Search & Rescue / SAR

- What is SAR
- Annex R
- Regional SAR Plan
- Survey / Statewide Database
- Geosuite
- Flooding
- Information / EEI

Search and Rescue (SAR)

TDEM Conference 2016
Regional meetings briefing
Search & Rescue

• The most good for the most people in the least amount of time with available resources

Texas County Population Density

SAR Objectives

The objective of SAR operations is to rescue individuals and stray, abandoned, and/or injured animals and move them to a safer location in the immediate area.
PETS Act (2006)

The Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (PETS) amends the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to require states seeking Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assistance to ensure that state and local emergency preparedness operational plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a major disaster or emergency.

ANNEX R  Search & Rescue

ANNEX R
Search & Rescue

STATE OF TEXAS
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

March 2013

ANNEX R Search & Rescue
(when revised, new look)

Hurricane Annex
State of Texas Emergency Management Plan

June 2014
Annex R Search & Rescue
IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

• A. State Support and Assistance Policy
  • 1. Local governments have the primary responsibility for initial Search and Rescue (SAR) operations. When and if additional SAR support is needed, assistance with the searching for, extricating of, and providing for immediate medical treatment of victims who are lost, trapped, or stranded could come in the form of specially trained personnel, specialized equipment, and/or other special resources. Additional SAR assistance may be provided through the statewide mutual aid system (discussed in Section IV.C of this annex) or through deployment of state-level coordinated assets.

Annex R Search & Rescue
VI. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

• A. Direction and control of emergency response and recovery operations within Texas will be exercised in accordance with Sections IV–F, V–B, and VI of the Basic Plan.

• B. A TEEX staff member will serve as the primary agency representative to the State Emergency Management Council and will coordinate Search and Rescue ESF activities within the SOC. This function will provide direct assistance and coordination to the respective DDC and regional response representative. In addition, TEEX will provide support and coordination to the Council members and agencies as appropriate.

• C. A TEEX staff member will serve as the primary agency representative in the Disaster District EOC and coordinate SAR ESF activities within the respective TxDPS region. The regional TEEX representative will directly assist and support the Disaster District Chairperson.

ANNEX R Search & Rescue
APPENDIX 1 TO ANNEX R
SEARCH AND RESCUE ESF ORGANIZATION

Primary Agency:
Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)

Support Agencies:
General Land Office
Texas Division of Emergency Management
Texas Adjutant General’s Department
Texas Department of Criminal Justice
Texas Department of Public Safety
Texas Department of Transportation
Texas Forest Service
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
SAR Resources

- State SAR resources include but are not limited to the following:
  - Texas Task Force 1, 2, and 3
  - Texas Military Forces
  - Texas Department of Public Safety
  - Texas Parks and Wildlife
  - Texas General Land Office Watercraft
  - Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Medical Teams
  - Texas Animal Health Commission/TAMU Veterinary Emergency Team
  - Civil Air Patrol

SAR Resources

Typed Resource Definitions
Search and Rescue Resources

Requesting Assistance
Requesting State Assistance through DDCs

- Staging areas
- Direction and control of resources
- Incident Management Team support
- Facilities and equipment
- State and District Coordinator interface

DDCs Requesting Immediate State Assistance

- DDC verifies need
- DDC contacts search & rescue (SAR) direct
- Activated resource is assigned mission
- Assigned resource is released upon mission completion
- Necessary documentation submitted to SOC

Resource Status

- **Assigned**: Assigned to perform a mission for a jurisdiction
- **Activated**: Resource has been activated/mobilized but has not yet been deployed
- **En Route**: The asset is en route to the DDC but not yet on site
- **Available**: Returned to Disaster District Staging Area (DSA) and available to the DDC to reassign
- **Released**: Back in the control of the State Operation Center to be re-tasked or demobilized
Texas Regional SAR Plan

Provision for the expansion of search and rescue capabilities within Texas Department of Public Safety regions.

ESF 9 Search & Rescue

State of Texas

ESF 9 – Search & Rescue

Normal Operations - SAR Resources

San Antonio:
- DPS Aviation w/ Hoist (1)
- TXMF UH-60 w/ Hoist (2+)
- TX-TF1 SWR Boat Squad (1) – 1hr
- STRAC SWR Boat Squad (1) – 2hr
- 4hr recall

Austin:
- APD Aviation w/ Short Haul (1)*
- DPS Aviation w/ hoist (1)
- TXMF/TX- TF1 UH-60 w/ hoist (2+)
- STAR Flight w/ hoist (2)*
- TX-TF1 SWR Boat Squad (1) – 1hr
- TXDOT 10 HPVs – 2hr
- +4hr recall

Bryan/College Station:
- SAR Overhead
- USAR Type 1/2/3 – 4hr
- TXDOT 10 HPVs – 2hr
- +4hr recall

Grand Prairie:
- TXMF CH-47 (2+)
- +4hr recall

Fort Worth:
- TX- TF1 SWR Boat Squad (1) – 1hr
- TXDOT 10 HPVs – 2hr

Brenham:
- TX- TF1 SWR Boat Squad (1)
- +1hr recall

Dallas:
- USAR Team Type 2/3 – 4hr
- TXDOT 10 HPVs – 2hr

Corpus Christi:
- DPS Aviation w/ Short Haul (1)

Gainesville:
- TX- TF1 SWR Boat Squad (1) – 1hr

Denton:
- TX- TF1 SWR Boat Squad (1) – 1hr

Edinburg:
- DPS Aviation w/ Hoist (1)

ESF 9 Search & Rescue

Texas Regional SAR Plan

Provision for the expansion of search and rescue capabilities within Texas Department of Public Safety regions.
SB 1465

- The wording in the bill amends 418.043 to add:
  - (20) establish and operate, subject to the availability of funds, a search and rescue task force in each field response region established by the division to assist in search, rescue, and recovery efforts before, during, and after a natural or man-made disaster; and...

Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan 2015-2020

- GOAL 4: RESPOND
  - Increase the capability of the state's response system to minimize damage and loss of life from terrorist and criminal attacks and natural and technological disasters. Objective
    - 4.1 Maximize response capabilities by enhancing statewide regional response resources and the state and regional mutual aid network.
  - Lead for reporting: Texas Department of Public Safety

Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan 2015-2020

- .... Over the next five years, the state will continue to develop a regionally focused, multi-discipline, all-hazards response system that ensures regions statewide have the necessary response teams and resources. This system will provide a response support infrastructure tailored to the specific needs and threats of a given region. Regional teams will be organized, trained, and supported with the appropriate knowledge, skills, and abilities to effectively accomplish time-sensitive and personnel-intensive missions such as search and rescue. .....
SB 1465

- Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for SB 1465, Conference Committee Report: a negative impact of ($14,172,126) through the biennium ending August 31, 2017, depending on the scope and structure of the teams established by the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

- The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

SAR Funding

- The requested funding will provide the start-up operation, equipment, staffing and training of the SAR teams for the biennium.

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* = Recurring Expense

Regional Response

- The SAR Regional Response System would consist of developing an Urban Search and Rescue Team in each of the six Texas Department of Public Safety regions.
SAR Survey

- The wording of survey is for:
  - Capability
    - Uses NFPA 1670 Definitions / teams
    - Asks if federally typed team
    - Links to definitions
    - Does not ask for contact information
    - Will be sorted by county
    - Canine will be a separate survey

Survey Link

- https://www.research.net/r/8MQKCTT
  - Thanks to Kim Jones & Suzannah Jones
  - “Keeping up with the Jones”

SAR Crosswalk
Statewide Database – DDC Map

Statewide Database

“This information is provided by individuals or organizations either private or public and has not been confirmed by any agency or person. Local authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs) wishing to utilize this information should make contact with the individual or organization to determine if the services provided fit the needs of the incident. It is recommended that AHJs make contact with those providers in their areas prior to need.”

GeoSuite
GeoSuite™ is a web-based, multimedia system that provides advanced situational awareness and information sharing for public safety personnel, including police officers, search and rescue workers, and first responders.

- Users collect, report, and share real-time information for enhanced decision-making and effective response during emergencies, public events, or Operations Center management.

- Real-Time Situational Awareness
- Users at all levels can view real-time updates on mission events and locations of deployed units.
- Media-Rich
- TIGRS US Military System
Texas Flood Facts

• Central Texas has been identified as the most flash-flood prone area in the United States by the National Weather Service.

• Texas holds 6 of 12 world record rainfall rates in 24 hours or less - Source United States Geological Survey (USGS).

• Texas leads the nation in flood-related deaths most every year -- averaging twice the next nearest state: California.

• Texas leads the nation in flood-related damages most every year - sharing this distinction with Florida and Louisiana.

• Some 20 million of Texas’ 171 million acres are flood-prone - more than in any other state.

Awareness Level Training

• Awareness Level Training

• “Awareness level personnel are those persons who, in the course of their normal duties, can be first on the scene of an emergency involving water search and rescue.” Awareness personnel are expected to recognize the hazard, protect themselves, call for trained personnel, and secure the area.

• 4 hours online for ALL

CUSEC CAPSTONE 14
Essential Elements of Information (EEI's)

- Electricity grid
- Natural Gas grid
- Public water grid
- Road Status (including bridges)
- Rail network (including bridges)
- Navigable waterways
- Air Transportation Infrastructure
- Area Command Locations
- Staging Areas
- Points of Distribution
- JASOI
- Evacuation Orders
- Injuries and Fatalities
- Shelters
- Private Sector Infrastructure
- US Geological Survey Data
- Communications (Public Safety and General Public)
- Hospital Status
- NWS/NHC Forecast
- Storm Surge

FEMA  DPS  TDEM

Governor Briefing
Capt. Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger

- Be a long-term optimist but a short-term realist. There are inherent dangers in search and rescue (SAR). You can't be a wishful thinker. You have to know what you know and don't know, and what you can and can't do in every situation.
- Understand the concept of "goal sacrificing." When it's no longer possible to complete all of your goals, you sacrifice lower-priority goals.
- Compartmentalize your thinking, even in those dire moments. It is vital that you be focused; that you allow no distractions. Work the problem.
- Trust your training and make good decisions. Don’t give up, value every life.
- Be found ready when the test comes.
- Try to do the right thing every time, to perform at your best. You never know what moment in your life you will be judged on.

Remember

Humans don't "rise to the occasion." Instead, we fall to our level of training and experience.

Archilochus, a Greek soldier-poet, said this 2800 years ago.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service

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