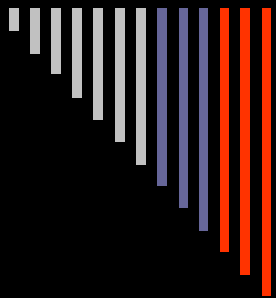




Disaster Response ESF 9

Thomas B Miner

**White IST Leader National US&R
System.**



Thomas Miner

- FEMA US&R Program Manager WATF 1 Ret.
- FEMA US&R IST Leader
- Retired Major Pierce County Sheriff Dept.
- 38 years SAR experience
- ICS Instructor



US&R

- Urban Search & Rescue is the process of locating, extricating and providing medical treatment to victims trapped as a result of structural collapses and other natural or man-made catastrophes



ESF 9 Disaster Response

- Katrina example
 - Mississippi 5 ask Forces + IST
 - Louisiana 5 Task Forces + IST
 - 240 pre-staged trucks, (Food, Water, Ice)
- Catastrophic Earthquake plan
 - 9 US&R Task forces
 - 2 IST's



FEMA ESF 9 US&R

- 28 type 1 US&R Task Forces
- 3 Incident Support Teams

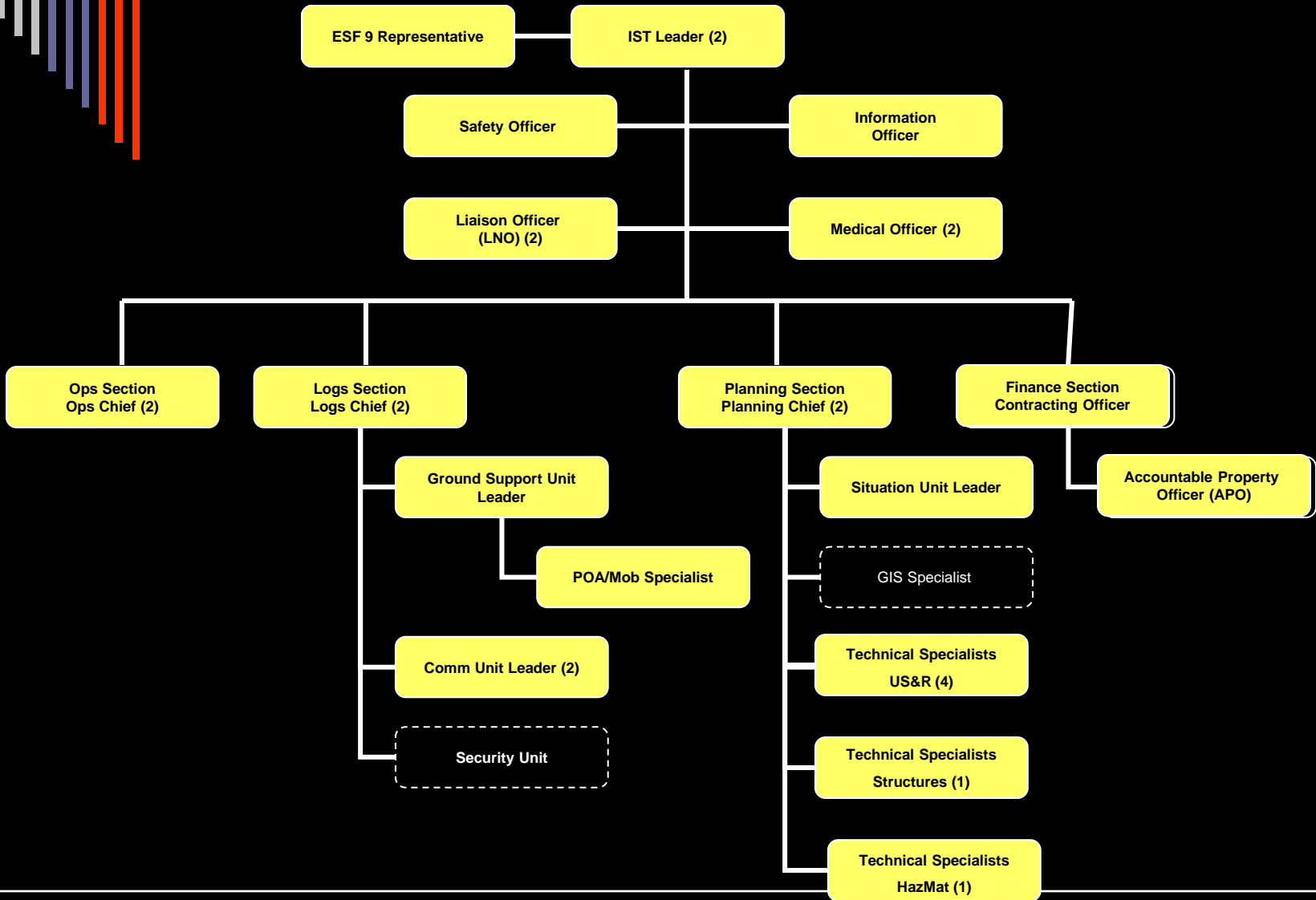
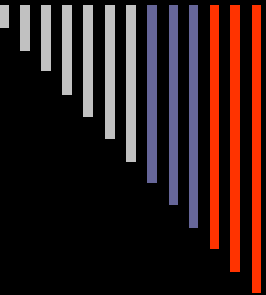
US&R Response System Task Forces



