



# Urban Search and Rescue Standard

Emergency Management Accreditation Program  
EMAP US&R 2-2022



## Publication Note

The *Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Standard* by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) is designed as a tool for continuous improvement as part of a voluntary Assessment and Certification Process for US&R Resources. EMAP makes no representation or guarantee as to the efficacy of any US&R Resource due to the use of or compliance with the standards contained herein. EMAP makes no guarantee or warranty as to the completeness of information in this document. EMAP expressly disclaims liability for any personal injury or damages of any nature resulting from the publication, use of, or reliance on this document. Standard language has been developed through collaborative workshops and Technical Committee and Commission meetings.

## Copyright

Copyright © 2023 Emergency Management Accreditation Program. All rights reserved. The *Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Standard* is the intellectual property of the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). Neither the *US&R Standard* nor any part thereof may be copied, reproduced, sold, distributed, shared, displayed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including but not limited to photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without the prior written permission of EMAP. To request permission, contact EMAP at the address below:

Emergency Management Accreditation Program  
201 Park Washington Court  
Falls Church, VA 22046-4527

## Table of Contents

PREFACE .....	5
Urban Search and Rescue Standard .....	6
Chapter 1: Administration .....	6
Chapter 2: Definitions .....	6
Chapter 3: Urban Search and Rescue.....	9
3.1 Program Management.....	9
3.2 Finance.....	10
3.3 Membership.....	10
3.4 Incident Management.....	11
3.5 Notification and Deployment .....	11
3.6 Training and Exercise.....	13
3.7 Resource Management and Logistics.....	13
Annex A US&R Resource Supplemental Guidance .....	16
Annex A-1 Urban Search and Rescue Resource Position Descriptions.....	17
GENERAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS .....	18
CANINE SEARCH SPECIALIST .....	20
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST .....	21
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM SPECIALIST .....	22
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM MANAGER.....	24
HEAVY EQUIPMENT & RIGGING SPECIALIST .....	26
LOGISTICS SPECIALIST.....	27
LOGISTICS TEAM MANAGER .....	28
MEDICAL SPECIALIST .....	30
MEDICAL TEAM MANAGER.....	31
PLANNING TEAM MANAGER .....	32
RESCUE SPECIALIST .....	33
RESCUE SQUAD OFFICER .....	34
RESCUE TEAM MANAGER.....	35
SAFETY OFFICER .....	37
SEARCH TEAM MANAGER.....	39
STRUCTURES SPECIALIST .....	41
TASK FORCE LEADER .....	43
TECHNICAL INFORMATION SPECIALIST .....	45
TECHNICAL SEARCH SPECIALIST.....	46
WATER RESCUE SPECIALIST .....	47
Annex A-2 US&R Resource Mission Capability Requirements .....	48
SEARCH.....	48
RESCUE.....	48

MEDICAL.....	48
HAZMAT .....	49
COMMUNICATIONS .....	49
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT.....	50
GENERAL.....	50
Appendix A: EMAP Standards Review Cycle and Appeal Process .....	51
Appendix B: EMAP Commission and Committees .....	52

## PREFACE<sup>1</sup>

The Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP), as an independent non-profit organization, fosters excellence and accountability in emergency management and homeland security programs by establishing credible standards applied in a peer review Assessment and Certification process. With ongoing concerns about catastrophic disasters and the impact on urban environments, the nation's leaders and citizens acknowledge a need to strengthen the disaster response capabilities efficiently and effectively for Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Resources. The *Urban Search and Rescue Standard* serves as a compendium of international and national standards for administration, operations, and logistical readiness of US&R Resources. The *US&R Standard* provides a means for strategic and operational improvement of US&R Resources, culminating in safer, enhanced capabilities required for an efficient and effective response. The *US&R Standard* and voluntary Assessment and Certification Process are intended to support the integration and interoperability of search and rescue capabilities during mutual aid incidents across geographic boundaries at both international and national levels.

The *US&R Standard* is a scalable, yet rigorous, standard for local, tribal, territorial, regional, state, federal, national, international, non-governmental, and private sector US&R Resources. The *Standard* is flexible in design so that US&R Resources of varying sizes, with different populations, risks, and resources, can use it as a blueprint for improvement and attain compliance with the *Standard*. The *Standard* was collaboratively developed through a series of Standard Subcommittee meetings with stakeholders from all levels of government, business, and other sectors. The *Standard* is dynamic and will continue to evolve to represent the best-combined knowledge, skills, and abilities of US&R Resources.

Key terminology is addressed within the *US&R Standard*. When a word or phrase is not specifically provided in the definitions, the common terminology applies.

The *US&R Standard* is revised on a three-year review cycle that consists of committee collaboration within the EMAP US&R Standards Subcommittee, a public comment period, and support from the EMAP Technical Committee that provides recommendations to the EMAP Commission. The formal process is based on the combination of EMAP and American National Standard Institute (ANSI) Policies and Procedures.

This edition of the *US&R Standard* incorporates revisions recommended to the EMAP Commission by the Technical Committee, based on public comments and proposals pursuant to ANSI Standards and user input. The EMAP Commission encourages collaboration from all stakeholders to maintain the current standard of excellence for all US&R Resources.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Preface is not part of the *Urban Search and Rescue Standard*.

# Urban Search and Rescue Standard

## Chapter 1: Administration

### 1.1 Purpose

The *Urban Search and Rescue Standard* establishes the minimum acceptable performance criteria for the administration, operations, and logistical readiness elements required of a US&R Resource. The Standard is intended to be fair and equitable for all who choose to adopt it and to provide a foundation of sound practices in the performance of the US&R mission.

EMAP has provided a cache list that is typed specific and available as a recommended cache to develop the resource capabilities. This cache list was developed using the most current FEMA-approved US&R Type I Equipment Cache List, the State Urban Search & Rescue (SUSAR) Alliance Type II-IV Equipment Cache List, and the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) Heavy – Light Equipment Cache list to address Type II-IV US&R Resources.

### 1.2 Application

This Standard applies to any organization having a US&R capability seeking alignment with the US&R Resource readiness requirements and those US&R Resources seeking to enhance their capability through the application of a recognized standard for self-assessment of their US&R Resource.

## Chapter 2: Definitions

- 2.1 Activated or Activation.** The status of the US&R Resource is placed at the direction, control, and funding of the requesting authority in response to or in anticipation of a response.
- 2.2 Activation Order.** The Authority Having Jurisdiction communication places the US&R Resources under the requesting authority's direction, control, and funding.
- 2.3 Advisory.** A notification issued for information purposes only and does not require formal action. It provides a means for sharing information concerning events that could develop into a disaster situation.
- 2.4 Alert (Alert Order).** The Alert or Alert Order is issued when an event has occurred or is imminent that may require the response of US&R assets. Additionally, US&R Resources may be notified/advised to stand by for deployment in a timely manner.
- 2.5 Applicant.** A US&R Resource that seeks to fulfill the requirements for Certification and has submitted an Assessment Application.
- 2.6 Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).** An organization, office, or individual having statutory responsibility for enforcing a code or standard requirements or approving equipment, materials, and installation or a procedure. The AHJ serves as the US&R oversight for the local, tribal, territorial, regional, state, federal, national, international, non-governmental, and private sector US&R Resource. The AHJ has responsibility for preparedness, response, and recovery based upon applicable laws, statutes, ordinances, and/or authorities.
- 2.7 Cooperative Agreement.** A legal instrument between local, state, tribal, or federal agencies and the Sponsoring Agency that provides funds to accomplish a public purpose.

- 2.8 Disaster Search Canine.** A dog that has successfully completed a FEMA US&R Canine Search Team Certification Evaluation (CSTCE), State US&R Alliance (SUSAR) CSTCE, or equivalent.
- 2.9 Disaster Canine Search Team.** A disaster search canine and handler who have successfully completed a FEMA US&R CSTCE, SUSAR CSCTE, or equivalent.
- 2.10 Deployable personnel.** Rostered members of the US&R Resource who have completed all general and position-specific required training, according to the Annex of the Standard, and are administratively deployable.
- 2.11 Enabling Authority.** Governmental and/or organizational documentation providing and establishing the formal creation of management, administration, operation, and sustainment of a US&R Resource. Enabling authorities for the US&R Resource may be established at any level of government or organizational entity and include multi-jurisdiction structures. Enabling authorities may be vested in documentation including, but not limited to, laws, rules, regulations, policy, contractual and/or governmental agreements, etc.
- 2.12 Evaluation.** The collection of, analysis, and interpretation of information about any aspect of a program, plan, and/or procedure in judging its effectiveness, efficiency, and any other outcomes it may have.
- 2.13 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Urban Search & Rescue Response System.** The national US&R response system is a framework for organizing federal, state, and local partner emergency response teams as integrated federal disaster response task forces.
- 2.14 Fully qualified.** Rostered members of the US&R Resource who have completed all general and position-specific training and are administratively fully qualified.
- 2.15 Implementation.** The process of putting a plan into effect and the execution of procedures.
- 2.16 Incident Management System.** The combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents.
- 2.17 Maintenance.** The process of evaluating and revising programs, plans, and procedures for enhancement and to keep them current.
- 2.18 Management process.** A process of setting goals, planning, and/or controlling the organizing and leading the execution of any type of activity. This may include human resources, information technology, facilities, and other support functions (e.g., legal, medical, public affairs, etc.).
- 2.19 Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding (MOA/MOU).** A document written between parties to cooperate on an agreed-upon project or meet an agreed objective.
- 2.20 Method.** A systematic technique of how the Program implements, evaluates, and revises programs, plans, and procedures in accordance with a current process and/or plan.
- 2.21 Mission Ready Package.** Mission Ready Packages (MRP) are specially created resource bundles utilized for disaster response and recovery. MRPs are specific response and recovery resource capabilities that are organized, developed, trained, and exercised prior to an emergency or disaster. MRPs are designed to provide additional support and/or augment a needed capability to resources already operating at an incident or event.

