

ESF 9 - Search & Rescue

Coordinating Agency:

Newton Fire/EMS Department

Primary Agency:

Newton Fire/EMS Department

Support Agencies:

Adjutant Adjutant General's Office, Kansas National Guard
Adjutant General's Office, Kansas Civil Air Patrol
Adjutant General's Office, Kansas Division of Emergency Management
Burrton CFD #5
Burrton Police Department
Halstead Fire/EMS Department
Halstead Police Department
Harvey County Communications
Harvey County Emergency Management
Harvey County Fire District #1
Hesston Fire/EMS Department
Hesston Police Department
Kansas Division of Emergency Management
Kansas Highway Patrol
Kansas State Fire Marshal's Office
Newton Police Department
Sedgwick Fire/EMS Department
Sedgwick Police Department
Walton Police Department

I. Purpose and Scope

A. Purpose

1. The purpose of ESF 9 is to provide search and rescue services in support of emergency operations in Harvey County.

B. Scope

1. ESF 9 coordinates actions to provide search and rescue to support incident management and facilitate the response process. Specifically, ESF 9 supports local governments by supporting:
 - a. Searches and rescues rural areas for lost, missing, or endangered persons;
 - b. Waterborne searches and rescues in lakes, ponds, or rivers;
 - c. Searching for downed or missing aircraft; and

- d. Searches as a result of a structural collapse.

II. Concept of Operations

A. General

1. ESF 9 is organized consistent with the Harvey County EOC, the requirements of the National Response Framework, the National Incident Management System, and the Incident Command System. This structure and system supports incident assessment, planning, procurement, deployment, and coordination and support operations to Harvey County through the Harvey County Emergency Response Team, Area Operations and Regional Incident Management Teams (IMTs) to provide a timely and appropriate response to an emergency or situation.
2. Procedures, protocols and plans for disaster response activities are developed to govern staff operations at the Harvey County EOC and in the field. These are in the form of Emergency Operations Plan (i.e., Base Plan) and corresponding Appendices, Incident Annexes, Support Annexes and Standard Operating Guidelines, which describe ESF 9 capabilities. Periodic training and exercises are also conducted to enhance effectiveness.
3. In a large event requiring local or State mutual aid assistance, ESF 9 will work with its support agency counterparts to seek, procure, plan, coordinate and direct the use of required assets.
4. When an event is focused in scope to a specific type or response mode, technical and subject matter expertise may be provided by an appropriate person(s) from a supporting agency with skills pertinent to the type of event, who will advise and/or direct operations within the context of the Incident Command System structure.
5. Personnel and inventory lists are in possession of and maintained by Newton Fire/EMS.
6. Search and Rescue Capabilities. In the event, the structures are deemed unsafe for entry, Task Force 5 will be deployed for shoring operations to allow for search and rescue operations.

Rescue Teams

Newton Fire/EMS have highly trained and technically skilled personnel in the rescue field. These agencies respond daily to events such as vehicle accidents and are called to Burrton CFD #5, Halstead, Hesston, Sedgwick and Harvey County District #1 . Specialized rescue capabilities within or available to Harvey County include:

•Swift Water

Incidents involving water rescues in deep water or flash flood areas are directed to the Water Rescue Team members from Newton Fire/EMS. Members from these two teams are available for all of Harvey County, but due to the size of the county and the possibility of an event that would affect multiple jurisdictions; a large-scale event would quickly deplete this resource. Additional assistance can be requested through other member departments of Task Force 5 or through a request for resources through the FORCE group.

- High Angle

Incident involving high angle rescue are directed to Newton Fire/EMS. Additional assistance can be obtained from other member departments of Task Force 5.

- Aerial

Harvey County can call upon the services of a private airplane vendor, the City of Wichita and the Kansas Highway Patrol to provide assistance for aerial search and rescue activities.

- Collapsed Structures

All fire departments in Harvey County are the first line of response for most rescue situations including vehicular extractions, collapsed buildings and trench collapse. The Rescue Teams from Newton Fire/EMS are called upon to provide heavy rescue, additional manpower and equipment. The local fire departments provide the initial size up of the situation as well as the initial triage. The Fire Officer on scene will assume the role of Incident Commander, direct the response of additional manpower and equipment as needed and direct the shut off of utilities such as gas or power at the scene. Additional resources can be obtained from additional member departments of Task Force 5. In the event, the incident exceeds the resources available through TF5, requests for assistance will be made to additional Task Forces within the state.

