

CT Capitol Region RED Plan – ESF 9 Annex

Questions, comments, and copies of the RED Plan can be obtained by contacting email address: whaustin@westhartford.org or consulting the CRCOG website at www.crcog.org

Regional Emergency Support Function # 9: Urban Search and Rescue

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PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

Regional Coordinating Organizations

- Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee (CREPC) of the Capitol Region Council of Governments
- Capitol Region Fire Chiefs Association
- Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency (CCRPA)

Federal Government Urban Search and Rescue Organizations

- U. S. Fire Administration
- Department of Homeland Security
- United States Coast Guard

Connecticut State Urban Search and Rescue Organizations

- Connecticut Department of the Military
- Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Police, CT-1 USAR
- State Fire Marshal’s Office
- Connecticut Fire Academy
- Connecticut Department Emergency Management and Homeland Security

Local and Private Organizations

- Local fire department technical rescue teams
- Area animal rescue teams
- National Association for Search and Rescue

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose

The purpose of RESF 9 Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) is to facilitate communication and coordination concerning technical rescue capabilities during a major disaster in the Capitol Region.

B. Scope

RESF 9 is intended to focus on developing and implementing a regional disaster response capability for USAR. The system developed will be a component of the Capitol Region Emergency Deployment (RED) Plan as well as facilitating interaction with the state disaster plan, and National Response Plan.

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II. POLICIES

1. RESF 9 Urban Search and Rescue will not usurp or override the policies of any federal agency, state government, or local government or jurisdiction.
2. RESF 9 will support the Connecticut state USAR program.
3. The National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS) as taught by the National Fire Academy will be used.
4. CREPC will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure that RESF 9 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the RED Plan.
5. Essential information will be conveyed through the Regional Integrated Communication System (RICS) as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. RICS is available at **860-832-3477** twenty-four hours a day.
6. RESF 9 will function within its training parameters. Technical rescues include structural collapse, confined space incidents, trench rescue situations, surface water operations, dive operations, rope rescues, and ice rescue operations.

III SITUATION

A. Regional Emergency Condition

1. A regional emergency may adversely impact the urban search and rescue infrastructure throughout the region.
2. A major disaster/incident has occurred in the region. The situation requires the mobilization of USAR resources. Resource elements are being deployed in accordance with the regional and/or statewide response plan.

B. Planning Assumptions

1. Planning partners will include public and private organizations.
2. CREPC will not assume any command and control activities.
3. The RED Plan will promote inter-jurisdictional cooperation.
4. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction where the incident or event is occurring.
5. Local and standard mutual aid resources have been depleted.
6. Infrastructure damage and communications disruptions will inhibit efficient coordination of USAR operations during the immediate response and post-disaster period.

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7. The availability of personnel with language skills will be critical.
8. A large number of fire service providers may be lost in the incident.
9. USAR operations may impact the movement of relief supplies throughout the region.
10. The state emergency operation center (EOC) and/or RESF 5 Emergency Management at the regional coordination center (RCC) will be the point of contact for the purposes of coordinating USAR operations.

IV. CONCEPT OF COORDINATION

A. General

1. Upon the threat and/or occurrence of a regional incident, the RESF 9 will be notified.
2. Local municipalities will coordinate and execute their respective authority and program responsibilities during the regional emergency.
3. Support agencies will coordinate and execute their responsibilities as outlined under the RED Plan.
4. RESF 9 USAR will establish the ability to collect, analyze, synthesize, and disseminate information concerning regional firefighting related issues, in conjunction with RICS.
5. Requests for information regarding firefighting issues will be directed to RICS or directly to RESF 5 Emergency Management at the Regional Coordination Center (RCC).

B. Notification

Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual regional emergency, RICS will provide a communication platform (or system) to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. RESF 5 Emergency Management provides for the interaction of the multi-directional flow of communications.