- 2.22 Procedure(s).** A prescribed way of undertaking a process or part of a process. The procedure identifies and describes specific steps to be taken in the process, who is responsible for each part of the process, or when each part of the process occurs.
- 2.23 Process.** A continuous series of actions, related tasks, and/or methods that are followed routinely in order to achieve a specific result.
- 2.24 Response.** Efforts to minimize the short-term direct effects of an incident threatening life, property, the environment, and/or critical systems.
- 2.25 Revision.** A change or a set of changes that amends and enhances programs, plans, and procedures.
- 2.26 Schedule.** A timeline of when the Program implements, evaluates and revises programs, plans, and procedures in accordance with a current process and/or plan.
- 2.27 Stakeholder(s).** At a minimum, public, private, and non-governmental agencies, departments, organizations, and individuals that have functional roles in the US&R Resource.
- 2.28 Sponsoring Agency (SA).** A local, tribal, territorial, regional, state, non-governmental, or private sector agency, or other entity empowered through enabling authority that administers a US&R Resource.
- 2.29 Standard.** The *US&R Standard* is the criterion used to determine qualification for Certification. Within the *Standard*, individual standards (such as 3.1.1) describe qualities or facts that must be present for Certification.
- 2.30 State Urban Search & Rescue (SUSAR) Alliance.** SUSAR is a non-profit organization designed to promote and support state, local, and tribal US&R teams across the United States and Territories.
- 2.31 Succession Development Policies.** An established policy that includes administrative procedures and guidelines for the identification, training, and development of supervisory and management level personnel, to maintain the long-term sustainability of the administrative and operational readiness of the US&R Resource.
- 2.32 Training and Exercise Plan.** A plan to include continuing education covering each functional area, certification training for new members, succession training for supervisory and managerial levels, and the maintenance of expiring certifications. The training and exercise plan will include annual mobilization exercises and operational readiness exercises. All currency-related certificated programs or Technical/Specialist training that seeks regular retention skillsets require the exercise of continuing education.
- 2.33 Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Resource.** A team of specialized personnel and equipment that provides coordinated, all-hazards capability for locating, extricating, and providing initial medical stabilization of survivors of structural collapse, and conduct other life-saving operations.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> Chapters 1 and 2 are not part of the *Urban Search and Rescue Standard*.

## Chapter 3: Urban Search and Rescue

### 3.1 Program Management

**3.1.1** The Sponsoring Agency (SA) and/or Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) shall have documented management processes delivered through enabling authorities that establish and provide for the readiness and response capabilities of the US&R Resource. The US&R Resource shall define or describe who/what gives the US&R Resource its authority.

**3.1.2** The enabling authorities of the SA and/or AHJ shall identify the agency, department, organization, office, or administrative structure responsible for managing the operations, maintenance, and sustainment of the US&R Resource. A US&R Resource shall be comprised of members from a single agency or multiple agencies or jurisdictions.

**3.1.2.1** The SA and/or AHJ shall have personnel identified who are assigned for the management and administration of the US&R Resource that conducts supervisory, administrative, training, and logistical duties. The SA and/or AHJ shall determine personnel resources necessary for the management and administrative duties outlined above.

**3.1.3** The enabling authorities of the SA and/or AHJ shall establish and implement methods for management, evaluation, and revision or corrective action for the US&R Resource.

**3.1.4** The management structure shall have an established and ongoing process that provides for coordinated input into the sustainment of the US&R Resource.

**3.1.4.1** The US&R Resource shall have a multi-year Strategic Plan, developed through formal planning processes involving key stakeholders, that includes the following:

- (1) mission and vision;
- (2) core sustaining values;
- (3) goals that include, but are not limited to, training/deployment standards; members' health, safety, and security; and financial considerations of the US&R Resource;
- (4) objectives that include, but are not limited to, cache equipment maintenance, storage, and accountability;
- (5) milestones that include, but are not limited to, field exercises, readiness evaluations, and succession development policies; and
- (6) criteria established in Standards 3.2 through 3.7.

The Strategic Plan shall have a maintenance process, including a method and schedule for evaluation and revision.

**3.1.5** The US&R Resource Administrative Manual, developed through a formal planning process involving key stakeholders, shall identify policies and procedures that include the following:

- (1) position descriptions for the program manager and staff;
- (2) organization charts (management and operational structures);
- (3) administrative files to include SA and/or AHJ reports, budgets, grant applications, enabling authority documents (directives and memorandums), personnel files, and MOAs/MOUs;
- (4) a process to request support from SA and/or AHJ functions;
- (5) a promulgation policy;
- (6) a records retention policy that establishes a schedule and maintenance of all policies,

- (7) plans, manuals, procedures, training, and exercise records of the US&R Resource;
- (7) a maintenance process, including a method and schedule for evaluation and revision of all policies and procedures in the Administrative Manual;
- (8) worker's compensation procedures;
- (9) ethics policies/code of conduct;
- (10) federal, state, and local Equal Employment Opportunity policies;
- (11) reimbursement policies, including time and payroll reporting for intra and interstate deployments;
- (12) audit/inspection policies and procedures;
- (13) administrative travel policies and procedures;
- (14) member recruitment, appointment, assignment, and separation policies;
- (15) issuance and turn-in of personal clothing/protective equipment procedures;
- (16) public relations activities procedures;
- (17) family support procedures during deployments;
- (18) post-mission medical screening processes, including canines and worker compensation claims;
- (19) an After-Action Report and Corrective Action Planning process policy or procedure, established and implemented to prioritize and track resolution of identified deficiencies; and
- (20) return to readiness procedures.

The Administrative Manual shall have a maintenance process, including a method and schedule for evaluation and revision.

## 3.2 Finance

**3.2.1** The SA and/or AHJ shall develop and implement financial and management procedures for day-to-day readiness support and response operations for the US&R Resource.

**3.2.2** Financial and management procedures shall provide for the request, receipt, management, and application of funds available to/for the US&R Resource.

**3.2.3** The US&R Resource shall include processes and coordinating instructions necessary to utilize federal, state, local, tribal, organizational, and/or private sector funds.

**3.2.4** The US&R Resource shall prioritize the application of available funding defined by the Strategic Plan and enabling authorities.

**3.2.5** The US&R Resource shall have a maintenance process for the procedures identified in Standard 3.2.1 and 3.2.2, including a method and schedule for evaluation and revision.

## 3.3 Membership

**3.3.1** The US&R Resource shall have a policy detailing an established method and schedule to ensure the implementation and sustainment of the membership.

**3.3.2** The US&R Resource shall have procedures detailing membership and establish a routine schedule and methodology for the following:

- (1) maintaining membership;
- (2) reviewing the status of members;
- (3) maintaining training requirements; and
- (4) removing members.

**3.3.3** The US&R Resource shall maintain a roster of fully qualified personnel that is two deep

in each functional position in accordance with the appropriate position descriptions. A Type I and II US&R Resource may reduce in the following functional positions:

- Medical Team Manager (minimum of 3);
- Structural Specialist (minimum of 3);
- Heavy Equipment Rigging Specialist (minimum of 3); and
- Canine Search Team (minimum of 6).

**3.3.4** The US&R Resource shall have a process, in accordance with the SA and/or AHJ policies, for verifying that US&R Resource members meet the necessary license, certification, or other professional qualification requirements of their assigned position at the time of deployment.

**3.3.5** Medical evaluations shall be conducted for each US&R Resource member based on the requirements of the SA and/or AHJ. Medical evaluations must include the following:

- (1) Required immunizations; and
- (2) Fit for Deployment forms dated and signed by the examining Physician or designee on file.

**3.3.6** The US&R Resource shall maintain documentation of certifications and licenses on file.

**3.3.7** The US&R Resource shall have a maintenance process for the policies and procedures identified in Standard 3.3.1 and 3.3.2, including a method and schedule for evaluation and revision.

## 3.4 Incident Management

**3.4.1** The US&R Resource shall formally adopt an incident management system. The system includes, but is not limited to, the following concepts:

- (1) modular organization;
- (2) unified command;
- (3) multi-agency coordination;
- (4) a span of control;
- (5) common terminology;
- (6) action planning process;
- (7) comprehensive resource management;
- (8) integrated communications; and
- (9) pre-designated facilities.

**3.4.1.1** The US&R Resource shall have procedures for implementation of the incident management system elements specified in Standard 3.4.1. A certificate of completion or official student transcript for each required course, in accordance with current position descriptions, must be located in each US&R member's personnel records.

**3.4.2** The US&R Resource shall have a maintenance process for the procedures identified in Standard 3.4.1.1, including a method and schedule for evaluation and revision.

