the understanding that in fast moving events, actions outlined under a specific timeframe may have to be accelerated.

Hour 120+

1. Notification of the situation and briefing of expectations.
2. MS-US&R coordinators, MDWFP and ESF #9 Desk personnel placed on stand-by and requested to conduct readiness checks.
3. Provide conference call information for senior Search and Rescue (SAR) personnel to participate in weather and state/local conference calls.
4. Regional coordinators begin personnel deployment documentation.
5. Teams assure communications equipment are charged and readied for deployment.
6. Identify and place Advance Team on stand-by for deployment.

Hour 96

1. Update from Local and State Officials for Situational Awareness for all Search and Rescue personnel.
2. Finalize personnel list and Mission Assignment documentation to be provided to state SAR coordinator & ESF #9 desk lead.
3. Communication and equipment check for Advanced Team. Advance Team should expect to deploy within 24-48 hours, if required.

Hour 84

1. MS-US&R Leadership reviews deployment checklist with MS-US&R personnel to identify any shortfalls for deployment.
2. ESF#9 desk lead coordinates with ESF #13 for security if needed for deployment.
3. ESF#9 desk lead coordinates with ESF #8 to determine the need for Forward Assessment Teams (FAST) to be integrated with MS-US&R Teams.
4. Place MS-US&R Team personnel, MS-US&R Logistics Team, ESF #9 desk personnel on ALERT for deployment within 48 hours. Review pre-landfall Staging Areas for SAR assets.
5. MS-US&R conference call to identify outstanding issue within MS-US&R Teams.

Hour 72

1. Distribute MEMA IAP and Communications Plan/List (205/205A)
2. Inspection of all personal gear, SAR equipment, and communications equipment for deployment.
3. Communications systems check across team personnel, state personnel, and to local deployment locations.
4. Advanced Team staff meets with local Emergency/Incident Management Personnel in assigned areas for situation awareness and begin final preparations for MS-US&R Team arrival to assigned areas.

Hour 48

1. Final inspections for MS-US&R Teams in preparation for deployment.
2. Finalize arrangements with ESF #8 and ESF #13 if personnel are being embedded with MS-US&R Teams.
3. MS-US&R Teams arrive at MEMA to pick up logistical shortfalls previously identified. (As needed)
4. MS-US&R Teams deploy to arrive at pre-landfall staging areas no later than 24-36 hours prior to expected tropical force winds impacting the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Hours 36-24

1. Arrive in pre-landfall staging area 36-24 hours prior to the arrival of tropical force winds.
2. MS-US&R Leadership makes contact with the ESF #9 desk lead upon arrival at the pre-landfall staging area regarding information sharing and reporting requirements.
3. Conduct SAR operations as required under the direction of the local Incident Commander.

III. ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. MS-US&R Regional Pre-Deployment Hurricane Assignment Estimates

The following pre-assignments were defined during the preplanning process and are subject to changed based off anticipated needs determined as an event unfolds.

1. Hancock County- MS-US&R Task Force 1
2. Harrison County- MS-US&R Task Force 2
3. Jackson County- MS-US&R Task Force 2

B. Advance Team Deployment

An Advance Team will be identified as soon as possible when a tropical storm or hurricane threatens the Mississippi Gulf Coast. This team will consist of MS-US&R Leadership and ESF #9 Coordinators, as determined by MEMA. The Advance Team should expect to deploy to the local jurisdiction 72 hours prior to tropical storm force winds arriving on the coast.

The Advance Team will meet with the local Emergency Management Personnel in the assigned areas for situational awareness and begin final preparations for the arrival of the MS-US&R resources.

C. Single Resource Deployments during Minor Storms

Minor storms are considered to be storms with a predicted surge of less than 10 feet and/or a category 1 hurricane. Based on the assumptions of this plan, a limited number of resources are anticipated to be required to assist local jurisdictions. Resources for minor storms may be deployed as a single resource to the assigned county or resources may be deployed as a team with a minimal Incident Support Team. In such case, the MS-US&R resource must be self-sufficient and will integrate directly into a local jurisdiction's response system under the Incident Commander of the local jurisdiction and coordinated through the local Emergency Management Agency.

