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Urban Search & Rescue Operational Standard
Chapter 3: Urban Search and Rescue Capabilities Demonstrations

3.1: Mobilization (Capability 1)

**Standard 3.1.1**
All applicable personnel and equipment for the US&R Resource type shall complete mobilization.

**Standard 3.1.2**
The US&R Resource shall follow mobilization procedures outlined within the Mobilization Manual.

**Standard 3.1.3**
The US&R Resource shall complete in-processing for all personnel as appropriate for the US&R Resource type specified in the application for an Operational Capabilities Assessment.

**Standard 3.1.4**
In-processing procedures utilized by the US&R Resource shall include established processes for the following:
(1) Medical check-in for team personnel with contingency;
(2) Medical check-in for canine resources with contingency;
(3) Completion of administrative paperwork;
(4) Development of a command and control organizational chart;
(5) Assignment of communications equipment;
(6) Assignment of personal equipment; and
(7) Assignment of apparatus.

**Standard 3.1.5**
A US&R Resource briefing shall be facilitated by the Planning Team Manager.

**Standard 3.1.5.1**
At a minimum, the briefing shall include updates and/or details on the following:
(1) Incident;
(2) Transportation Plan;
(3) Communications Plan;
(4) Safety; and

**Standard 3.1.6**
The US&R Resource shall develop a Travel/Route Plan through a formal planning process. A Travel/Route Plan must be developed even if the US&R Resource does not move the Task Force.

**Standard 3.1.7**
The Travel/Route Plan shall contain provisions for a minimum of one fuel and personal hygiene stop, and processes for ensuring accountability.
3.2: Transportation of Personnel and Cache (Capability 2)

Standard 3.2.1
The US&R Resource shall demonstrate implementation of the Mobilization Plan through completion of the following activities:

1. Review and implementation of the Load Plan;
2. Pre-trip inspections of appropriate vehicles present;
3. Verification of drivers with required qualifications in place;
4. Implementation of transportation contracts; and
5. Verification of vehicles/assets available and assigned for transport of all US&R Resource personnel.

3.3: Establish a Base of Operations (Capability 3)

Standard 3.3.1
The US&R Resource shall establish and complete setup of the Task Force Base of Operations (BoO). The following items will be completed, equipped, and operational, based on priority needs identified in coordination with the Local Incident Commander, for/by the US&R Resource:

1. Proper site location selection;
2. Shelter setup;
3. Command Post setup (Control Center);
4. Establishing Communications;
5. Logistics setup;
6. Medical setup;
7. Establishing Decontamination;
8. Establishing electricity/power supply for the BoO;
9. Personal hygiene and sanitation setup;
10. Waste Management;
11. Safety;
12. Security and accountability; and

3.4: Capabilities Demonstrations On-Site Operations (Capability 4)

Standard 3.4.1: Search Operations
The US&R Resource shall utilize search methodologies provided through policy, procedure, and/or enabling authority during the Administrative Assessment for collapse search and/or wide-area search.

Standard 3.4.1.1
Collapse Search capabilities shall include the following:

1. Searching for ambulatory/non-ambulatory trapped survivors using canine, physical, and/or technical search capabilities;
2. Utilizing a US&R marking system:
   1. Structure/Hazards;
   2. Search Assessment; and
   3. Victim Location.
3. Maintaining accountability of search personnel, equipment, and supplies; and
4. Reporting progress of search efforts on an established schedule to the US&R Resource Command and/or Incident Support Team (IST) as appropriate.
**Standard 3.4.1.2**

Wide-Area Search capabilities shall include the following:

1. Searching for ambulatory/non-ambulatory survivors using physical search capabilities;
2. Utilizing a US&R marking system:
   1. Structure/Hazards;
   2. Search Assessment; and
   3. Victim Location.
3. Maintaining accountability of search personnel, equipment, and supplies; and
4. Reporting progress of search efforts on an established schedule to the US&R Resource Command and/or IST as appropriate.

**Standard 3.4.2: Rescue Operations**

The US&R Resource shall utilize rescue methodologies to include the following:

1. Rope;
2. Confined Space;
3. Extrication;
4. Structural Collapse;
5. Water Rescue (Type I, II and III); and

**Standard 3.4.2.1**

The US&R Resource shall utilize rescue operations strategy and tactics established through consensus standards and/or industry practices provided through the enabling authority of the AHJ.