## 3.5 Notification and Deployment

**3.5.1** The US&R Resource's Operations Manual, through formal planning processes involving key stakeholders, shall identify procedures that include the following:

- (1) composition and capabilities of the US&R Resource;
- (2) a process through which the US&R Resource will be alerted, activated, and deployed;
- (3) delineation of organizational responsibilities and roles;

- (4) operational coordination between the US&R Resource and managing or requesting AHJ and any other supporting organizations;
- (5) transporting US&R Resources;
- (6) utilization of the mobilization center, staging areas, and activities related to the US&R Resources' occupation of these facilities;
- (7) on-site operations, US&R Resource reassignment, and demobilization; and
- (8) identifying components of mission-ready packages.

**3.5.2** The US&R Resource shall develop and maintain procedures to include the following:

- (1) initiate, receive, and/or relay notifications to alert key decision-makers and US&R Resource members;
- (2) redundancy to provide alternative means of notification in case of failure of the primary system(s);
- (3) personnel familiarity with and the effective operation capabilities and utilization of the notification systems and equipment;
- (4) delineation of any decision-making processes and/or triggering events; and
- (5) reviewed and updated on an established schedule and corrective actions addressed.

**3.5.2.1** Primary and alternate notification systems shall be maintained and tested on an established schedule under operational conditions and results documented, and corrective actions addressed.

**3.5.3** The Mobilization Plan, through formal planning processes involving key stakeholders, shall identify procedures activating the US&R Resource for deployment and include the following:

- (1) 24-hour points of contact;
- (2) US&R Resource notification procedures for advisories, alerts, and activations;
- (3) canine health and authorization;
- (4) safety and security;
- (5) Point of Assembly and in-processing and out-processing;
- (6) personnel health and authorization;
- (7) PPE Issuance and return to address self-sufficiency for 72 hours;
- (8) scheduled events to be at Point of Departure within assigned timeframes; and
- (9) communications with incident command, requesting organization, and the SA and/or AHJ.

The Mobilization Plan(s) shall include cache load plans and procedures for all possible deployment configurations as identified by the US&R Resource.

**3.5.3.1** The US&R Resource shall provide a convoy plan that includes procedures for transportation of personnel and equipment cache.

**3.5.3.2** The US&R Resource shall provide a Base of Operations (BoO) Manual that includes the following:

- (1) procedures for set-up configuration(s);
- (2) utilization;
- (3) management;
- (4) environmental protection measures; and
- (5) breakdown and repackaging.

**3.5.4** The US&R Resource shall have a maintenance process for the plans and procedures identified in Standards 3.5.1, 3.5.2, and 3.5.3, including a method and schedule for evaluation and revision.

## 3.6 Training and Exercise

**3.6.1** The Training and Exercise Plan shall be developed through formal planning processes involving key stakeholders and describe planned training and scheduled events to include the following:

- (1) calendar of events of relevance to the US&R Resource;
- (2) annual training sessions and drills, including topics applicable to US&R position functions, dates/times, duration, frequency; and
- (3) exercises to include equipment deployment.

**3.6.2** The US&R Resource personnel shall be trained in accordance with established US&R position descriptions as provided in Annex A-1 of this Standard.

**3.6.3** The US&R Resource shall have a policy to secure personnel records and maintain a centrally located filing system for General and Position Specific functional training/certification records (completion certificates) for all rostered members.

**3.6.4** The US&R Resource shall maintain the readiness training records of resource members, including attendance at meetings and completion of continuing education training, including certifications, re-certifications, and licensures.

**3.6.5** The US&R Resource shall conduct training and exercises to maintain readiness, including but not limited to deployment exercises, mobilization exercises, and training sessions/drills. The US&R Resource shall implement national standards, requirements, and certifications to operate within a US&R environment during training and exercise activities.

**3.6.5.1** The US&R Resource shall employ cache equipment in training and mobilization exercises to include the following:

- (1) implement cache load plans;
- (2) utilize personal protective equipment (PPE);
- (3) set up and utilize communication equipment;
- (4) qualify in the operation, maintenance, and repair of all equipment, as appropriate; and
- (5) rehabilitate the cache and return to the readiness state.

**3.6.6** The corrective actions process shall be established and implemented to submit after-action reports within 90 days of completion of an exercise. The process shall track lessons learned, development of an implementation plan/improvement plan, and prioritize the resolution of deficiencies within training and exercise events. The products of the corrective actions process shall be documented and disseminated within the US&R Resource to include stakeholders and selected partners.

**3.6.7** The US&R Resource shall have a maintenance process for the plan identified in Standard 3.6.1, including a method and schedule for evaluation and revision.

## 3.7 Resource Management and Logistics.

**3.7.1** The SA and/or AHJ shall develop and implement a Resource Management System for day-to-day support and response operations for the US&R Resource.

**3.7.2** The US&R Resource shall have and maintain the equipment, commodities, and materials required to meet the operational capabilities established for the typed US&R Resource.

**3.7.3** The US&R Resource shall have a documented process by which it obtains the equipment on the cache list as well as how it fills equipment requests.

**3.7.4** The US&R Resource shall have a documented process to maintain an equipment cache that is consistent with Annex A-2 of this Standard.

**3.7.5** The US&R Resource Equipment Management Plan, through formal planning processes involving key stakeholders, shall include a documented process for including:

- (1) testing, maintenance, repair, and replacement of equipment on an established schedule, utilizing industry-standard practices; and
- (2) collection of results and retention of logs and records identifying the readiness status of the equipment.

**3.7.6** The US&R Resource shall maintain a documented inventory of equipment, commodities, and materials to provide for the operational capabilities of the US&R Resource type consistent with Annex A-2 of this Standard.

**3.7.6.1** The US&R Resource shall have and utilize a documented inventory management system to identify, receive, issue, store, kit, track, ship, and dispose of items in the cache. This system includes the following:

- (1) support maintenance, replacement, certification, and upgrade of cache items;
- (2) report usage and support periodic physical inventory accounting and reconciliation;
- (3) provide property tracking and recording and accurate SA and/or AHJ reporting;
- (4) established methodology to show different categories of cache equipment;
- (5) provide access control and physical security for cache items;
- (6) identify procedures for handling hazardous materials within the cache;
- (7) track the history of assets and equipment, including the funding source, ownership, and maintenance through disposition;
  
- (8) manage and maintain inventories and/or agreements to obtain medical and pharmaceutical cache for humans and canines; and
- (9) service agreements of communications equipment, as required, shall be in place for immediate use of equipment upon activation.

**3.7.6.2** The US&R Resource shall have a documented process and schedule for identifying shortfalls against the US&R Resource typed cache and prioritizing and addressing identified deficiencies through various initiatives.

**3.7.7** The US&R Resource shall have communications systems and equipment that have been designed for the following:

- (1) requirements of an all-hazards environment;
- (2) include redundancy to provide alternate means of communications in case of failure in primary system(s); and
- (3) maintained at a state of readiness for response.

**3.7.8** The US&R Resource shall have access to resources capable of transporting personnel, caches, and assets during both routine and deployment situations.

**3.7.8.1** The US&R Resource shall provide documentation that outlines processes or systems for the following:

- (1) all vehicles are maintained and insured in accordance with enabling authorities' requirements;
- (2) all vehicles are stored in a safe and secure environment;
- (3) transportation plans and cache load plans have been developed for all possible

- deployment configurations, as identified by the US&R Resource;
- (4) trained drivers required through the enabling authority; and
  - (5) meets applicable laws, regulations, and standards for the proper transportation of personnel and resources.

**3.7.9** The US&R Resource shall have storage facilities capable of managing the equipment cache in an access-controlled location, supporting maintenance and inventory of all equipment, and meeting the deployment configurations.

# Annex A US&R Resource Supplemental Guidance

# Annex A-1 Urban Search and Rescue Resource Position Descriptions

These Position Descriptions (PD) provide detailed information to be used to maintain the operational capability of urban search and rescue participants. Individuals and jurisdictions shall review the information herein and make any changes necessary to their current training doctrine to maintain compliance with the specific PD. This section details General Training Requirements and Position-Specific Training Requirements.

## References:

References used to develop these Position Descriptions are the most recent adopted versions and include the following:

- Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 24-204 Preparing Hazardous Materials for Military Air Shipments
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Task Force Position Descriptions;
- FEMA 509-8, Search & Rescue Job Titles;
- FEMA National Incident Management System (NIMS) Training;
- International Air Transport Association (IATA);
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), NFPA 472 Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents;
- 1006, Standard for Technical Rescue Personnel Professional Qualifications;
- NFPA 1670, Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents;
- National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Training;
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Standard 29 CFR Part 1910 Subpart H, 120 – Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response;
- OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910 Subpart I, 134 – Respiratory Protection;
- OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910 Subpart J, 146 – Permit-Required Confined Spaces;
- OSHA 29 CFR 1910 Subpart N, 178 – Powered Industrial Trucks (forklift training);
- OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910 Subpart Z, 1030 – Bloodborne Pathogens; and
- OSHA Standard 29 CFR, Part 172 Subpart H, 172.704 – Training Requirements;

## GENERAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Each individual participating in the Urban Search & Rescue Resource shall:

- Complete Critical Incident Stress Awareness training;
- Complete the FEMA IS-100.c, IS-200.c, IS-700.b, and IS-800.d training, or equivalent;
- Complete their jurisdictional US&R Response System/Team Orientation;
- Complete the initial First Responder Operations Level for Hazardous Materials training as per OSHA 29 CFR, 1910.120, or equivalent;
  - Complete annual refresher training as required for First Responder Operations Level for Hazardous Materials as per OSHA 29 CFR, 1910.120, or equivalent;
- Be currently Certified in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (persons currently Licensed or Certified as EMT (all levels) and Licensed Board-Certified Emergency Physicians inherently meet this requirement);
- Complete the Respiratory Protection training as per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134(k), or equivalent.
  - Complete refresher training as required for respiratory protection training as per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134(k), or equivalent;
  - Completed an annual quantitative respiratory protection fit test required as per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134 App. A, or equivalent;
- Complete the NFPA 1670 Awareness Level training, or equivalent, for:
  - confined space rescue operations;
  - water rescue operations; and
  - structural collapse operations.
- Complete the Blood-borne Pathogen training as per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1030, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System US&R WMD Enhanced Operations course, or equivalent; and
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System GPS Awareness Level course, or equivalent.