Typically, the MS-US&R resource will include a Team Leader and/or a Liaison Officer (LNO) which will be assigned to the local Emergency Operations Center as an Agency Representative. As the Agency Representative, these assigned personnel will represent the resource in the local EOC assuring that the resource is utilized to the best of and within the capabilities of the resource. Such resources will report to the local EOC LNO or the county's ESF #9 Coordinator. The MS-US&R Leadership will determine the appropriate staffing level of the Incident Support Team and make assignments accordingly.

Single resources must follow the notification process outlined in the "Arrival at the Mississippi Gulf Coast" section below.

D. Multiple Resource Deployment during Major Storms

Major storms are considered to be storms with a predicted surge in excess of 10 feet and/or a category 2 hurricane. The anticipated resource needs are greater in number and require a higher level of support. Resources deployed during major storms will be deployed as a Task Force along with an appropriate Incident Support Team as outlined in the MS-US&R Program Manual (under separate cover). The Task Force Leader will be responsible for the management of the team while deployed. The Task Force Leader will ensure that check-in procedures are followed as described below. The Task Force Leader, or the Task Force Liaison as assigned, will represent the Task Force in the local EOC as an Agency Representative, reporting to the local EOC LNO or local ESF 9 Coordinator as requested by the local Emergency Manager. The MS-US&R Regional Coordinator will determine the appropriate staffing level of the Incident Support Team and make assignments accordingly.

E. Emergency Support Function #13- Law Enforcement Resources

The established plan for deployment to the Mississippi Gulf Coast includes the assignment of Emergency Support Function #13 resources (Law Enforcement Officers) to the MS-US&R Teams when the tropical storm is categorized at a level 1 hurricane or above. The basic law enforcement teams to be deployed with the MS-US&R Teams are a two-man team which will provide force security, escort, or other related law enforcement functions in support of MS-US&R Team operations.

Law Enforcement resources to provide protection (Force Protection) from ESF #13 will be coordinated through the MEMA ESF #13 Coordinator at the time the MEMA Emergency Services Branch Director approves the activation of MS-US&R resources. The ESF #13 asset will be informed to contact the MS-US&R Team Leader to coordinate mobilization and demobilization.

F. Arrival at the Mississippi Gulf Coast

1. Local Jurisdiction Staging Area or Assignment Location

Providing the local jurisdiction has a safe staging area, the MS-US&R resources shall proceed to the local jurisdiction for assignment and/or integration into the local response system. The Team Leader is to obtain a briefing about assignments, dispatching procedures, response procedures and reporting requirements.

When assigned directly to a local incident, the Team Leader will check-in with the local Incident Commander and receive an incident briefing and assignments. The Team Leader is responsible for integrating the team seamlessly into the local Incident Command System, or assuming command in the absence of a local official or authority.

The role of Incident Commander should be returned as soon as possible to the senior local official or authority upon his/her arrival at the scene.

G. Reassignment/Demobilization

The MS-US&R Task Force Leader or Team Leader will confirm with their assigned jurisdiction that MS-US&R resources are no longer required by the local jurisdiction and coordinate the teams next course of action with the ESF #9 Coordinator.

The ESF #9 Coordinator will confer with other jurisdictions to determine if any unmet needs exist in the region which may be filled by the MS-US&R Team(s) being considered for demobilization. If no unmet needs exist, the MS-US&R Task Force Leader or Team Leader will begin the demobilization process. The MS-US&R Task Force Leader or Team Leader is responsible for making all notifications to home agencies.

The MS-US&R Task Force Leader or Team Leader will coordinate with ESF #9 Coordinator to finalize check-out procedures and return any necessary equipment prior to departing the coast.

H. Logistics Support

Logistical support for the MS-US&R Teams deployed under this plan is a staggered response based on the predicted storm surge and hurricane category.

