

ANNEX 9 (ESF-9)

SEARCH AND RESCUE

PRIMARY: Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, (LLR) Division of Fire and Life Safety

SUPPORT: As directed within the SCEOP, each supporting agency or organization will respond to coordinate the emergency activities of its department for a declared earthquake disaster.

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. It can be expected that search and rescue mutual aid within the affected areas may be sharply reduced. The widespread regional nature of the event will affect many jurisdictions simultaneously; therefore, search and rescue teams from throughout the state will be needed to provide search and rescue of persons trapped and injured due to collapsed buildings within the first 24 hours.
- B. ESF-9 will prepare for disaster response using the Operational Area Concept and worst case loss estimation data in Attachment C to the Basic Plan.

II. MISSION

To provide assistance to local authorities for search and rescue operations following an earthquake.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. Response operations will use an Earthquake Checklist that will be executed following a strong earthquake. Activities in the Earthquake Checklist do not replace required activities normally assigned to ESF in the SCEOP and supporting ESF SOP. The Checklist activities are to ensure that critical actions are completed or continuing at the appropriate time during an earthquake response. See Attachment A to this Annex for Checklist.
- B. The initial search and rescue response will be a local effort, with priorities set by local government. ESF-9 and ESF-4 will coordinate to provide additional search and rescue teams and equipment into the Operational Areas as requested.
- C. Due to the anticipated damage from a strong earthquake, the FEMA US&R task forces will be needed to support the state's search and rescue operations.

- D. ESF-9 will coordinate the search and rescue response based on the Operational Area Concept.
- E. The South Carolina US&R team (SCTF-1) will assist in search and rescue of disaster victims. It is a multi-disciplinary organization consisting of a search element, a medical element, a rescue element, a technical support element, and a command element. The team is self-sufficient for the first 72 hours of operations.
- F. Under normal disaster situations, SCTF-1 will deploy its team leader to the site staging area to prioritize needs. However, under the conditions expected with a major earthquake, the team leader will coordinate with the ESF-9 representative and local government for search and rescue priorities.
- G. Priorities will be determined at the Operational Area Incident Command Post (ICP). Area resources will be identified that could be applied to the situation.
- H. Equipment will be immediately mobilized and ready to deploy upon orders.
- I. The SC Fire Academy and Columbia Metropolitan Airport are designated staging areas for deployment of search and rescue teams. Other likely locations for staging search and rescue operations are military bases within the state.
- J. ESF-9 search and rescue response efforts will be accomplished by:
 - 1. Planning the search and rescue response based on the Operational Area Concept.
 - 2. Identifying transportation requirements to move personnel and equipment into Operational Areas. ESF-9 will consider using military resources and private and public watercraft.
 - 3. Coordinating with ESF-2 to support communications requirements of SCTF-1.
 - 4. Preparing for FEMA's US&R team to support search and rescue. FEMA US&R team(s) expected time of arrival is 48 hours after being notified. Upon arrival, FEMA US&R team(s) will coordinate with ESF-9 for mission assignments in the Operational Areas.

5. Integrating the SC Firefighter Mobilization Plan to support search and rescue efforts in the Operational Areas.
6. Identifying and maintaining a listing of shortfalls by Operational Area, and identify resources to support SCTF-1 and FEMA US&R teams.
7. Developing operational procedures, and maintaining informational maps based on the Operational Area Concept.
8. Coordinating plans to use search and rescue dogs in US&R operations.

IV. **ESF ACTIONS**

The emergency operations necessary for the performance of this function include but are not limited to:

A. Preparedness

1. Coordinate and integrate the SC Firefighter Mobilization Plan into this Plan.
2. Coordinate and integrate SCTF-1 operational procedures with this Plan.
3. Prepare transportation requirements to move search and rescue equipment into Operational Areas.
4. Coordinate with ESF-2 to support SCTF-1 communications requirements.
5. Coordinate and integrate FEMA US&R teams into the state's search and rescue response to include identifying sites for US&R teams to stage based on Operational Areas.
6. Coordinate with SCEMD and the Federal DCO to identify military bases as potential staging areas and military equipment such as helicopters, landing crafts, landing ship tanks (LST), hovercrafts, etc. to transport rescue personnel and equipment.
7. Identify resources necessary to support SCTF-1 and FEMA US&R teams to include EMAC.