### **Technical Rescue Skill Sets:**

The Technical Rescue Skill Sets are identified as the following:

- Meet the requirements of the latest edition of the NFPA 1006 Rescue Technician, or equivalent:
  - Rope Rescue Technician;
  - Confined Space Rescue Technician;
  - Trench Rescue Technician;
  - Vehicle and Machinery Technician; and
  - Complete refresher training as required by the AHJ in accordance with NFPA 1006 Rescue Technician, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Structural Collapse Specialist course, or equivalent;

The Technical Rescue Skill Set training is required for the following US&R positions:

- Canine Search Specialist;
- Hazardous Materials Team Manager;
- Hazardous Materials Team Specialist;
- Heavy Equipment Rigging Specialist (unless qualified as a Rescue Specialist);
- Medical Specialist;
- Rescue Specialist;

- Rescue Squad Officer;
- Rescue Team Manager;
- Safety Officer;
- Search Team Manager;
- Structures Specialist; and
- Technical Search Specialist.

Minimum skill set recommendations for US&R Resource Personnel who enter the hazard zone (i.e., forward deployment) are the following:

- General Requirements of NFPA 1670, or equivalent;
- Rope Rescue Awareness per NFPA 1670, or equivalent;
  - Additional recommended Rope Rescue Skill Sets:
    - Safety considerations during rope rescue operations;
    - Characteristics of life safety rope and webbing;
    - Application of rope rescue hardware specific to a lowering operation;
    - Application of rope rescue hardware and software specific to a belay line;
    - Assemble and apply a Class III harness;
    - Assemble and apply a “Hasty Harness”;
    - Tie a Simple Figure Eight knot;
    - Tie a Figure Eight follow-through knot;
    - Tie an overhand follow-through with webbing;
    - Attach a prusik loop to a rope;
    - Be familiar with anchor systems;
    - Be familiar with raising and lowering systems;
    - Proficiency in attaching oneself to, and participating in, a raising or lowering system; and
    - Proficiency in descending and ascending a fixed-line, low angle.
- Trench Rescue Awareness per NFPA 1670, or equivalent; and
- Duties of the Entrant per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.146, or equivalent.

## **CANINE SEARCH SPECIALIST POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Canine Search Specialist is primarily responsible for supporting the Search function with the canine resource. They are responsible for the care and welfare of the canine during mission deployment. The Canine Search Specialist reports directly to the Search Team Manager.

### **Description of Duties:**

The Canine Search Specialist is responsible for:

- Searching disaster environments and locations indicated in the mission assignment, using appropriate canine search equipment and techniques;
- Documenting results of the canine search, including locations of alerts, and routing them appropriately;
- Understanding and accurately interpreting the canine's behavior, including knowledge of the capabilities and limitations of search canines;
- Care and welfare of the canine, including assisting the Medical Team in the canine's medical care; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Canine Search Specialist to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to provide canine teams capable of using the search techniques and tactics required to support the Search function with the canine resource in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Canine Search Specialist shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Have a current Certification as a FEMA National US&R Response System Canine Search Specialist Team member, SUSAR Type I Canine Certification Standard, or equivalent certification;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Canine Search Specialist course, or equivalent; and
- Complete all of the required Technical Rescue Skill Sets.

### **Recommended Training:**

The Canine Search Specialist should:

- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Technical Search Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Complete a canine emergency field care course; and
- Complete a Wide Area Search course.

## **COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Communications Specialist is responsible for managing and maintaining all communications and communications systems for the US&R Resource. The Communications Specialist reports directly to the Logistics Team Manager.

### **Description of Duties:**

The Communications Specialist is responsible for:

- Keeping the Task Force Leader and Logistics Manager informed of the capabilities and/or limitations of incident communications;
- Assessing overall communications needs, obtaining frequencies, and developing the US&R Resource Incident Communications Plan;
- Installation, operation, and maintenance of the US&R Resource communications systems, including radio, satellite, telephone, internet, GPSs, and networks during incidents;
- Coordinating communications with other entities;
- Adhering to all safety procedures;
- Accountability, preventive maintenance, and making minor repairs to communications equipment;
- Maintaining appropriate records and reports;
- Maintaining the communications cache in an operational state at all times;
- Developing requests for replacement or repair of consumable, inoperative, lost, damaged, or destroyed communications items;
- Developing a US&R Resource Communications Plan (ICS 205) as part of the Task Force Tactical Action Plan; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Communications Specialist supporting the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel capable of managing the communications needs of the US&R Resource in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Communication Specialist shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Communications Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA ICS-300 course, or equivalent; and
- Complete the FEMA ICS-400 course, or equivalent.

### **Recommended Training:**

The Communications Specialist should:

- Complete the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) All-Hazards Communications Unit Leader course, or equivalent;
- Complete the DHS OEC All-Hazards Communications Technician course, or equivalent; and
- Complete the Advanced Communications Specialist Qualification (ACOM US&R), or equivalent.

## **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM SPECIALIST POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Specialist is responsible for performing the various hazardous materials functions for the US&R Resource during incident operations. The HazMat Specialist reports directly to the HazMat Team Manager.

### **Description of Duties:**

The HazMat 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 setup and use of the decontamination system and equipment;
- Directing decontamination procedures for any US&R Resource member, victim, canine, or equipment;
- Performing minor mitigation operations;
- Utilizing their technical expertise to advise Team Managers regarding all hazardous material issues to plan for tactical operations;
- Documenting all related information regarding the incident;
- Adhering to all safety procedures;
- Properly utilizing the detection monitors and devices in the US&R Resource's cache;
- Proficiency in donning and doffing all personnel protective equipment in the US&R Resource's cache;
- Proficiency in building triage and US&R marking systems;
- Working with Logistics Team personnel to establish and maintain a regular maintenance schedule for hazmat cache items requiring some, 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 liaison with hazmat personnel from other task forces; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a HazMat Specialist to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing competent hazardous materials assessments and advice to US&R Resource personnel in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Hazardous Material Specialist shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Meet and maintain the requirements as a Certified Hazardous Materials Technician as per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120 Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, or equivalent certification; and
  - Complete annual refresher training as required for Hazardous Materials Technician as per OSHA 29 CFR, 1910.120, or equivalent.
    - OR –
    - Meet and maintain the AHJ competencies in accordance with NFPA 472 Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents, or equivalent, to the level of Hazardous Materials Technician; and

- Complete annual refresher training as required for NFPA 472 Hazardous Materials Technician, or equivalent.
- Complete a WMD – Considerations for Hazardous Materials Specialist course, FEMA US&R Hazardous Materials Specialist course, or equivalent; and
- Complete all of the required Technical Rescue Skill Sets.

**Recommended Training:**

The Hazardous Materials Specialist should:

- Complete the Weapons of Mass Destruction Radiological/Nuclear for Hazardous Materials Technician course (PER-241, U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration, Nevada Test Site), or equivalent;
- Complete the WMD Hazardous Materials Technician Training (HT) course (PER-261, FEMA Center for Domestic Preparedness, Anniston, Alabama), or equivalent;
- Complete Task Force Water Purification System training; and
- Complete the FEMA ICS-300, or equivalent.

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM MANAGER POSITION DESCRIPTION

### Functional Description:

The Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Team Manager is responsible for managing the Hazmat functions of the US&R Resource and supervising the HazMat Specialists of the US&R Resource. The HazMat 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 Action Plan;
- Coordinating, managing, and supervising all hazmat activities;
- Providing input into the development of the site safety plan in cooperation with Medical Team Manager and Safety Officers;
- 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;
- Ensuring accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment;
- Possessing knowledge of the practical application of available (detection, PPE, and decontamination) technology used to support US&R missions and objectives; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### Position Requirements and Criteria:

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a HazMat Manager to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select functional managers capable of effectively managing and supervising the hazmat component in various disaster environments.

### Required Training:

The HazMat Team Manager shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Complete the FEMA ICS-300 course, or equivalent;
- Meet and maintain the requirements as a Certified Hazardous Materials Technician as per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120 Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, or equivalent certification; or
  - Complete annual refresher training as required for Hazardous Materials Technician as per OSHA 29 CFR, 1910.120, or equivalent;
  - OR –
  - Meet and maintain the AHJ competencies in accordance with NFPA 472 Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents to the level of Hazardous Materials Technician, or equivalent; and
- Complete annual refresher training as required for Hazardous Materials Technician as per NFPA 472, or equivalent.
- Complete a WMD – Considerations for Hazardous Materials Specialist course, FEMA US&R Hazardous Materials Specialist course, or equivalent; and
- Complete all of the required Technical Rescue Skill Sets.