1. Tropical Storm and Category 1 Hurricane Logistics

The MS-US&R Logistics Team will provide minimal support during Tropical and Category 1 Hurricane deployments. MS-US&R resources deployed will be responsible for coordinating with the assigned local jurisdiction for logistical support while deployed. Logistical support requests from the MS-US&R assets should be limited to a safe staging area and/or base of operations.

For planning purposes the MS-US&R Teams assigned to local jurisdictions should be self-sufficient for 96 hours. The MS-US&R Logistics Team may be requested to provide support through the local jurisdiction and will be coordinated with the SEOC ESF #9 Coordinator or Forward MACC ESF #9 Coordinator, if deployed.

2. Category 2 or Greater Hurricanes

For strong category 2 hurricanes or greater the level of search and rescue increases, meaning greater logistical support will be needed and potentially spread throughout the coastal region. The MS-US&R Logistics Team will be expected to provide a higher level of response to support the search and rescue efforts. When a strong category 2 hurricane or greater is predicted, the logistical team will be placed on standby and prepared to deploy along with search and rescue teams in

HANCOCK COUNTY RESOURCE REQUEST

Hancock County MSTF1	Tropical Storm	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5
MS Water Rescue Boat Crew (4 Personnel)	2	2				
MS Type III US&R Team with water rescue capabilities. (35 personnel)			1			
MS Type II US&R Team with water rescue capabilities (70 personnel)				1	1	1
EMAC US&R Team				(#TBD based on request)	(#TBD based on request)	(#TBD based on request)

HARRISON COUNTY RESOURCE REQUEST

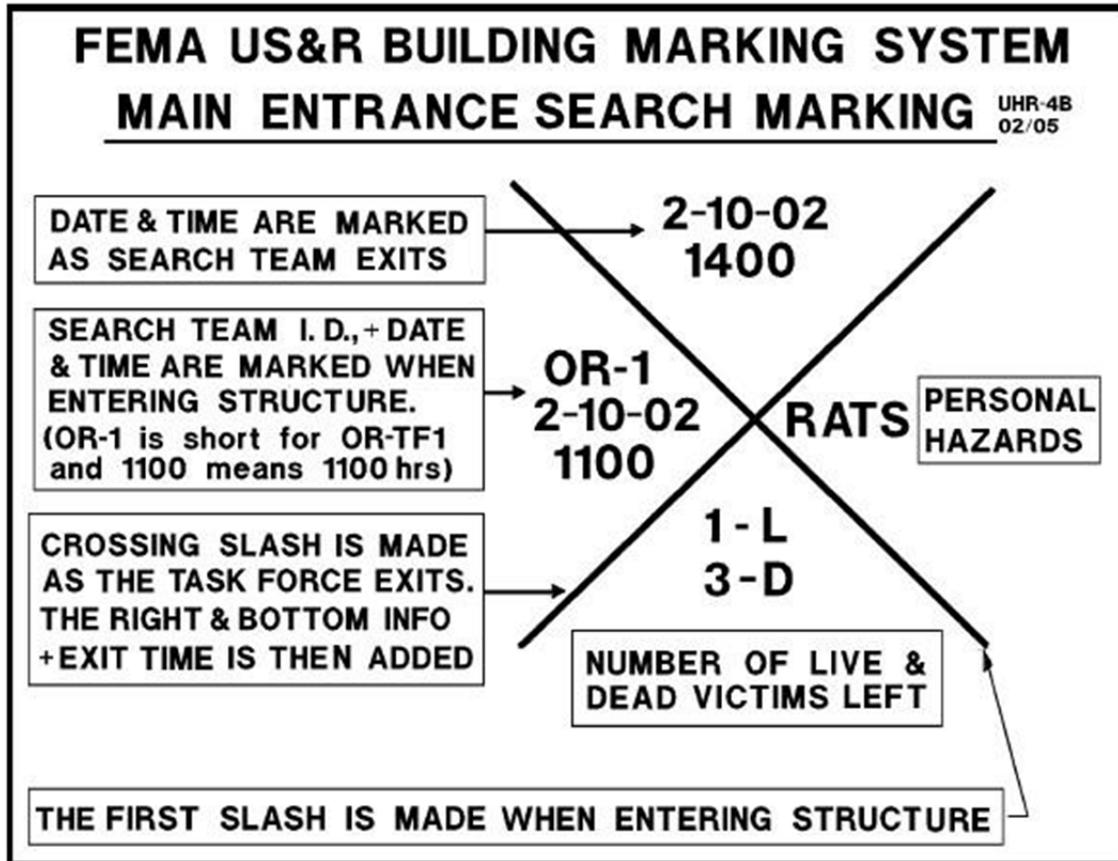
Harrison County MSTF2	Tropical Storm	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5
MS Water Rescue Boat Crew (4 Personnel)	1	1				
MS Type III US&R Team with water rescue capabilities. (35 personnel)			1			
MS Type II US&R Team with water rescue capabilities (70 personnel)				1	1	1
EMAC US&R Team				(# TBD based on request)	(# TBD based on request)	(# TBD based on request)