The activation of RICS should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency's dispatcher) calls RICS at **860-832-3477** anytime 24/7 and requests **specific resources** (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the **activation of the RED Plan** where the RCC will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- RICS will broadcast the message over the "Intercity" radio frequency.
- RICS will notify the chairperson of each RESF on the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chairperson of RESF 5 Emergency Management or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 9 Urban Search and Rescue will call the ESF 5 Duty Officer and

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as for instructions.

- The Duty Officer for RESF 5 will determine the need to establish a Regional Coordination Center (RCC).
- The chair of RESF 9 shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of the emergency support function.

The radio designation for the chairperson of RESF 9 Urban Search and Rescue is **Unit 279**.

C. Coordination

Initial Actions

Coordinate with other RESF's to share information regarding the regional emergency. Provide periodic situation reports to RICS or directly to RESF 5 Emergency Management in the RCC.

Continuing Actions

Continue information sharing. Evaluate continuing needs. RESF 9 USAR will coordinate with RESF 4 Firefighting and RESF 2 Communications for communication and coordination issues regarding regional energy needs, including fuel.

RESF 9 will participate in development of an ongoing regional emergency specific Regional Action Plan, as required by law 29 CFR 1910.120 (Q) 2.

Stand Down

The demobilization process will follow IMS/ICS accepted practices

After Action Critique

CREPC will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all USAR/fire service agencies and supporting RESF's.

V. EXECUTION FOR REGIONAL EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 9

A. RESF 9 Participating and Supporting Agencies

USAR regional partners participating in a regional response will, to the best of their ability, contribute information to RICS as required by the incident and the Capitol Region Emergency Deployment Plan (RED) Plan policy.

B. Essential Elements of Information

1. One of the primary purposes of the RED Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among the various agencies during emergency situations. RESF 5 Emergency Management is responsible for exchange, analysis, reporting and dissemination of regional information. The RESF 5 annex contains detailed information about the process of information exchange and describes the essential elements of information (EEI), which have been determined as the minimum information to satisfy coordination needs between the RESF's and with RICS.

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2. In the event of a regional emergency, local, state, and regional USAR/fire service agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:
 - Jurisdictions involved
 - Overall priorities of response
 - Access points to emergency areas
 - Security procedures
 - Initial and continuing assessment of situation
 - Accountability procedures
 - Major issues affecting USAR
 - Resource shortfalls
 - Status of communication systems
 - Short-term and medium-term recovery plans
 - Status of resources, personnel, equipment, and facilities
 - Safety concerns
 - Radiological/chemical/biological hazards consultation and technical assistance, decontamination of victims and personnel
 - Logistical problems
 - Liability issues and concerns
 - Status of USAR operations
 - Injuries and medical emergencies in coordination with RESF 8

Mitigation phase

During the mitigation phase all USAR personnel will accomplish the following:

- Train on RED Plan activation and implementation.
- Train on NIMS/ICS protocols.
- Participate, as determined, in disaster exercise drills.
- Regional capabilities will be assessed.
- Regional equipment needs will be determined and requested.

Emergency phase

During the emergency phase, RESF 9 and **all** associated resources will be utilized to capacity as needed to control and stabilize the emergency. RESF 9 resources shall be utilized in any function, which will speed the recovery from the emergency incident within the parameters of their individual training and/or capabilities

Recovery phase

During the recovery phase, RESF 9 will continue to perform any associated emergency functions initiated during the emergency phase. Additionally, any associated function, which aids and speeds the recovery and stabilization of the impact community, will be performed.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR REGIONAL EMERGENCY SUPPORT

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FUNCTION 9

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 9 operations is contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- Departmental standard operating procedures, standard operating guidelines, training manuals, general orders, and policy directives.
- Emergency medical procedures will conform to guidelines issued by medical control authorities, RESF 8 guidance, the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS), hospital authorities, and public health authorities.
- RICS will be administered by and through CCSU (police department).
- Capitol Region MMRS Rapid Access Decontamination Protocol.
- Capitol Region MMRS Protocol for the Use of Nerve Agent Antidote Kits.
- “Plain language” text will be used in all regional communications.
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8: National Preparedness
- The 15 National Planning Scenarios
- Universal Task List
- Target Capabilities List (Version 2.0)