**Recommended Training:**

The HazMat Team Manager should:

- Complete the Weapons of Mass Destruction Radiological/Nuclear for Hazardous Materials Technician course (PER-241, U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration, Nevada Test Site), or equivalent;
- Complete the WMD Hazardous Materials Technician Training (HT) course (PER- 261, FEMA Center for Domestic Preparedness, Anniston, Alabama), or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System GPS Operations Level course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA IS-703.b Resource Management course, or equivalent; and
- Complete the FEMA ICS-400 course, or equivalent.

## **HEAVY EQUIPMENT & RIGGING SPECIALIST**

### **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

#### **Functional Description:**

The Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialist is responsible for performing various assessments and construction-related liaisons for the US&R Resource 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 US&R Resource members by assessing hazards at disaster sites pertaining to the positioning and operations of cranes and other heavy equipment;
- Assessing the need for and capabilities of various types of construction-related equipment to assist US&R Resource personnel in US&R activities;
- Preparing sites 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 US&R Resource personnel and heavy equipment operators, contractors, and organized labor;
- Adhering to all safety procedures;
- Providing documentation to assist the US&R Resource in procuring cranes and other heavy equipment, as well as maintaining daily logs;
- Ensuring accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

#### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Heavy Equipment & Rigging Specialist to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing competent assessments and advice to US&R Resource personnel in various disaster environments.

#### **Required Training:**

The Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialist shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Heavy Equipment and Rigging Specialist course, or equivalent; and
- Have experience in the heavy construction field, such as heavy equipment operator, crane operator, ironworker, rigger, or another applicable field.  
-OR-  
Have a minimum of three years of experience as a Rescue Specialist on a Task Force; and
- Complete all of the required Technical Rescue Skill Sets.

#### **Recommended Training:**

The Heavy Equipment Rigging Specialist should:

- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Structural Collapse Specialist course, or equivalent.

## **LOGISTICS SPECIALIST POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Logistics Specialist is responsible for ensuring the preparation and maintenance of the US&R Resource equipment cache. The Logistics Specialist reports directly to the Logistics Team Manager.

### **Description of Duties:**

The Logistics Specialist is responsible for:

- Coordinating the packaging, transporting, distribution, and maintenance of the US&R Resource equipment cache prior to, during, and subsequent to mission assignments;
- Coordinating with military and/or civilian officials for transportation needs;
- Procuring equipment as directed by the Logistics Team Manager;
- Ensuring accountability and security of the US&R Resource equipment cache;
- Maintaining accurate and timely records and reports;
- Adhering to all safety procedures;
- Maintaining and repairing the US&R Resource equipment cache;
- Assisting with the overall management of US&R Resource facilities and fleet;
- Coordinating and directing the Support Specialists (when staffed); and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Logistics Specialist in support of the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel capable of managing the logistics needs of the US&R Resource in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Logistics Specialist shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Logistics Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Complete the OSHA 29 CFR, 1910.178 Powered Industrial Trucks (forklift training) course, or equivalent;
- Complete refresher training as required as per OSHA 29 CFR, 1910.178, or equivalent; and
- Complete a Department of Transportation Hazardous Materials Handler/Packer/Labeler course as established by OSHA 49 CFR, 172.704, or equivalent.

### **Recommended Training:**

The Logistics Specialist should:

- Complete and maintain Certification as a Certifying Official for Transportation Requirements and Regulations – Air and Ground:
  - IATA, or equivalent certification;
  - OSHA 49 CFR, or equivalent certification; and
  - AFMAN 24-204 Preparing Hazardous Materials for Military Air Shipments, or equivalent certification.

## **LOGISTICS TEAM MANAGER POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Logistics Team Manager is responsible for the logistics function of the US&R Resource and supervising the Resource Logistics Specialist, Communications Specialist, Support Specialist, and other personnel as assigned. The Logistics Team Manager reports directly to the Task Force Leader.

### **Description of Duties:**

The Logistics Team Manager is responsible for:

- All duties and responsibilities of the Logistics Specialist;
- Completion of all US&R Resource transportation documents (cargo manifests, shipping declarations, bills of lading, etc.);
- Coordinating, managing, and supervising all logistical activities;
- Maintaining accurate and timely records and reports;
- Preparing performance evaluations for assigned personnel;
- Ensuring accountability, maintenance, and repairs for all US&R Resource equipment;
- Provide for operation and maintenance of all facilities and associated equipment;
- Coordinating with the US&R IMT/IST Logistics Section on US&R Resource issues;
- Management of the US&R Resource transportation fleet; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Logistics Team Manager to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select functional managers capable of effectively managing and supervising the logistical component in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Logistics Team Manager shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Logistics Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Complete the OSHA 29 CFR 1910.178 Powered Industrial Trucks (forklift training) course, or equivalent;
- Complete refresher training as required for OSHA 29 CFR, 1910.178, or equivalent;
- Complete a Department of Transportation Hazardous Materials Handler/Packer/Labeler course as established by OSHA 49 CFR, 172.704, or equivalent;
- Complete and maintain Certification, as appropriate or required by the AHJ, as a Certifying Official for Transportation Requirements and Regulations – Air and Ground:
  - IATA, or equivalent certification;
  - OSHA 49 CFR, or equivalent certification; and
  - AFMAN 24-204 Preparing Hazardous Materials for Military Air Shipments, or equivalent certification; and
- Complete the FEMA ICS-300 course, or equivalent.

### **Recommended Training:**

The Logistics Team Manager should:

- Complete the NWCG Facilities Unit Leader course (S-354), or equivalent;
- Complete the NWCG Ground Support Unit Leader course (S-355), or equivalent;

- Complete the NWCG Food Unit Leader course (S-357), or equivalent;
- Complete the NWCG Command and General Staff course (S-420), or equivalent;
- Complete a federal property custodial officer course, or equivalent; and
- Complete the FEMA ICS-400 course, or equivalent.

## **MEDICAL SPECIALIST POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Medical Specialist is responsible for performing the medical function of the US&R Resource incident operation. The Medical Specialist reports directly to the Medical Team Manager.

### **Description of Duties:**

The Medical Specialist is responsible for:

- General health considerations of and delivery of medical care to all US&R Resource personnel, victims, and search dogs, while under the supervision of the Medical Team Manager during disaster events;
- Implementing the medical action plans specified by the Medical Team Manager;
- Ensuring accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Medical Specialist to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing medical care required by the US&R Resource in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Medical Specialist shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Be currently Certified/Licensed as an EMT-Paramedic and have met all the requirements in their local jurisdiction. Must be actively participating in pre-hospital care;  
– OR –  
Actively practicing advanced pre-hospital life support and currently dual Certified/Licensed as a State/National EMT-Paramedic and a:
  - Physician Assistant – must be Certified and maintain the following: Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS), Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS), and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) regimens, or equivalent; - OR -
  - Registered Nurse-Practitioner – must be Certified and maintain the following: BTLS, ACLS, and PALS regimens, or equivalent; - OR -
  - Registered Nurse – must be Certified and maintain the following: BTLS, ACLS, and PALS regimens, or equivalent.
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Medical Team Training course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System WMD Considerations for the Medical Team course, or equivalent; and
- Complete all of the required Technical Rescue Skill Sets.

### **Recommended Training:**

- Complete a canine emergency field care course.

## **MEDICAL TEAM MANAGER**

### **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

#### **Functional Description:**

The Medical Team Manager has overall responsibility for the management and supervision of the medical function of the US&R Resource during incident operations. The Medical Team Manager reports directly to the Task Force Leader.

#### **Description of Duties:**

The Medical Team Manager is responsible for:

- Developing and implementing the medical component of the Task Force Tactical Action Plan;
- Directly supervising the Medical Specialists;
- Assisting in the development of the Safety Plan in coordination with the US&R Resource Safety Officer and the US&R Resource Hazardous Materials Manager;
- Coordinating, managing, and supervising all medical activities;
- Determining the medical organizational and logistics needs;
- Receiving briefings and situation reports and ensuring that all medical personnel are kept informed of status changes;
- Providing situation reports and maintaining records and reports;
- Directing medical care delivery to US&R Resource personnel, search dogs, and victims;
- Ensuring a continuum of medical care and coordinating interaction with all appropriate outside medical entities;
- Ensuring accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

#### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Medical Team Manager to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select functional managers capable of effectively managing, coordinating, and supervising the medical component in various disaster environments.

#### **Required Training:**

The Medical Team Manager shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Must be a Licensed Physician who is emergency medicine residency-trained and/or Board-Certified in Emergency Medicine and actively practicing clinical emergency medicine, and having experience with pre-hospital medical care;  
– OR –  
Must be a currently Licensed Physician with current Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS), Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS), and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Certifications, or equivalent certifications, whose medical activities include clinical medicine and/or pre-hospital care;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Medical Team Training course, or equivalent; and
- Complete the FEMA ICS-300 course, or equivalent.

#### **Recommended Training:**

- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System WMD Considerations for the Medical Team course, or equivalent;
- Complete a canine emergency field care course;
- Complete all of the required Technical Rescue Skill Sets; and
- Complete the FEMA ICS-400 course, or equivalent.

## **PLANNING TEAM MANAGER POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Planning Team Manager is responsible for planning aspects of the US&R Resource during incident operations. The Planning Team Manager supervises the Structures Specialist and Technical Information Specialist. The Planning Team Manager reports directly to the Task Force Leader.