JACKSON COUNTY RESOURCE REQUEST

Jackson County MSTF2	Tropical Storm	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5
MS Water Rescue Boat Crew (4 Personnel)	1	1				
MS Type III US&R Team with water rescue capabilities. (35 personnel)			1			
MS Type II US&R Team with water rescue capabilities (70 personnel)				1	1	1
EMAC US&R Team				(#TBD based on request)	(#TBD based on request)	(#TBD based on request)

Appendix A: Search System Markings/Symbols

The MS-US&R Team will utilize the FEMA US&R marking system as the standard marking system used to indicate search actions. Below is a summary of the marking system.



Appendix B: GEO-Referencing Standards

Geo-referencing is defining a location in physical space and is useful in making aerial and satellite imagery useful for mapping. Geo-referencing explains how position data relates to imagery and physical location. Different maps may use different systems. Geo-referencing tools contain methods to combine and overlay these maps with minimum distortion. Use Geo-referencing methods, data obtained from observation or surveying may be given a point of reference from topographic maps already available. While no sign map/chart or coordinate system will be perfect for all applications, the MS-US&R Program has identified two methods to be utilized for search and rescue operations within the state. These methods are the same as utilized by the National Search and Rescue Committee.

U.S. National Grid (USNG)/Land Search

The preferred method for Geo-referencing of the MS-US&R Program is the U.S. Nation Grid (USNG). The USNG is intended to create a more interoperable environment for land-based services within the United States and to increase the interoperability of location services appliances with printed map products by establishing a preferred nationally consistent grid reference system. The USNG can be applied to any United State Geological Service (USGS) topographical map by using a simple “read right, then read up” method.

The USNG and the Military Grid Reference System (MGRS) are functionally equivalent when referenced to NAD 83 or WGS 84 datums.

The USNG coordinates are easily translated to distance, as they are actually in meters. Thus the distance between two coordinates can be quickly determined in the field.

A USNG value has three components:

- The Grid Zone Designation which is a 6° by 8° longitude zone/latitude band. (18SUJ 23370651)- Globally Unique
- The 100,000-meter Square Identification (18SUJ 23370651)-Regionally areas
- The Grid Coordinates (18SUJ 23370651) range from 4 to 10 numbers-Local areas

While it is typically appropriate when search and rescues are conducted on a local level to utilize only the Grid Coordinates due to the fact that these coordinates recur about every 1000 miles, the MS- US&R Program prefers the use of the 100,000-meter Square Indication (18SUJ 23370651) in conjunction with the Grid Coordinates when communicating location. Thus, written communication should use the format “UJ 23370651” for 18SUJ 23370651 and when spoken the format should be “Uniform Juliet two, three, three, seven, zero, six, five, one”.

