

ANNEX J

Search and Rescue

I. PURPOSE

This annex is intended to provide a basis from which trained and equipped rescue responders will have the capability to perform effectively during extraordinary conditions. Their duties will include the location, identification and removal from the stricken area: survivors, the injured in need of medical treatment and decontamination, the marooned and the dead.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. Reference Paragraph II. A., Basic Plan.
2. East Baton Rouge Parish, by virtue of its geographic location, may be subject to severe structural damages from floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, industrial plant disasters, water related disaster and national security threat, which would result among other things in persons being trapped in damaged and collapsed structures, missing persons and the dead.

B. Assumptions

1. Reference Paragraph II B, Basic Plan.
2. An organized, trained and well equipped search and rescue capability within East Baton Rouge Parish is needed as an effective means by which to minimize loss of life to the general public.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. Reference Paragraph III, Basic Plan.
2. Day-to-Day Rescue Operations

All of East Baton Rouge Parish's emergency response agencies assist in providing 24 hour a day response support capability in the area of fire safety and law enforcement throughout the Parish.

3. Volunteer Search and Rescue Assistance

The day-to-day rescue force in East Baton Rouge Parish is augmented by volunteers and auxiliary units working in association with established emergency response agencies. Under the direction and control of established parish emergency response agencies these volunteers or auxiliary members are capable of assisting in search and rescue operations within the parish.

Volunteers search and rescue personnel responding will be managed by their own in-house chain of command in affiliation with prior established emergency response agencies, who will generally oversee that operation control is maintained throughout the duration of the search and rescue operation. All participating units will coordinate their efforts through the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office, the chief law enforcement agency within East Baton Rouge Parish.

4. National Security Threats

The technical competence and ready availability of the rescue force will be augmented during national security threats by mobilizing additional skills in medical, building trades, engineering services, heavy equipment operation, communications, air support (rotary and fixed wing aircraft) and water (divers and surface vessels).

5. Natural Disaster and Technological Hazards

The day-to-day rescue capability will be augmented by the Parish's existing emergency response agencies capable of search and rescue operations, supported by volunteers when necessary, during natural and technological disasters to the extent necessary to eliminate the problem(s) at hand. Operations of this nature may also require the mobilization of medical personnel, building trades, engineering services, heavy equipment operations, mutual aid and military support.

B. Phases of Emergency Management

1. Prevention

- a. Create a list of available resources required for performing search and rescue function.
- b. Create a public awareness campaign to inform residents of dangers of staying at home when ordered to evacuate.

2. Mitigation

In addition to continuous plan review and updating, public awareness programs have been developed, and are in further development, in an effort to reduce

accidents on land and water. (On-board inspections of vessels are made at regular intervals by the U.S. Coast Guard).

3. Preparedness

- a. East Baton Rouge Parish Rescue Units and Emergency Medical Technicians are trained on a regular basis in rescue skills and techniques by the responsible controlling agency or organization.
- b. Rescue equipment is tested and maintained by the responsible agency or organization. Rescue equipment is repaired by qualified and capable unit personnel or by the manufacturer in order to maintain the integrity of the equipment in question.
- c. Emergency response plans are revised at regular intervals and updated accordingly by the personnel of the East Baton Rouge Parish Mayor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness (MOHSEP).
- d. Individual Search and Rescue Unit Standard Operating Guidelines (S.O.G.) should be subject to annual update and revision. When deficiencies are noted during an actual emergency implementation, steps should be taken to change/correct or otherwise amend the deficient portion of the S.O.G. as soon as possible, following the termination of the emergency situation.

4. Response

Services provided by rescue groups include but are not limited to:

- a. Initiation of search and rescue missions as necessary.
- b. Traffic and perimeter control as needed.
- c. Evacuation and relocation as required.
- d. Emergency Operations Center (EOC) coordination as appropriate.
- e. Mobilization of support activities as needed.
- f. Administering emergency first aid.

5. Recovery

- a. Public information activities.
- b. Initiate return to normalcy when mission is completed.
- c. Inventory and replace losses.

- d. Secure and return to regular duty(s).

IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Reference Paragraph IV. A., Basic Plan.

B. Coordination

- _____1. Normal day-to-day rescue managed through the appropriate dispatcher by the designated on-scene commander.
- _____2. A State of Emergency will be managed by the designated on-scene commander and the EOC.

C. Operations

- _____1. Within East Baton Rouge Parish, the Baton Rouge Fire Department and the Parish Volunteer Fire Departments as well as local law enforcement agencies are assigned responsibility for day-to-day search and rescue operations.
- _____2. Volunteer search and rescue assistance is sometimes requested for water related incidents within the parish, to include boating mishaps, missing persons and downed aircraft situations.
- _____3. Motor vehicle transportation support is provided by any and all of East Baton Rouge Parish's emergency response agencies.

D. Resource Base Support

In the event that a search and rescue operation might exceed the capability of local emergency response personnel, the parish search and rescue agencies/organizations will contact other agencies including Louisiana State Police, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, U.S. Coast Guard, Civil Air Patrol, Port Commission of Greater Baton Rouge, and Department of Environmental Quality for additional equipment and/or personnel support. Additional support may be provided by Southeast Louisiana Search and Rescue. (See Appendices 3 and 4.)

V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

A. During extraordinary conditions, direction and control of the total rescue force is the primary responsibility of the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office. In the event of such a condition, all emergency responses requiring rescue operations and additional resource support will be channeled through the Sheriff's Office.

- B. Direction and Control for search and rescue operations within East Baton Rouge Parish may be coordinated by either a single department or may be conducted as a joint venture involving more than one agency or rescue group.

VI. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

Reference Section VI, Basic Plan.

VII. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

- A. Reference paragraph VII, Basic Plan.
- B. The **MOHSEP** ~~East Baton Rouge Parish Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness~~ staff will be responsible for coordinating with representatives from all affected search and rescue groups in order to insure that necessary updates and structural changes are made.

VIII. PLAN GOVERNMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- A. Reference paragraph VIII., Basic Plan.
- B. The primary responsibility for the development and maintenance of this annex rests with **MOHSEP** ~~the East Baton Rouge Parish Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness~~.

Support will be provided by representatives from parish fire departments, law enforcement agencies and other emergency response agencies to include volunteer units and auxiliary personnel from within East Baton Rouge Parish.

IX. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

- A. State and Parish Authority
 - 1. Refer to Basic Plan.
 - 2. Louisiana Disaster Assistance Act of 1993.
 - 3. Any other which may apply now or in the future.
- B. References
 - SM14.2 Rescue Skills and Techniques (formerly FC-1-11,1) DCPA.

CPG 1-6, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 1981, Disaster Operations, Washington, D.C.

Federal Emergency Management Agency, 1979, Local Government Emergency Planning, CPG 1-8, Washington, D.C.

APPENDICES TO ANNEX J

- 1) Search and Rescue Organizational Chart
- 2) Fire and Rescue Equipment Locations
- 3) South East Louisiana Search and Rescue (SELSAR)
- 4) South East Louisiana Search and Rescue Call Out Policy and Procedure