### **Description of Duties:**

The Planning Team Manager is responsible for:

- Developing and implementing the planning components of the Task Force Tactical Action Plan;
- Coordinating, managing, and supervising all planning component activities;
- Determining the planning component organizational and logistics needs;
- Receiving briefings and situation reports and ensuring that all planning personnel are kept informed of status changes;
- Providing situation reports and maintaining records and reports;
- Preparing performance evaluations for assigned personnel;
- Ensuring accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all Planning Team equipment; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Planning Team Manager to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select functional managers capable of effectively managing and supervising the planning component in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Planning Team Manager shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Complete the FEMA ICS-300 course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA ICS-400 course, or equivalent; and
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Planning Team Training course, or equivalent.

### **Recommended Training:**

- Complete the FEMA National US&R Task Force Leaders Training course, or equivalent;
- Complete the NWCG Planning Section Chief (S-440) course, or equivalent;
- Complete a Wide Area Search course.

## **RESCUE SPECIALIST POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Rescue Specialist is responsible for performing the rescue function of the US&R Resource incident operation. The Rescue Specialist reports directly to the 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, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment;
- Evaluating and modifying rescue tactics as needed; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Rescue Specialist to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing the rescue tactics and techniques required in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Rescue Specialist shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Meet the requirements of the latest edition of the NFPA 1006 Rescue Technician, or equivalent:
  - Rope Rescue Technician;
  - Confined Space Rescue Technician;
  - Trench Rescue Technician;
  - Vehicle and Machinery Technician; and
  - Complete refresher training as required by the AHJ in accordance with NFPA 1006 Rescue Technician, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Structural Collapse Specialist course, or equivalent; and
- Have a current Certification in Basic First Aid for First Responder, or equivalent certification.

### **Recommended Training:**

The Rescue Specialist should:

- Complete NFPA 1006, Chapter 11: Surface Water Rescue, or equivalent.

## **RESCUE SQUAD OFFICER POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Rescue Squad Officer is responsible for supervising one or more US&R Resource 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 worksite;
- Providing periodic progress reports to the Rescue Team Manager;
- Maintaining records and reports;
- Preparing performance evaluations for assigned personnel;
- Ensuring accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment;
- Evaluating and modifying rescue tactics as needed; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Rescue Squad Officer to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select functional officers capable of effectively managing and supervising the Rescue Squad(s) and assigned personnel in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Rescue Squad Officer shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Meet the requirements of the latest edition of the NFPA 1006 Rescue Technician, or equivalent:
  - Rope Rescue Technician;
  - Confined Space Rescue Technician;
  - Trench Rescue Technician;
  - Vehicle and Machinery Technician; and
  - Complete refresher training as required by the AHJ in accordance with NFPA 1006 Rescue Technician, or equivalent.
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Structural Collapse Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Have a current Certification in Basic First Aid for First Responder, or equivalent certification; and
- Have experience in structural collapse operations, including participation in field exercise(s) and/or deployment as a Rescue Specialist.

### **Recommended Training:**

The Rescue Squad Officer should:

- Complete the US&R GPS Operations Level course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Technical Search Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA ICS-300 course, or equivalent; and
- Complete NFPA 1006, Chapter 11: Surface Water Rescue, or equivalent.

## **RESCUE TEAM MANAGER POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Rescue Team Manager is responsible for managing and coordinating all operational functions of the US&R Resource. 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;
- Ensuring accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment;
- Ensuring accountability of all assigned personnel;
- Providing a mission-specific Rapid Intervention Plan, including personnel and equipment needs; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Rescue Team Manager to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select functional managers capable of effectively managing and supervising rescue operations in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Rescue Team Manager shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Meet the requirements of the latest edition of the NFPA 1006 Rescue Technician, or equivalent:
  - Rope Rescue Technician;
  - Confined Space Rescue Technician;
  - Trench Rescue Technician;
  - Vehicle and Machinery Technician; and
  - Complete refresher training as required by the AHJ in accordance with NFPA 1006 Rescue Technician, or equivalent.
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Structural Collapse Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Have a current Certification in Basic First Aid for First Responder, or equivalent certification;
- Have experience in structural collapse operations, including participation in field exercise(s) and/or deployment as a Rescue Specialist; and
- Complete the FEMA ICS-300 course, or equivalent.

### **Recommended Training:**

The Rescue Team Manager should:

- Complete the FEMA ICS-400 course, or equivalent;
- Complete the US&R GPS Operations Level course, or equivalent;

- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Heavy Equipment Rigging Specialist (HERS) course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Task Force Leaders course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Plans Team Manager course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA/USACE Structure Specialist Training course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Technical Search Specialist course, or equivalent; and
- Complete NFPA 1006, Chapter 11: Surface Water Rescue, or equivalent.

## **SAFETY OFFICER POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Safety Officer is responsible for monitoring and assessing the safety aspects of the US&R Resource during training, exercises, and incident operations. The Safety Officer reports directly to the Task Force Leader.

### **Description of Duties:**

The Safety Officer is responsible for:

- Overseeing all health and safety of all US&R Resource personnel during the day-to-day operations, training, and exercises, as well as on deployment;
- Coordinating with Resource Team Managers relative to the health, welfare, and safe operations of their assigned personnel;
- Preventing injuries and illness of US&R Resource members through appropriate administrative and engineering controls of hazards, including enforcement of safety policies and procedures;
- Conducting site safety analysis, completing required ICS documents for IAP/OAP/TAP, developing safety messages, and conducting safety briefings;
- Working with US&R Resource Team Managers to establish acceptable entry conditions and appropriate personal protective equipment to be worn by personnel entering the hazard zone;
- Establishing and enforcing the use of a personnel accountability system to be used during training, exercises, and actual disaster deployments;
- Immediate intervention of activities to prevent the loss of life and prevention of injuries;
- Conducting incident/accident investigations with appropriate US&R Resource personnel under the direction of the Task Force Leader.
- Prepare post-incident injury reports and submit them to the Task Force Leader;
- Preparing and maintaining entry permits, records, and reports; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Safety Officer to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select functional managers capable of effectively managing and supervising the safety function in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Safety Officer shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Complete the FEMA ICS-300 course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA ICS-400 course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System US&R Safety Officer course, or equivalent;
- Meet the requirements of the latest edition of the NFPA 1006 Rescue Technician, or equivalent:
  - Rope Rescue Technician;
  - Confined Space Rescue Technician;
  - Trench Rescue Technician;
  - Vehicle and Machinery Technician;
  - Surface Water Rescue Technician; and
  - Complete refresher training as required by the AHJ in accordance with NFPA 1006 Rescue Technician, or equivalent.

- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Structural Collapse Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Meet and maintain the requirements as a Certified Hazardous Materials Technician as per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120 Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, or equivalent certification; and
  - Complete annual refresher training as required for Hazardous Materials Technician as per OSHA 29 CFR, 1910.120, or equivalent;
  - OR –
  - Meet and maintain the AHJ competencies in accordance with NFPA 472 Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents, or equivalent, to the level of Hazardous Materials Technician; and
    - Complete annual refresher training as required for NFPA 472 Hazardous Materials Technician, or equivalent;
- Complete a WMD - Considerations for Hazardous Materials Specialist course, FEMA US&R Hazardous Materials Specialist course, or equivalent; and
- Have a current Certification in Basic First Aid for First Responder, or equivalent certification.

**Recommended Training:**

- Complete NFPA 1006, Chapter 11: Surface Water Rescue, or equivalent.

## **SEARCH TEAM MANAGER POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Search Team Manager is responsible for managing the search function of the US&R Resource 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 and 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);
- Participating in the Canine Search Specialist evaluation process at the US&R Resource level;
- Providing research and development input at the US&R Resource 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 including briefings and debriefings;
- Preparing performance evaluations for assigned personnel;
- Providing situation updates and documenting and maintaining records and reports;
- Providing oversight for accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued/assigned equipment; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned,

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Search Team Manager to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select functional managers capable of effectively managing and supervising the search component in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Search Team Manager shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Complete the FEMA ICS-300 course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Technical Search Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Canine Search Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Have experience in technical or canine search operations, including but not limited to, participation in field exercise(s) and SAR deployments or equivalent qualification as determined by the SA and/or AHJ;
- Complete all of the required Technical Rescue Skill Sets; and
- Complete a Wide Area Search course.

**Recommended Training:**

The Search Team Manager should:

- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Structural Collapse Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Task Force Leaders course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Planning Team Training course, or equivalent;
- Complete NWCG GPS for Fire Management and ICS course, or equivalent;
- Meet all requirements of NFPA 1670, Chapter 9, Section 9.3.5, or equivalent;
- Meet the requirements of the latest edition of the NFPA 1006 Rescue Technician, or equivalent, for Surface Water Rescue Technician.
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Structural Collapse Specialist course, or equivalent
- Complete the FEMA ICS-400 course, or equivalent; and
- Complete a canine emergency field care course.

## **STRUCTURES SPECIALIST POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Structures Specialist is responsible for performing the various structural assessments for the US&R Resource during incident operations. The Structures Specialist reports directly to the Planning Team Manager.