**Standard 3.4.2.2**

The US&R Resource will maintain accountability of rescue personnel, equipment, and supplies and report progress of rescue efforts on an established schedule to the US&R Resource Command and/or IST as appropriate.

**Standard 3.4.3 Victim/Survivor Management Operations**

The US&R Resource shall utilize victim/survivor management methodologies established through consensus standards and/or industry practices provided through the enabling authority of the AHJ and demonstrate an implemented system for:

1. Delivery/Tracking of Survivors;
2. Handling of Human Remains; and
3. Handling Personal Property.

**Standard 3.4.4: Contaminated Environment Operations**

The US&R Resource shall coordinate and manage the Hazardous Materials function, maintain situational awareness, and ensure team members understand and fulfill assigned roles/responsibilities.

**Standard 3.4.4.1**

The US&R Resource shall monitor personnel for factors that influence performance and ensure personnel health and welfare are provided for.

**Standard 3.4.4.2**

The US&R Resource shall ensure personnel compliance with established accountability processes and procedures and maintain accountability of assigned personnel.
**Standard 3.4.4.3**  
The US&R Resource shall establish personnel attendance requirements for planning meetings and briefings.

**Standard 3.4.4.4**  
The US&R Resource shall establish processes to include the following:  
(1) Stay informed on incident objectives;  
(2) Anticipate equipment/logistical needs during changing conditions; and  
(3) Assist in the development of tactical plans that support mission objectives in coordination with resource members and the local Incident Commander (IC).

**Standard 3.4.4.5**  
The US&R Resource shall ensure that all required documentation/forms are completed and turned into the Planning Section on an established schedule, or as directed.

**Standard 3.4.4.6**  
The US&R Resource shall conduct the following:  
(1) Hazardous materials operations as directed;  
(2) Establish and maintain monitoring processes for efficiency/effectiveness;  
(3) Inform internal and external command structure of necessary changes in operations; and  
(4) Maintain communications with/to the Resource Task Force Leader (TFL).

**Standard 3.4.4.7**  
The US&R Resource shall develop tactical action plans that address and provide for the following:  
(1) Required levels of personal protection;  
(2) Implementation of a site safety plan;  
(3) Establishing and implementing required monitoring;  
(4) Fulfilling equipment needs;  
(5) Supervising decontamination activities;  
(6) Entry(s) into contaminated area;  
(7) Extrication of ambulatory and non-ambulatory survivors; and  
(8) Transition to normal operations when hazmat activities are concluded.

**Standard 3.4.4.8**  
The US&R Resource shall determine the proper level of PPE for the following:  
(1) Initial reconnaissance;  
(2) Operations; and  
(3) Decontamination.

**Standard 3.4.4.9**  
The US&R Resource shall establish decontamination capability including determining and implementing required monitoring and identifying and implementing control area zones prior to entry.

**Standard 3.4.4.10**  
The US&R Resource shall make entries into contaminated areas and extricate ambulatory and non-ambulatory survivors.
Standard 3.4.4.11
In addition to the requirements of standard elements 3.4.4.1-3.4.4.11, a Type I US&R Resource shall demonstrate operational capability in one or more of the following areas:

1. Chemical;
2. Biological;
3. Radiological;
4. Nuclear; and/or
5. Explosive.

Standard 3.4.5 Medical Operations
The US&R Resource shall utilize established medical methodologies in accordance with policies and procedures.

Standard 3.4.5.1
The US&R Resource shall establish and maintain health and welfare of personnel in the following:

1. Medical treatment/rehabilitation area of the BoO used for staff and equipment; and
2. Forward Rehabilitation area established based on incident requirements.

Standard 3.4.5.2
The US&R Resource shall medically stabilize trapped ambulatory and non-ambulatory survivors by demonstrating medical personnel are:

1. Available and appropriately equipped to respond; and
2. Capable of responding to the work site and providing assistance as needed for triage & treatment.

Standard 3.4.5.3
The US&R Resource shall ensure ambulatory and non-ambulatory survivors are:

1. Medically treated and assessed; and
2. Care is administered based on local and national protocols.

Standard 3.4.5.4
The US&R Resource shall coordinate patient hand-off and tracking procedures for off-site medical attention and ensure survivors are transferred to more appropriate medical care.

Standard 3.4.5.5
The US&R Resource Medical Team Managers shall ensure personnel comply with the following:

1. Established accountability processes and procedures;
2. Maintaining accountability of all medical personnel and equipment; and
3. Coordinate with Logistics for re-supply and restocking.