- Urban

Cases involving missing persons or fugitives are the responsibility of law enforcement who may call upon fire departments within Harvey County for assistance of search efforts. The closest search and rescue dogs teams available are through the Kansas Search and Rescue Dog Association (913-735-9727) K-9 assistance is available through the Sedgwick County Emergency Management Agency.

- K-9

K-9 search assistance may be obtained by contacting the Kansas Search and Rescue Dog Association (913-735-9727). Their capabilities include, 13 operational K9 teams, along with over 30 operational foot searchers ready to report throughout the State of Kansas. KSARDA can provide K9s trained in wilderness search, water search, HRD remains search, and disaster (collapsed structure) search. K-9 Search and Rescue of Kansas (K-9 SARK) assistance can be obtained for the areas of ground searching, tracking, search management and search dog handling.

7. TF5 is self sufficient for up to 48 hours. However, that self sufficiency is based on the actual member departments providing their members with the necessities for self sustainment. For us to demonstrate how we would sustain search & rescue operations for the initial 72 hours, our approach would be to rely on the member departments of TF5 to provide the needed resources to sustain themselves for the first 48 hours then for Harvey County to provide the needed supplies and/or finances to carry them over another 24 to meet the 72 hours. SCKUSAR shall respond to any request for technical rescue services received, as resources are available, by any Fire/Rescue/EMS agency head, or his designee, including any organized Incident Commander or Incident Management Team representative, within the Southcentral Kansas region (Region III). SCKUSAR will respond to other Kansas regions if formally requested by designated agents of the State of Kansas. SCKUSAR may be accessed via the FORCE/MERGE toll-free number @ 800-435-7573 (800-HELPKS3).

8. Recovering Victims

Recovering Victims-Law enforcement, under the direction of the Harvey County Coroner, will record where deceased victims were found. Law enforcement, under the direction of the Sheriff or local Police Chief, will account for and secure evidence and personal belongings.

- Victims with no injuries will be released from the scene either to themselves or a responsible party (i.e. parent/guardian). In the event, of a potential crime scene, victims with no injuries will be referred to Law Enforcement representatives on scene. At a minimum, contact information will be obtained for all victims prior to them being released from the scene.

- Injured victims will be transferred to a triage area to be screened for treatment and transport. Transport will be coordinated by local EMS. In the event the needs exceed local resources, mutual aid will be utilized or MERGE will be contacted for assistance in providing additional ambulances and personnel.

- Fatality victims

Crime Scenes: Fatality Victims will be discreetly covered and left in place until the body is either released by law enforcement or arrangements are made by law enforcement to transfer the body for further crime scene processing.

Non-crime Scenes: A temporary morgue will be set up at the scene at a location deemed appropriate by on scene medical personnel. Once all injured victims are treated and transported by EMS, the transfer of bodies to the appropriate receiving facilities will be handled as set out in ESF 8-Public Health and Medical Services.

- Partial remains will be left in place until released by law enforcement or arrangements are made by law enforcement to transfer the remains to an appropriate facility for crime scene processing. If the remains are released at the scene, coordination of movement of the remains to the appropriate receiving facility will be made as set out in ESF 8 -Public Health and Medical Services.

8. Vulnerable needs

Certain facilities contain vulnerable populations that have the potential to pose unique problems during disaster situations. These include: care facilities, assisted living

center, independent living facilities, schools, hospital and day care facilities. Each facility should

have their own emergency plan. Fire departments will assist each of these agencies/facilities

to implement their plan based on the situation. If an evacuation is in order, fire department

personnel will assist in the implementation of the agencies' specific plan. In the event, the

structures are deemed unsafe for entry, Task Force 5 will be deployed for shoring operations to

allow for search and rescue operations.

Rescue Teams

Newton Fire/EMS have highly trained and technically skilled personnel in the rescue field. These agencies respond daily to events such as vehicle accidents and are called to assist the volunteer agencies from the following fire departments:

Burton CFD #5, Halstead, Hesston, Sedgwick and Harvey County District #1 .

Specialized rescue capabilities within or available to Harvey County include:

- Swift Water

Incidents involving water rescues in deep water or flash flood areas are directed to the Water

Rescue Team members from Newton Fire/EMS.