Incident Support Team

- 3 standing teams (Red, White, Blue)
- On call 1 out of 3 months
- 2 hour response time
- Requires Activation Order from NRCC
- May be pre-staged prior to state request
- Must have ARF from affected state to go operational





Primary Functions of US&R IST

- ❑ Interact with State and local authority
- ❑ Manage and coordinate all ESF #9 US&R resources assigned
- ❑ Provide local officials with technical assistance and advice on US&R Operations





Comprehensive Planning

- US&R IST performs strategic-level planning for deployed federal US&R assets and others assigned to it
 - US&R IST produces an ESF 9 Operational Action Plan (OAP) for each operational period
 - Incident objectives are derived from local IC and IAP
 - FEMA objectives come from the IMAT/RRCC
-

US&R Support Requirements

- Local contact and location
- Mission
- Base of Operations
- Air
- Boat



Civics Lesson

- ❑ Disasters are local responsibility
- ❑ County / locals request assistance from state
- ❑ State requests assistance from FEMA and mission tasks to locals
- ❑ FEMA provides resources to states
- ❑ Locals are responsible for distribution and utilization of commodities
- ❑ Feds cannot freelance or distribute without tasking from state
- ❑ Feds cannot and will not take over unless asked by state government
- ~~❑ Feds can only suggest solutions~~
- ❑ National Guard is a state asset



ESF 9 Missions

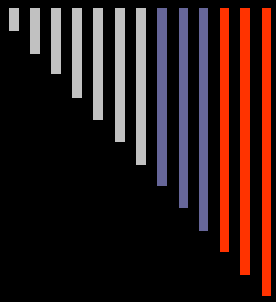
- Recon / Damage Assessment
- Structural Collapse Rescue / Recovery
- Technical /K9 Search
- Wide Area Search
- SMART Search
- Evacuation Vulnerable Populations



False Expectations

- ❑ Public expects government to have answers
- ❑ Public does not understand disaster response
- ❑ Public believes they will be given water and ice and fuel because it has been promised repeatedly
- ❑ Government has promised that they are prepared and there is a plan in place for everything
- ❑ There are people just waiting somewhere to respond
- ❑ FEMA is a large Federal Agency with thousands of responders
- ❑ There are warehouses full of supplies





Public

- ❑ Do not take warnings seriously
- ❑ Do not hear warnings/ too many warnings
- ❑ Complacent
- ❑ Unrealistic expectations
- ❑ 3 days supply not enough
- ❑ Primary needs, water, ice, food, shelter, fuel, generators.



Priorities, which one first?

- Life safety, of course!
- Evacuation?
- Search and rescue, certainly??????
- Power?
- Food? Water? Ice?
- Sanitation?
- Hazmat?
- Shelters?
- Debris clearing?
- Phones?
- Staging?
- Public Information?



Disaster Reality?

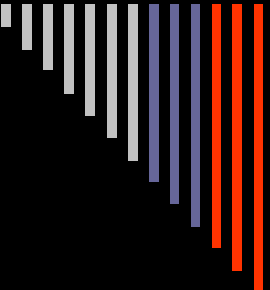
- ❑ 72 hours is inadequate/ 10 days!
- ❑ Be realistic with expectations
- ❑ Expect confusion
- ❑ Cannot plan for all eventualities
- ❑ Must have flexibility to adapt to change
- ❑ Must have authority to make decisions





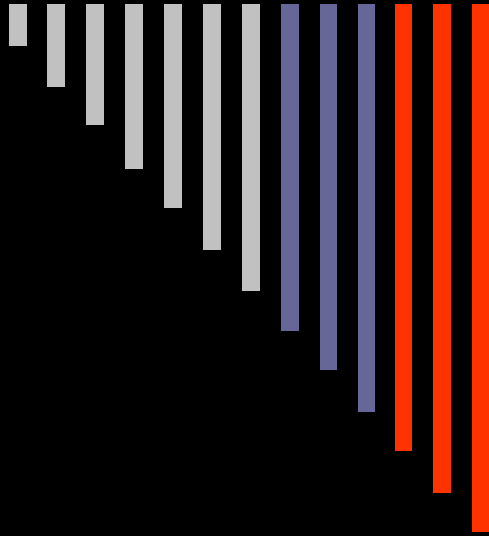
10 questions to answer

- Who is in charge
 - What resources are left and available
 - How will you communicate
 - How will you manage the media
 - How do you get the word out to the public
 - Will the public do what you say
 - What is the hospital capacity
 - Do you have a support plan for staff and employees.
 - Are you ready for secondary impacts
 - Are you flexible
-



Critical issues in disaster response

- ❑ Understanding and using ICS
 - ❑ Building relationships
 - ❑ Breaking down turf, ego and barriers
 - ❑ Capability to receive outside help
 - ❑ Understanding the Federal Supply System (how do you get stuff)
 - ❑ Political officials understanding their role
 - ❑ Use of local and social media
-



Questions?