Standard 3.4.5.6
The US&R Resource Medical Team Managers shall report progress of efforts on an established schedule to the US&R Resource Command and/or IST, as appropriate.

Standard 3.4.5.7
The US&R Resource Medical Team Managers shall ensure controlled medications are accounted for and secured in accordance with enabling authorities, laws, rules, and regulations.
**Standard 3.4.5.8**
The US&R Resource Medical Team Managers shall ensure all required documentation/forms are completed and updated throughout operations to include the following:

1. Medical plan (ICS 206);
2. Daily Logs (ICS 214);
3. Patient Care Reports (authorized for use by the AHJ); and
4. Injured Task Force Member Reports (authorized for use by the AHJ).

**Standard 3.4.6: Communications**
The US&R Resource shall identify frequencies required for interoperability and demonstrate the capability to communicate internally and externally.

**Standard 3.4.6.1**
The US&R Resource shall develop a Communication Plan that integrates assigned frequencies required for interoperability.

**Standard 3.4.6.2**
The US&R Resource shall maintain accountability of communication equipment and supplies and ensure all required documentation/forms are completed.

**Standard 3.4.6.3**
The US&R Resource shall issue radio and communications equipment to Task Force personnel for use during operations and setup a communications workspace with supportive equipment to ensure sustainability and functional capability.

**Standard 3.4.6.4**
The US&R Resource Communications Specialist shall report progress of efforts on an established schedule to the US&R Resource Command and/or IST as appropriate.

**Standard 3.4.7: Task Force Leader Management**
The US&R Resource Task Force Leader(s) shall demonstrate continuous command and control, manage resources and personnel, and delegate when appropriate.

**Standard 3.4.7.1**
The US&R Resource Task Force Leader(s) shall demonstrate procedures for accountability of personnel and implement and oversee established accountability processes.

**Standard 3.4.7.2**
The US&R Resource Task Force Leader(s) shall establish and update operational plan to include the following:

1. Establish objectives and priorities;
2. Ensure managers maintain situational awareness and submit situation status reports as required;
3. Monitor and evaluate the tactical objectives and priorities for effectiveness and efficiency and adjust as needed;
4. In conjunction with Plans, compile and update information including situation status, site, weather (current & forecast), & other pertinent information as necessary; and
5. Monitor operations and ensure availability of necessary supplies and support.
Standard 3.4.7.3
The US&R Resource Task Force Leader(s) shall ensure the following plans and actions are completed:

1. Establish planning cycle requirements;
2. Identify an area of operation;
3. Identify immediate search and rescue requirements;
4. Define an on-site media plan;
5. Ensure the Communications Plan is followed;
6. Identify the BoO location;
7. Identify resupply procedures;
8. Identify victim hand-off procedures; and

Standard 3.4.7.4
The US&R Resource Task Force Leader(s) shall establish meeting and reporting schedules to include the following:

1. Team briefings;
2. Manager meetings; and
3. Communication with AHJ, IMT, etc.

Standard 3.4.7.5
The US&R Resource Task Force Leader(s) shall respond to the Point of Assembly (POA) and demonstrate the following:

1. Meet with the AHJ contact;
2. Notify sponsoring agencies of arrival;
3. Brief local ICP contact; and
4. Receive assignment(s).

Standard 3.4.7.6
The US&R Resource Task Force Leader(s) shall ensure team briefing and managers’ meetings are conducted as required to keep personnel informed on issues and changing conditions.

Standard 3.4.7.7
The US&R Resource Task Force Leader(s) shall maintain communication with sponsoring agency and provide updates as necessary. Specific points of interest include arrival at scene, operations updates, personnel changes, and demobilization.

Standard 3.4.7.8
The US&R Resource Task Force Leader(s) shall ensure completion of required documentation including Action Plans and Unit Logs and managers complete and submit required documentation to the planning section in a timely manner.

Standard 3.4.7.9
The US&R Resource Task Force Leader(s) shall maintain health and welfare of personnel and monitor personnel for performance and factors that influence it including stress, fatigue, feeding, hydration, etc.

Standard 3.4.8: Planning
The US&R Resource Planning Section shall develop a Tactical Action Plan that supports the incident objectives and update as necessary.
**Standard 3.4.8.1**
The US&R Resource Planning Section shall compile and update information to include the following:

(1) Situation status, site, weather (currents & forecast), & other pertinent information as necessary; and
(2) Monitor and document operations.