8. Develop operational procedures, and maintain maps to support earthquake search and rescue operations based on the Operational Area Concept.
9. Coordinate plans to use search and rescue dogs in US&R operations.

B. Response

1. Implement ESF-9, Earthquake d Checklist, Attachment A to this Annex.
2. Implement the SC Firefighter Mobilization Plan to assist in search and rescue efforts.
3. Activate SCTF-1 for search and rescue response.
4. Request FEMA US&R teams to assist in search and rescue.
5. Coordinate with FEMA US&R team(s) to organize and prioritize search and rescue response.
6. Make a request for search and rescue assistance through EMAC.
7. Validate plans to integrate FEMA US&R teams into the State's search and rescue response.
8. Validate the conditions of search and rescue staging area(s).
9. Coordinate with SCEMD and the Federal DCO to identify military bases as potential staging areas and military transport resources.
10. Coordinate with ESF-1 to support SCTF-1 transportation requirements.
11. Coordinate with ESF-2 to support SCTF-1 communications requirements.
12. Implement and validate operational procedures, and maintain maps to support earthquake search and rescue operations based on the Operational Area Concept.
13. Coordinate plans to use search and rescue dogs in US&R operations.

C. Recovery

See Recovery Section, Annex 9, (ESF-9) to the SCEOP.

D. Mitigation

See Mitigation Section, Annex 9, (ESF-9) to the SCEOP.

V. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

LLR, Division of Fire and Life Safety

- A. Coordinate and integrate the SC Firefighter Mobilization Plan into this Plan.
- B. Coordinate and integrate SCTF-1 into this Plan.
- C. Coordinate with ESF-1 to support SCTF-1 transportation requirements. SCTF-1 will determine transportation requirements to move search and rescue equipment into Operational Areas.
- D. Coordinate with ESF-2 to support SCTF-1 communication requirements.
- E. Coordinate and integrate FEMA and State US&R teams into the State's search and rescue response to include identifying sites for US&R teams to stage based on the Operational Areas.
- F. In coordination with SCEMD and the Federal DCO, identify military bases as potential staging areas based on Operational Areas and equipment needed such as helicopters, rescue and transport boats, landing craft, LST, hovercraft, etc.
- G. Assist in identifying and providing resources necessary to support SCTF-1 and FEMA US&R teams.
- H. Develop operational procedures, and maintain information data and maps to support earthquake search and rescue operations based on the Operational Area Concept.
- I. Coordinate plans to use search and rescue dogs in US&R operations.
- J. Review and update as necessary the Earthquake Checklist for ESF-9.

VI. **FEDERAL INTERFACE**

The National Response Framework (NRF) ESF-9, Urban Search and Rescue, supports this Annex.

VII. ATTACHMENT

Attachment A ESF-9 Earthquake Checklist

ESF-9 (Search and Rescue)

Date/Time Complete

1. * _____ Implement the SC Firefighter Mobilization Plan to assist in search and rescue efforts.
2. * _____ Activate and deploy SCTF-1 for search and rescue response.
3. * _____ Coordinate with ESF-2 to support SCTF-1 communications requirements.
4. * _____ Request FEMA US&R teams to assist in search and rescue.
5. * _____ Validate plans to integrate the FEMA US&R teams into the State's search and rescue response.
6. _____ Validate the conditions of staging area(s), and coordinate search and rescue operations to include US&R teams.
7. _____ Coordinate with ESF-1 to support SCTF-1 transportation requirements to include equipment into Operational Areas.
8. _____ Coordinate with the Federal Defense Office to obtain military assets to transport fire and rescue teams. Needs include rescue helicopters and large troop transport helicopters, other military aircraft, boats, landing craft, LST ships, hovercraft, etc. needed to land personnel and equipment.
9. _____ Coordinate with ESF-1 and ESF-16 on accessibility of transportation routes in the impacted areas.
10. _____ Validate plans to use search and rescue dogs in US&R operations.
11. _____ Maintain information data and maps to support earthquake search and rescue operations based on the Operational Area concept.

***NOTE:** All Checklist activities listed are essential, and should be completed. However, Checklist activities denoted with an asterisk are critical, and should be completed first. Other action items can be executed simultaneously to expedite response actions.

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