Reading USNG Grid Coordinates:

Find the Grid Zone Designation, then the 100,000-meter Square Identification on the map. Then utilize the Grid Coordinates to get the location reading first to the right of the 100,000-meter Square Identification line then read up. Remember grid coordinate indicate meters.

USNG coordinates are always given as an even number. (18SUJ 23370651) Separate coordinates in half into easting and northing components (2337 0651)

The user of the USNG determines the required precision:

- Four digits-locating a point within a 1,000-meter square
- Six digits-locating a point within a 100-meter square
- Eight digits-locating a point within a 10-meter square
- Ten digits-locating a point within a 1 meter square

Example: Using the coordinates 18SUJ 23370651 to locate a point, a person would locate the UJ line on the map and read right 2337 along the bottom line of the grid, then read 651 meters up from that point.

Latitude-Longitude/Aerial and Watercraft Search (Degrees, Decimal Minutes DD°MM.mmm)

Latitude and longitude are used by aircraft and watercraft during search and rescue operations. The Latitude-Longitude is a geographic coordinate system used for location positions on the Earth's surface.

Lines of Latitude are horizontal lines shown running east to west on maps and are known as "Parallels" due to be parallel to the equator. Latitude is measured north and south ranging from 0 degrees at the equator to 90 degrees at the poles (90° N for the North Pole and 90° S for the South Pole).

Lines of Longitude are vertical lines shown running north and south on maps and are known as "Meridians" intersecting at the poles. Longitude is measured east and west ranging from 0° at the prime meridian to +180° East and -180° West.

The standard format for search and rescue operations is Degrees, Decimal Minutes (DD°MM.mmm).

Latitude is always read and written first noting "North" since the United States is North of the Equator. Longitude is always read and written "West" since the United States is West of the Prime Meridian.

The following is a correct method for providing latitude and longitude when speaking:

39° 36.06' by 76° 51.42' should be stated as, "Thirty-nine degrees, three six decimal zero six minutes North by seven six degrees, five one decimal four two minutes West.

The words "degrees", "minutes" and "decimal" must be spoken.

Communicating Position References

MS-US&R teams should primarily utilize the USNG for geo-referencing locations; however, since teams will routinely be coordinating efforts with other agencies the use of Lat/Long coordinates in the Degree Decimal Minute format should also be used in communications.

When possible the actual street address is also required for communicating locations.

The following is an example utilizing the Forward State Emergency Operations Center-South: Forward SEOC South
4102 Hewes Street, Gulfport, MS

16R CU 0182 6512

30° 24.135 N, 89° 3.768 W

Global Area Reference Systems (GARS)

The MS-US&R Program recognizes that the Global Area Reference System (GARS) is a standardized geospatial area reference system for military and civil search and rescue application and is based on lines of longitude and latitude. GARS is also an acceptable method of geo-referencing by National Search and Rescue Committee and may be utilized by aeronautical assets; however the MS-US&R Program has no assets directly under the program and will rarely be required to utilize GARS

Appendix C Radio Call Signs

MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY (MOHS)
HEADQUARTERS
CALL SIGNS
XRAY

X DIRECTOR,
X 01 DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, MOHS-JIM BRINSON
X 02 TASK FORCE OPERATIONS, MOHS-STEVE BEARD

MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY (MOHS)
TRAINING
CALL SIGNS
EAGLE-03

E 31 TRAINING COORDINATOR, MOHS-WILLIAM "JUNIOR" GRANTHAM
E 32 PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, MOHS-TODD FRIER
E 33 DEPUTY TRAINING COORDINATOR, MOHS-DON MCCRORY

TASK FORCE 1
CALL SIGNS
TANGO FOXTROT-01

TF 01 TASK FORCE 1 LEADER-CHRIS OLSON
TF 11 TASK FORCE 1 DEPUTY LEADER-CURT CLAYTON
TF 12 TASK FORCE 1 DEPUTY LEADER-BEN MCMINN