### **Description of Duties:**

The Structures Specialist is responsible for:

- Assessing the structural condition within the area of US&R Resource operations, which includes identifying structure types and specific damage and structural hazards;
- Recommending the appropriate type and amount of structural hazard mitigation to minimize risks to US&R Resource personnel;
- Providing input necessary to the development of Task Force Tactical Action Plans;
- Cooperating with and assisting other search and rescue resources;
- Ensuring accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment;
- Monitoring assigned structure for condition changes while rescue and recovery operations are proceeding;
- Assuming an active role in implementing approved structural hazard mitigation as a designer, inspector, and possibly a supervisor;
- Coordinating and communicating the structurally related hazard mitigation; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Structures Specialist to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing competent assessments and advice to US&R Resource personnel in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Structures Specialist shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Complete the FEMA USACE Structures Specialist Training (StS1) course, or equivalent; and
- Complete all of the required Technical Rescue Skill Sets.

### **Additional Specific Requirements:**

The Structures Specialist shall:

- Be currently Licensed as a Professional Engineer (P.E.); specialization in structures, or equivalent;
  - The criteria for qualifying as equivalent to a P.E. are as follows:
    - Graduation with a B.S. in Civil Engineering (or similar curriculum) from a college or university recognized by a State Licensing Board.
    - OR -
    - Individuals who are Licensed as architects by any State.
- Have a minimum of five years of experience in structural design and analysis, including evaluation of existing structures, field investigation or construction observation experience, or teaching subjects pertaining to Structures, Structural Safety, and Structural Collapse.

**Recommended Training:**

The Structures Specialist should:

- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Structural Collapse Specialist course (except for SCT01c), or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Planning Team Training course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA USACE Advanced Structures Specialist (StS2) Training, or equivalent, every 5 years; and
- Complete the USACE StS Regional Training, or equivalent, every 2 years.

## **TASK FORCE LEADER POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Task Force Leader (TFL) 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 and overseeing and directly supervising the US&R Resource management. The TFL is responsible for the development and completion of all US&R Resource tactical objectives and the proper reporting, record keeping, and after-action requirements. The TFL reports to the Sponsoring Agency, Incident Command, or Unified Search and Rescue Command.

### **Description of Duties:**

The TFL is responsible for:

- Developing and implementing the Task Force Tactical Action Plan;
- Addressing the coordination, management, and supervision of all US&R Resource activities;
- Supervising the following positions:
  - Search Team Manager;
  - Rescue Team Manager;
  - Medical Team Manager;
  - Logistics Team Manager
  - Planning Team Manager;
  - Hazardous Materials Team Manager; and
  - Safety Officer.
- Ensuring the development of all US&R Resource organizational and logistical needs;
- Receiving briefings and ensuring that all US&R Resource personnel are kept informed of mission objectives and status changes;
- Providing regular situation reports to the IST, IMT, or IC;
- 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;
- Managing all demobilization and return to readiness issues; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Task Force Leader to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select functional managers capable of effectively managing and supervising all aspects of the US&R Resource in various disaster environments.

The requirements and criteria that the Task Force Leader should have and maintain are as follows:

- Comprehensive knowledge of NIMS/ICS; the NRP; and the FEMA National US&R Response System, its organizational structure, operating procedures, safety practices, terminology, and communications protocols;
- Comprehensive knowledge of the Task Force functions and urban search and rescue operations, tactics, strategy, and safety considerations;
- An understanding of other disaster response organizations;
- Knowledge of available technology used in support of US&R missions and objectives;
- An awareness of the hazards associated with various disaster environments; and
- Knowledge of supervisory and personnel management techniques.

The TFL should:

- Be competent in developing and using integrated action planning concepts and processes.
- Be competent in emergency incident management.
- Be competent at developing and maintaining interpersonal relations.
- Possess the interpersonal skills to manage the assigned personnel and lead the US&R Resource to accomplish the stated mission objectives.
- Be a competent planner and organizer.
- Be capable of effectively coordinating and directing multiple functions of the US&R Resource during mission assignments.
- Be flexible, improvise, share information, resolve conflicts, and solve problems.
- Be able to effectively communicate verbally and in writing.
- Possess good interagency coordination skills and work well with various technical components and other organizations.
- Have the ability to lead in a stressful disaster environment with limited resources.
- Have the ability to follow directions and carry out assigned duties without supervision.

**Required Training:**

The TFL shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Complete the FEMA ICS-300 course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA ICS-400 course, or equivalent; and
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Task Force Leaders course, or equivalent.

**Recommended Training:**

The TFL should:

- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Structural Collapse Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Meet all requirements of Structural Collapse Technician as per NFPA 1670, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Technical Search Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Planning Team Training course, or equivalent;
- Complete the NWCG Command and General Staff (S-420) course, or equivalent;
- Complete the NWCG Operations Section Chief (S-430) course, or equivalent;
- Complete the NWCG Planning Section Chief (S-440) course, or equivalent.

## **TECHNICAL INFORMATION SPECIALIST POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Technical Information Specialist is responsible for documenting, tracking, and retrieving all pertinent information for the US&R Resource during incident operations. The Technical Information Specialist reports directly to the Planning Team Manager.

### **Description of Duties:**

The Technical Information Specialist is responsible for:

- Gathering requested information from all available sources and forwarding it to the Planning Team Manager for incorporation in the planning function;
- Creating, displaying, providing, and compiling documentation for all pertinent US&R Resource and incident information via written, audio, and visual mediums;
- Ensuring accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all Planning Team equipment; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Technical Information Specialist in support of the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel fully capable of providing competent information management for the US&R Resource in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Technical Information Specialist shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Planning Team Training course, or equivalent; and
- Complete the FEMA ICS-300 course, or equivalent.

### **Recommended Training:**

The Technical Information Specialist should:

- Complete the FEMA ICS-400 course, or equivalent.

## **TECHNICAL SEARCH SPECIALIST POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Functional Description:**

The Technical Search Specialist is responsible for performing the technical search function of the US&R Resource 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;
- Ensuring accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Technical Search Specialist in support of the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select competent personnel fully capable of providing state-of-the-art search techniques and tactics required in various disaster environments.

### **Required Training:**

The Technical Search Specialist shall:

- Complete all of the required General Training requirements;
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Technical Search Specialist course, or equivalent; and
- Complete all of the required Technical Rescue Skill Sets.

### **Recommended Training:**

The Technical Search Specialist should:

- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Canine Search Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Meet the requirements of the latest edition of the NFPA 1006 Rescue Technician, or equivalent, for Surface Water Rescue Technician.
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System Structural Collapse Specialist course, or equivalent;
- Complete a Wide Area Search course; and
- Complete a canine emergency field care course.

## **WATER RESCUE SPECIALIST**

### **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

#### **Functional Description:**

The Water Rescue Specialist is responsible for performing water operations of the US&R Resource incident operation. The Water Rescue Specialist reports directly to a Rescue Squad Officer.

#### **Description of Duties:**

The Water Rescue Specialist is responsible for the following:

- Implementing technical skills and operating equipment necessary for completing the water rescue portion of the action plan safely;
- Performing supervised water operations and providing periodic progress reports, as needed.
- Operating and performing routine field maintenance of watercraft and equipment;
- Ensuring accountability, maintenance, and minor repairs for all issued equipment;
- Evaluating and modifying operational water tactics; as needed; and
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned.

#### **Position Requirements and Criteria:**

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to deploy as a Water Rescue Specialist to support the US&R Resource's activities. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel who are fully capable of providing the water operational tactics and techniques required in various disaster environments.

#### **Required Training:**

The Water Rescue Specialist shall:

- Complete all of the General Training requirements;
- Meet the requirements of the latest edition of the NFPA 1006, or equivalent:
  - Rope Rescue Technician; and
  - Surface Water Rescue Technician.
- Have a safe boating Certificate recognized by the National Safe Boating Council, or equivalent certification; and
- Complete a Water Rescue Boat operators' course, FEMA National US&R Response System Water Rescue Specialist Position Task Book, or equivalent.

# Annex A-2 US&R Resource Mission Capability Requirements

US&R Resources shall have an equipment cache demonstrating the capability to meet the requirements specified for core capabilities outlined below and consistent with those found in EMAP US&R Standard 3.7.2.

## SEARCH

The Search section supports the operations' wide-area, technical, and canine search components. This equipment will provide the US&R Resource with the capability to perform reconnaissance, HASTY, and primary and secondary search functions necessary to locate and identify victims and site conditions. Equipment identified in the section should provide search identification functions utilizing multiple sensory methods. Equipment in this section should also provide GPS location identification, mapping, and photographic documentation necessary to support rescue operations and situational reporting.

Equipment identified in this section is required to conduct wide area, technical, and canine searches. All equipment must be capable of field calibration and adjustment. The equipment needs of the type US&R Resource to meet this capability include provisions for:

- Acoustic
- Optic Equipment
- Thermal Identification Equipment
- Mapping and Tracking
- Canine Search Equipment
- Marking and Identification Equipment/Supplies

## RESCUE

Equipment requirements support the typed US&R Resource, applicable work schedule, and location(s). Rescue operations may occur in multiple locations simultaneously to support this capability will require duplication of tools, kits, and multiple power sources.

The US&R Resource shall have the equipment to perform all the elements specified in US&R Resource Mission.

- Ability to conduct operations safely and effectively in:
  - Flooded environments;
  - Structural collapse to include all applicable types of construction;
  - Confined spaces;
  - Trench and excavation;
  - Rope rescue; and
  - Vehicle and machinery extrication.