Members from these two teams are available for all of Harvey County, but due to the size of the county and the possibility of an event that would affect multiple jurisdictions; a large-scale event would quickly deplete this resource. Additional assistance can be requested through other member departments of Task Force 5 or through a request for resources through the FORCE group.

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including vehicular extractions, collapsed buildings and trench collapse. The Rescue Teams

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remains search, and disaster (collapsed structure) search. K-9 Search and Rescue of Kansas (K-9 SARK) assistance can be obtained for the areas of ground searching, tracking, search management and search dog handling.

B. Direction and Control

1. The ESF 9 Coordinating Agency is Newton Fire/EMS Department which is appointed by the Harvey County Emergency Management , in coordination with local planning partners. The staff serving as ESF 9 Coordinator is appointed by and located in the Newton Fire/EMS Department . When ESF 9 support is necessary, the ESF 9 Coordinator coordinates all aspects of ESF 9.
2. ESF 9 complies with the National Response Framework, and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The NIMS guides the direction and control system adopted by the Harvey County Emergency Management , which functions as the official disaster prevention, protection, response, preparedness, recovery, and mitigation organization within Harvey County.
3. The ESF 9 may operate at two levels: 1) Harvey County EOC; and 2) Field operations
4. During emergency activations, all management decisions regarding search and rescue for Harvey County are made at the Harvey County EOC by the ESF 9 coordinator. Under the Incident Command System structure, the Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration, and Operations Sections at the Harvey County EOC assist the incident commander in carrying out the overall mission.
5. In accordance with a mission assignment from ESF 9, each primary and/or support organization assisting ESF 9 will retain administrative control over its own resources and personnel, but will be under the operational control of ESF 9. Delegation of mission operational control may be delegated to the field by the Harvey County EOC.

C. Organization

1. County
 - a. During an activation of the Harvey County EOC, primary and support agency staff is integrated with the Newton Fire/EMS Department staff to provide support.
 - b. During an emergency or disaster event, the Harvey County EOC Operations Section Chief will coordinate resource support with the Emergency Services Branch Chief.
 - c. During the response phase, ESF 9 will evaluate and analyze information regarding search and rescue requests. Also, ESF 9 will develop and

update assessments of the search and rescue status in the impact area and do contingency planning to meet anticipate demands and needs.

- d. The Newton Fire/EMS Department will develop and maintain ESF 9 and accompanying Appendices, Annexes and Standard Operating Guidelines that govern response actions related to emergencies. However support agencies may develop and maintain their own similar documents for internal use, which must be compatible with and in support of the overall Emergency Operations Plan. All such documents will be in compliance with the National Response Framework, The National Incident Management System, the Incident Command System and the Harvey County Emergency Operations Plan.

2. State of Kansas

- a. During an activation of the State of Kansas EOC, the Kansas Division of Emergency Management is the designated lead agency for search and rescue and will provide a liaison to facilitate requests for State search and rescue resources to local Emergency Operations Centers.
- b. During an emergency or disaster event, the primary and support agencies of ESF 9 at the State of Kansas EOC will report to the Emergency Services Branch Chief who reports to the Response Section Chief under the overall direction of the SEOC manager.
- c. The Kansas Division of Emergency Management develops and maintains the overall ESF 9 Emergency Operations Plan and accompanying Appendices, annexes and Standard Operating Guidelines that govern response actions related to emergencies. However support agencies may develop and maintain their own similar documents for internal use, which must be compatible with and in support of the overall Emergency Operations Plan. All such documents will be in compliance with the National Response Framework, the National Incident Management System, the Incident Command System and the Harvey County Emergency Operations Plan.

D. Alerts and Notifications

1. The Newton Fire/EMS Department and/or Harvey County Emergency Management will notify the County Warning Point (Harvey County EOC) when information comes to their attention indicating that an emergency or disaster situation is developing.
2. The County Warning Point (Harvey County EOC), will notify the “on call” Emergency Duty Officer and/or ESF Coordinator for ESF 9 when Harvey County has been threatened or impacted by an emergency or disaster event as provided in the County Warning Point procedure.
3. ESF 9 will be activated or placed on standby upon notification by the Harvey County EOC. The representatives or designees of the coordinating agency will

manage the emergency activities of ESF 9. If additional support is required, the ESF 9 coordinating and primary agencies may jointly manage ESF 9 activities.