TASK FORCE 2
CALL SIGNS
TANGO FOXTROT-02

TF 02 TASK FORCE 2 LEADER-PIERCE CLARK
TF 21 TASK FORCE 2 DEPUTY LEADER-BRIAN ARNETT
TF 22 TASK FORCE 2 DEPUTY LEADER-DOUG STEPHENS
TF 23 TASK FORCE 2 DEPUTY LEADER-JEFF FRANKS

Task Force 3
CALL SIGNS
TANGO FOXTROT-03

TF 03 TASK FORCE 3 LEADER-CHAD BRYANT
TF 31 TASK FORCE 3 DEPUTY LEADER-
TF 32 TASK FORCE 3 DEPUTY LEADER-RYAN PIGOTT
TF 33 TASK FORCE 3 DEPUTY LEADER-WILL LEWIS

TASK FORCE 4 (LOGISTICS)

CALL SIGNS

TANGO FOXTROT-04

TF 04 TASK FORCE 4 LEADER-RICHARD COGHLAN
TF 41 TASK FORCE 4 DEPUTY LEADER-DAMON GREEN
TF 42 TASK FORCE 4 GROUND SUPPORT UNIT LEADER-BARRY McKENZIE
TF 43 TASK FORCE 4 FOOD UNIT LEADER-JAMIE ROBERTSON
TF 44 TASK FORCE 4 MEDICAL UNIT LEADER-JOSIE BONDS
TF 45 TASK FORCE 4 SUPPLY UNIT LEADER-TBD
TF 46 TBD
TF 47 TBD
TF 48 TBD
TF 49 TBD
TF 4C TASK FORCE 4 (COMMUNICATIONS LEADER)
TF 4CA TASK FORCE 4 (COMMUNICATION TECH)

Any subordinate under each leader will have A, B, C, etc. added to the call sign.

Example: Any one working under Ground Support Unit Leader McKenzie with a radio will have call sign TF 42A.

Appendix D: Definitions

Agency Representative: An individual designated by an assisting agency for the purpose of making authoritative decisions on matters affecting the agency's participation at the incident. Agency Representatives report directly to the Incident Commander or designated Liaison Officer but are not part of the ICS organization.

Branch: An organizational level of the Operations Section, below the section level and above the division/group level that facilitates efficient management of multiple operations activities via geographic, functional, or jurisdictional responsibility. Typically, branches are established only for very large or complex incidents.

Chain of Command: A series of command, control, executive, or management positions in hierarchical order of authority.

Chief: Individual assigned to supervise a particular functional area, or section, of an ICS organization.

Command: One of five major functional areas of an ICS organization that provides on-scene management and control authority.

Command Staff: Personnel assigned to and charged with performing or supporting the duties and responsibilities of the Command function. Command Staff include the Incident Commander or Unified Command as well as the Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, and Liaison Officer designated as necessary to carry out key activities not specifically identified in the functional areas directed by the General Staff.

Crew: A crew or team of individuals with an identified work supervisor (Squad Officer) that can be used on an incident.

Squad Officer: The supervisor of a crew or team of individuals (Crew) working on an incident responsible for the directing the actions of the crew typically operating within the Operations Section.

Director: Individual assigned to supervise a particular branch within a section of the ICS organization.

Division: An organizational level of the Operations Section that partitions resources on the basis of separation in terrain, geography, or fueling locations. Divisions (or groups) are established when the number of resources exceeds the manageable span of control of the Operations Chief.

Finance and Administration Section: One of five major functional areas of an ICS organization that functions to track incident costs (e.g., response, scene management, and removal) and account for reimbursements. Reimbursements may include payment for damage to transportation infrastructure or for personnel and equipment resource time and materials used to complete incident cleanup operations.

General Staff: Personnel assigned by Command to lead each functional area, or section, of the ICS organization. An individual section leader is known as a chief.

Group: An organizational level of the Operations Section that partitions resources based on major operational functions. Groups (or divisions) are established when the number of resources exceeds the manageable span of control of the Operations Chief.