The equipment needs of the type US&R Resource to meet this capability include provisions for:

- Powered (pneumatic, electric, hydraulic, and gasoline) tools;
- Miscellaneous tools and hand tools;
- Heavy rigging support equipment;
- Technical rope rescue equipment;
- Structural Specialist equipment; and
- Water operations equipment.

## MEDICAL

Medical equipment requirements are based upon the typed US&R Resource. Provisions for medical treatment, including advanced life support for survivors, US&R Resource members, and disaster search canines, are required. The quantity of equipment, supplies, and pharmaceuticals, is based

upon the US&R Resource and mission capabilities.

The equipment needs of the typed US&R Resource to meet this capability include provisions for:

- Pharmaceuticals;
- Medical equipment;
- Canine support;
- Airway management;
- Intravenous access/administration;
- General patient assessment care;
- Patient immobilization/extrication equipment;
- Patient personal protection;
- Patient monitoring; and
- Skeletal and wound care.

## HAZMAT

This section was developed for US&R Resources to allow the capability to identify and/or operate safely within a contaminated environment. US&R Resources are capable of performing limited operations in a contaminated environment subject to the type and concentration of contamination. The US&R Resources' capabilities would include presumptive site characterization, the performance of reconnaissance, search, and rescue within a contaminated environment, and decontamination of personnel and a limited number of survivors.

A contaminated environment may include, but is not limited to, incidents involving the intentional or accidental release of any hazardous materials. Type I Resources are required to maintain capabilities for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or Explosive (CBRNE) incidents. US&R Resources are expected to have the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities to develop a risk management plan that provides the highest level of services without putting members at unreasonable risk.

The equipment needs to meet this capability includes:

- Hazmat detection;
- Hazmat radiation detection equipment;
- Hazmat Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); and
  - Level B and C PPE based on the US&R Resource type in quantities sufficient to support a 12- hour operational period.
- Hazmat decontamination.

## COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications equipment requirements are based upon supporting the overall communications requirements of the entire US&R Resource.

The US&R Resource is capable of supporting the following:

- Voice communications for all members and attached personnel (force protection, liaisons, etc.);
- Voice and Data communications between management, coordination, response elements, and other agencies;
- Ongoing sustainment and maintenance of the communications cache; and
- Wide-area communications to meet operational requirements based on US&R Resource Type.
- Voice communications performance:
  - Portable ~1.5 miles;
  - Mobile ~3 miles;
  - Repeater ~3-5 miles;
  - Satellite ~Continental USA; and

- Cellular ~Continental USA (data bandwidth per second).
- Communications/Satellite:
  - VSAT @ 5Mbps down; or
  - BGAN @ 256Kbs down.
- Other:
  - Cellular @ 1-10Mbps down; and
  - Wi-Fi @ 54Mbps.

## **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT LOGISTICS**

This section is based upon supporting and sustaining dietary, shelter, personnel support/protection, administrative, transportation, or other requirements of the US&R Resource. Components include those required for the Base of Operations. Quantities necessary meet the requirements of the US&R Resource for a minimum of the first 72 hours of self-sufficiency. Personal protective equipment, uniform standards, and support items for individual use during a mission assignment, taking weather extremes into account, are required.

The equipment needs of the type US&R Resource to meet this capability include provisions for:

- Shelter;
- Food and water;
- Sanitation control;
- Cache transport and support;
- Base of Operation support;
- Planning Section, Technical Information, and Structural Specialist support;
- Personnel gear and protective equipment;
- Safety equipment to include various forms of respiratory protection;
- Equipment support and maintenance; and
- Resource support.

## **GENERAL PACKAGING AND CONTAINERS**

All equipment and supplies shall be properly packaged to facilitate transportation requirements and property accountability/protection.

Containers are constructed of durable materials, watertight, and stackable. Packaging weights and cube volumes must be considered within the overall gross limitations for air and/or ground transport. They should address the “worst-case” scenario of moving, loading, and unloading the cache by hand or with simple hand-operated material handling equipment. Hazardous materials shall be properly prepared, marked, labeled, and documented to meet the requirements for various modes of ground and airlift transport.

## Appendix A: EMAP Standards Review Cycle and Appeal Process<sup>3</sup>

EMAP will maintain the following three-year review cycle for the *Urban Search & Rescue Standard*:

Year 1 – 2023	Procedures
January	EMAP begins the new three-year review cycle.
July	EMAP submits the PINS Form notifying ANSI of the initiation of the revised Standards.
August-November -	EMAP collects suggestions for revisions to the Standards from the Commission, Technical Committee, Standards Subcommittee, and Standard Workgroup members.
November-January - (Year 2)	Standards Subcommittees develop proposed revised Standards for consideration by the Technical Committee.

Year 2 - 2024	Procedures
January-March	Technical Committee votes on the proposed revised Standards.
April	EMAP submits the BSR-8 Form notifying ANSI of the proposed revised Standards.
May-August	ANSI publishes the EMAP proposed revised Standards for public comments. EMAP compiles all public comments on the proposed revised Standards for consideration by the Standards Subcommittees.
September-April (Year 3)	Standards Subcommittees votes on the proposed revised Standards public comments and compiles recommendations for Technical Committee consideration.

Year 3 - 2025	Procedures
May-June	Technical Committee votes on the Standards Subcommittees recommendations on the proposed revised Standards.
July-December	EMAP responds to all proposed revised Standards public comments.
Year 4 – 2026	EMAP submits the BSR-9 Form to ANSI announcing the new <i>Urban Search &amp; Rescue Standard</i> .
Year 4 – 2026	EMAP publishes the new <i>Urban Search &amp; Rescue Standard</i> .

<sup>3</sup> The Appendices are not part of the *Urban Search & Rescue Standard*.

## **Appendix B: EMAP Commission and Committees**

### **EMAP Commission**

The purpose of the EMAP Commission is to evaluate and improve the delivery of Emergency Management and Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) services to the public through the Accreditation of Emergency Management Programs and the Certification of US&R Resources. The Commission's objectives include the following:

- To establish and maintain standards for Emergency Management Programs and US&R Resources.
- To administer Accreditation and Certification processes that encourage applicants to bring their Emergency Management Program and/or US&R Resource into compliance with those standards.
- To oversee or conduct the processes of self-assessment, documentation, and on-site assessment of the applicant's compliance with established standards.
- To formally acknowledge compliance of a program by the issuance of Accreditation and/or Certification.
- To accept fees, grants, gifts, bequests, and other contributions that support the objectives of the Commission.
- To develop and maintain close working relationships with international, national, federal, regional, state, tribal, local, and private associations and agencies in the Emergency Management and US&R fields for mutual growth and benefit.
- To educate the legislative and executive branches of government and the public on the importance of fully capable Emergency Management Programs and US&R Resources based upon high standards.
- To ensure that the business affairs and the programs of the Commission and its affiliates are conducted on a nondiscriminatory basis.
- To promote the concept of voluntary self-regulation inherent in the accreditation process.
- To cooperate with other private and public agencies in a manner that will lead to the improvement in the Accreditation and Certification program and the delivery of services.

The Commission is composed of thirteen (13) commissioners who are appointed by the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) and the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA); each organization will appoint five (5) commissioners. The EMAP Commission then appoints three (3) additional members as International, Urban Search and Rescue discipline, and Federal Agency representatives. Each member's term is three (3) years.

### **EMAP Program Review Committee**

The Program Review Committee is responsible for considering Emergency Management Programs being presented for Accreditation and US&R Resources being presented for Certification, using assessment reports prepared by assessment teams, and making recommendations regarding Accreditation and Certification status.

### **EMAP Technical Committee**

The Technical Committee is comprised of Standards Subcommittees. The Technical Committee serves as the "consensus body" for the purpose of documenting consensus on all American National Standards proposed by EMAP. Members are required to attend all meetings in person, whether they are held virtually or face-to-face or provide a previously determined and approved alternate to attend in their place in order to maintain quorum. This is in support of the ANSI process throughout the entire cycle with obtaining and maintaining consistency in voting and in having quorum voting.

- The Emergency Management Standards Subcommittee is responsible for the continual review, revision, and maintenance of the *Emergency Management Standard* by EMAP during the ANSI cycle, and for providing appropriate recommendations regarding the Standard to the Technical Committee. The Emergency Management Standards Subcommittee and its members serve as a subcommittee of the Technical Committee. Members are required to attend all meetings, whether they are in person or virtual. This is in support of the ANSI process so that EMAP maintains consistency in voting.
- The Urban Search and Rescue Standards Subcommittee is responsible for the continual review, revision, and maintenance of the *Urban Search and Rescue Standard* by EMAP during the ANSI cycle, and for providing appropriate recommendations regarding the Standard to the Technical Committee. The Urban Search and Rescue Standards Subcommittee and its members serve as a subcommittee of the Technical Committee. Members are required to attend all meetings, whether they are in person or virtual. This is in support of the ANSI process so that EMAP maintains consistency in voting.

Ad Hoc Standards Work Groups are developed when EMAP receives a request for new standard development. The Ad Hoc Standards Workgroups membership is comprised of discipline-specific based on the standard interest area.<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup> The Appendices are not part of the *Urban Search & Rescue Standard*.



**Emergency Management Accreditation Program**  
201 Park Washington Court  
Falls Church, VA 22046  
Email: [emap@emap.org](mailto:emap@emap.org)  
Web: [www.emap.org](http://www.emap.org)