ESF-9 SEARCH AND RESCUE

ESF Coordinator:
Loudoun County Fire and Rescue

Section:
Operations

Branch:
Public Safety

Groups:
Fire, Hazmat & SAR
Law Enforcement

Primary Agencies:
Loudoun County Fire and Rescue
Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

Community Lifeline(s):
Safety and Security

INTRODUCTION

Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF)-9 Search and Rescue provides guidance and direction regarding the locating, rescuing, and/or recovering lost, missing, stranded, or trapped persons.

Scope

ESF-9 Search and Rescue coordinates the resources necessary to locate, rescue, and/or recover lost, missing, stranded, or trapped persons. Activities within the scope of ESF-9 functions include: monitors and reports conditions and coordinates and establishes priorities regarding the response to a search and rescue incident.

For the purpose of this document, search and rescue includes, but is not limited to: structural collapse, waterborne, and inland/wilderness search and rescue.

Relevant Laws, Statutes, Plans, and Policies

‣ Loudoun County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Policies and Procedures Guide

ESF Planning Assumptions

‣ Search and rescue missions with an investigative and/or criminal component and will be coordinated by the appropriate law enforcement agency.

‣ Search and rescue missions involving urban search and rescue or technical rescue will be coordinated by the Combined Fire and Rescue System.

▸ A number of mutual aid agreements exist and are available to assist in search and rescue missions.

▸ Emergency calls for service and routine resource requests are managed by the Loudoun County Emergency Communications Center. Unique or unusual resource requests may be routed to the EOC.

ORGANIZATION

ESF Responsibilities

▸ Reports to and takes direction from the Public Safety Branch Director.

▸ Provides informational updates to the Planning Section.

▸ Develops plans, policies, and procedures necessary to resolve search and rescue issues during the significant event.

▸ Documents information and actions related to search and rescue missions and assignments.

▸ Utilizes current methods and procedures to process requests for assistance.

▸ Submits a detailed record of costs and expenditures to the Finance and Administration Section.

Agency Roles and Responsibilities

Loudoun County Fire and Rescue (LCFR)

▸ The agency recognized with ESF coordination and primary responsibility. LCFR is responsible for the overall ESF leadership and coordination associated with non-law enforcement related search and rescue responses during a significant event.

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office (LCSO)

▸ Serves as the department with primary responsibility for law enforcement related search and rescue missions. LCSO is responsible for the overall ESF leadership and coordination associated with law enforcement related search and rescue responses during a significant event.

MISSIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Mission 1: Manages the resources necessary to locate, rescue, and/or recover lost, missing, stranded, or trapped persons.

Assignment 1-1: Maintains and updates information related to staffing of search and rescue response resources.

Assignment 1-2: Identifies, prioritizes, procures, and allocates available resources to maintain adequate search and rescue operations.

Assignment 1-3: Considers future (in the subsequent 12 to 24-hour period) resource requirements and conveys to EOC leadership.

Mission 2: Provides situational updates regarding search and rescue response.

Assignment 2-1: Reports any damage to search and rescue equipment and any injuries sustained by staff.

Mission 3: Coordinates and establishes priorities regarding search and rescue missions.

Assignment 3-1: Assesses search and rescue activities and identifies prioritized staffing scenarios and unmet resource requirements.

COMMUNITY LIFELINE(S)

Safety and Security

Refer to ESF 4 Firefighting

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