**Standard 3.4.8.2**
The US&R Resource Planning Section shall schedule and facilitate all US&R Resource briefings.

**Standard 3.4.8.3**
The US&R Resource Planning Section shall conduct the following:

(1) Oversee planning functions and maintain situational awareness;
(2) Attend planning meetings and briefings;
(3) Stay informed of the incident objectives; and
(4) Anticipate planning needs during changing conditions.

**Standard 3.4.8.4**
The US&R Resource Planning Section shall ensure the team understands policies for handling human remains.

**Standard 3.4.8.5**
The US&R Resource Planning Section shall obtain and/or produce maps and ensure all appropriate forms and documentation are completed and submitted in a timely manner.

**Standard 3.4.8.6**
The US&R Resource Planning Section shall assist Safety in managing the accountability process and ensure personnel comply with the accountability processes and procedures and maintain accountability of assigned personnel.

**Standard 3.4.8.7**
The US&R Resource Planning Manager shall maintain health and welfare of assigned personnel and monitor personnel for performance and factors that influence it including stress, fatigue, feeding, hydration, etc.

**Standard 3.4.9: Logistics**
The US&R Resource Logistics Section shall facilitate cache and personnel movement, security, and management (including canine).

**Standard 3.4.9.1**
The US&R Resource Logistics Manager shall oversee logistical support during all phases of deployment to include the following:

(1) Ensure procedures for equipment check-out;
(2) Identify & manage resupply procedures;
(3) Anticipate equipment needs from the cache and unload as necessary;
(4) Coordinate personnel & equipment transport; and
(5) Ensure completion of appropriate paperwork for lost or damaged equipment.

**Standard 3.4.9.2**
The US&R Resource Logistics Section shall facilitate maintenance and security of the BoO.
Standard 3.4.9.3
The US&R Resource Logistics Section shall identify the BoO site, and initiate and supervise the BoO setup, including establishing and maintaining the following:
   (1) Landing zone;
   (2) Toilet facilities;
   (3) Showers;
   (4) Hand washing stations;
   (5) Messing area;
   (6) Sleeping area; and
   (7) Canine feeding and relief areas.

Standard 3.4.9.4
The US&R Resource Logistics Manager shall establish and staff a forward BoO, when appropriate.

Standard 3.4.9.5
The US&R Resource Logistics Manager shall ensure all required documentation/forms are completed and turned into the planning section in a timely manner.

Standard 3.4.9.6
The US&R Resource Logistics Manager shall attend planning meetings and briefings, stay informed of the incident objectives, and anticipate logistical needs during changing conditions.

Standard 3.4.9.7
The US&R Resource Logistics Manager shall maintain health and welfare of assigned personnel and monitor personnel for performance and factors that influence it including stress, fatigue, feeding, hydration, etc.

Standard 3.4.9.8
The US&R Resource Logistics Manager shall ensure personnel comply with the accountability processes and procedures and maintain accountability of assigned personnel.

Standard 3.5: Demobilization (Capability 5)

Standard 3.5.1
The US&R Resource shall prepare a Demobilization Plan that includes the following:
   (1) Appropriate agency notifications, as needed;
   (2) Deployment planning wrap-up;
   (3) AHJ Closeout information;
   (4) Cache repackaging; and
   (5) Clean-up of the BoO Site.

Standard 3.5.2
The US&R Resource shall prepare a Transportation Plan from POA to Point of Departure (POD).

Standard 3.5.3
The US&R Resource shall provide documentation outlining a process for rehabilitation of personnel and equipment to include the following:
(1) Post mission personnel rehabilitation to include the following:
   (1) Medical Screening and Follow-up where appropriate (workman’s comp, exposures, etc.);
   (2) Post Mission Incident Stress Debriefing; and
   (3) Time off until return to work.
(2) Post mission Cache rehabilitation to include the following:
   (1) Returning process of issued equipment and accountability of said equipment;
   (2) Documentation of lost or damaged equipment;
   (3) Timeline to include steps for:
      1. Purchasing Consumables;
      2. Lost Damage Equipment;
      3. Cleaning Equipment; and
      4. Returning cache to a state of readiness.

Standard 3.5.4
The US&R Resource shall produce documentation based on the exercise demonstrating the Resource’s process for the following:
   (1) Improvement Planning;
   (2) After-Action Reporting; and
   (3) Reimbursements