4. Upon instructions to activate or placement of ESF 9 on standby, Newton Fire/EMS Department will implement procedures to notify all ESF 9 planning team members and, if necessary, mobilize all personnel, facilities, and physical resources likely to be needed, based on the emergency circumstances.

E. Actions

1. Actions carried out by ESF 9 are grouped into phases of emergency management: Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Mitigation. Each phase requires specific skills and knowledge to accomplish the tasks and requires significant cooperation and collaboration between all ESF 9 agencies and the intended recipients of service.

| Overall Actions Assigned to All Members | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Preparedness (Pre-Event) Actions for ESF 9 - Search & Rescue</i> | |
| 1 | Maintain a central personnel roster, contact, and resource lists to support ESF-9 tasks. |
| 2 | Identify who is responsible for initial notification of ESF-9 personnel. |
| 3 | Identify responsibilities for liaison roles with state and adjacent county SAR officials. |
| 4 | Develop standard operating guides and checklists to support ESF-9 activities. |
| 5 | Train personnel on EOC operation, the Incident Command System (ICS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). |
| 6 | Collect, process, and disseminate information to and from the EOC. |
| 7 | Develop and maintain ESF-9 Annex. |
| 8 | Participate in training, drills, and exercises |
| 9 | Develop mutual aid and other support agreements with surrounding jurisdictions and the private sector. |
| 10 | Identify search and rescue sustainment needs for incidents less than 72 hours and greater than 72 hours. |
| 11 | Identify guidance on handling vulnerable populations as is necessary to search and rescue operations. |

| Overall Actions Assigned to All Members | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Response (During Event) Actions for ESF 9 - Search & Rescue</i> | |
| 1 | Designate personnel to coordinate ESF-9 activities in EOC. |
| 2 | Manage the collection, processing, and dissemination of information between ESF-9 and EOC or incident command. |
| 3 | Provide field support for emergency responders at the scene. |
| 4 | Participate in EOC briefings, incident action plans, situation reports and meetings to support ESF9. |
| 5 | Transport victims to emergency treatment centers, mass casualty centers, or fatality collection points. |
| 6 | Coordinate fatality information with other agencies and provide documentation as available. |
| 7 | Coordinate the activation of mutual aid agreements. |

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|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8 | Coordinate with search and rescue elements responding from outside the jurisdiction. |
| 9 | Alert or activate off-duty and auxiliary personnel as required by the emergency. |

| Overall Actions Assigned to All Members | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Recovery (Post Event) Actions for ESF 9 - Search & Rescue</i> | |
| 1 | Continue to perform tasks necessary to expedite restoration and recovery operations. |
| 2 | Return borrowed resources and those obtained through agreement, lease, or rental when those resources are no longer required. |
| 3 | Evaluate response and recommend changes to ESF-9 Annex to correct shortfalls and improve future response activities. |
| 4 | Provide documentation for possible financial reimbursement process for recovery activities. |
| 5 | Participate in after action meetings and prepare after action reports as requested. |
| 6 | Provide assistance in initial needs assessment and augment search and rescue operations. |
| 7 | Clean, replenish, repair, and perform maintenance on all equipment before returning to normal operations or storage. |

| Overall Actions Assigned to All Members | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Mitigation Actions for ESF 9 - Search & Rescue</i> | |
| 1 | Participate in the hazard identification process and identify and correct vulnerabilities. |
| 2 | Participate in mitigation planning team meetings and work with local emergency management to promote community preparedness. |
| 3 | Provide ESF-9 representative for update of mitigation plan. |

III. Responsibilities

- A. The following list identifies the responsibilities designated to each agency/organization for this ESF. The Coordinating and Primary Agency and their responsibilities are listed first. The Supporting Agencies follow in alphabetical order.

No Responsibilities have been assigned.

IV. Financial Management

- A. ESF 9 is responsible for coordinating with Harvey County Administration to manage ESF 9 expenses relevant to an event.
- B. During a response, each agency/department funds disaster operations from their current operating budget and are responsible for recording and tracking agency expenditures. If a federally declared disaster exists, each agency is responsible for seeking reimbursement in accordance to the formula has established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency via the FEMA/State Agreement.

- C. Expenditures by support entities will be documented by those entities and submitted directly to the Harvey County Administration or a designated Finance Service officer as soon as possible.

V. References and Authorities

REFERENCES

AUTHORITIES