Incident Action Plan (IAP): An oral or written plan that describes the overall strategy for managing an incident. An Incident Action Plan may include the identification of operational resources and assignments. It may also include attachments that provide direction and important information for management of the incident during one or more operational periods.

Incident Command Post (ICP): A vehicle or facility that signifies the location of the tactical-level, on-scene incident command and management organization.

Incident Command System (ICS): A systematic tool used for the command, control, and coordination of emergency response. ICS allows agencies to work together using common terminology and operating procedures controlling personnel, facilities, equipment, and communications at a single incident scene. It facilitates a consistent response to any highway incident by employing a common organizational structure that can be expanded and contracted in a logical manner based on the level of required response.

Incident Commander (IC): The on-scene ranking officer, representing the agency with incident jurisdiction, that performs the Command function. The IC authorizes incident objectives and strategies that collectively delineate a course of action.

Leader: Individual assigned to supervise a particular strike team or task force within the Operations Section or a particular unit within another section of the ICS organization.

Liaison Officer: A Command Staff position consisting of a single person who acts as the on-scene contact point for representatives of assisting agencies assigned to the incident. A Liaison Officer may designate one or more assistants from either the same or another assisting agency or jurisdiction.

Logistics Section: One of five major functional areas of an ICS organization that functions to provide services and support to the incident response effort in the form of personnel, facilities, and materials. The Logistics Section serves as the support mechanism for the ICS organization.

Mutual-Aid Agreement: A written agreement between agencies and/or jurisdictions that they will assist one another on request by furnishing personnel, equipment, and/or expertise in a specified manner.

National Incident Management System (NIMS): A system mandated by Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 that provides a consistent nationwide approach for governments, the private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity.

Operations Section: One of five major functional areas of an ICS organization that performs all incident tactical operations.

Planning Section: One of five major functional areas of an ICS organization that functions to maintain resource status and situation status, produce the Incident Action Plan, and provide technical specialists. A central function of the Planning Section involves the collection and evaluation of operational information about the incident, including the current and forecasted situation and the status of assigned resources.

Preparedness: The range of deliberate, critical tasks and activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the operational capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents.

Public Information Officer: A Command Staff position consisting of a single person who has responsibility for all interaction between Command and the media and who coordinates the release of information on the incident situation and response efforts from Command to the media. A Public Information Officer may designate one or more assistants from either the same or another assisting agency or jurisdiction.

Resource: A personnel crew or equipment assigned to perform a specific tactical operation at an incident. Resources can be organized into task forces or strike teams.

Safety Officer: A Command Staff position consisting of a single person who has responsibility for monitoring on-scene safety conditions and developing measures to ensure the safety of all assigned personnel. A Safety Officer may designate one or more assistants from either the same or another assisting agency or jurisdiction.

Section: The organizational level having responsibility for a major functional area of incident management, e.g., Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration, and Intelligence (if established).

Span of Control: The maximum number of individuals that one supervisor can manage effectively. NIMS ICS guidelines specify span-of-control should range from 3 to 7, with 5 representing the normal level.

Staging Area: Location established to enable positioning of and accounting for resources not immediately assigned. A staging area may include temporary feeding, fueling, and sanitation services as necessary.

Strike Team: An organizational level of the Operations Section, below the division/group level, that contains multiple single resources of the same kind (function) and type (performance capability).

Supervisor: Individual assigned to supervise a particular division or group within the Operations Section.

Task Force: An organizational level of the Operations Section, below the division/group level, that contains a combination of single resources temporarily assembled for executing a specific operations mission.

Typing: Assigning a common name and function/capability “type,” per the NIMS national typing protocol, to specific resources for the purpose of inventory and management in order to promote interoperability and integration of tactical operations.

Unified Command (UC): One of two methods of performing the Command function that employs multiple ranking personnel. UC is used when a highway incident affects multiple political or legal jurisdictions and/or involves several responding agencies with contrasting functional responsibilities and missions.

Unity of Command: The concept by which each person within an organization reports to one and only one designated person.

Editor	Date