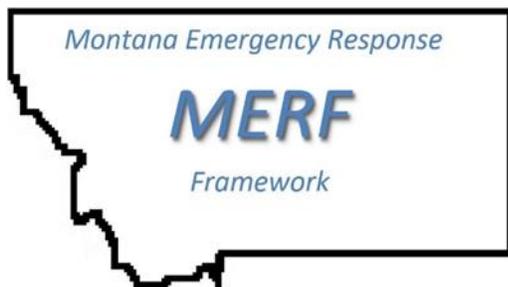


Emergency
Support
Function

2016

Annex # 9
Search & Rescue



Authorization & Concurrence:

This Annex is considered operational and serves as a guide for rendering assistance whenever the **Montana Emergency Response Framework** (MERF) is activated. It supersedes all previous editions.

Approved: _____

Date: _____

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Section I: Agencies

Coordinating Agency:

Montana Disaster & Emergency Services

Primary Agency:

Montana Disaster & Emergency Services

Support Agencies:

Montana Department of Military Affairs

Montana Highway Patrol

Montana Department of Transportation

Montana Fire Services Mutual Aid

Montana Sheriff's and Peace Officers Association

Montana Wing Civil Air Patrol

Section II: Purpose & Scope

Purpose:

While most disasters, emergencies and incidents are managed at the local and or tribal government level, MT DES is responsible for coordinating and supporting all-hazard emergency and disaster activities for the State of Montana. In that role, MT DES relies upon the assistance of its various ESF partners.

ESF #9 Annex is a provisional planning document that is subordinate to the Montana Emergency Response Framework (MERF) and is designed to be consistent with higher level plans including all of the National Planning Frameworks.

The purpose of this annex is to define the role of ESF #9 and to provide guidance and direction to SECC staff working with our ESF #9 partners to deliver coordinated response and recovery support. It is not intended to define or supplant Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG), or operational plans of any state department, county, tribe, organization, or business.

Scope:

Search and rescue is a statutory authority granted to the Sheriff of each county and codified in Montana Code Annotated 7 -32-2121. The State can assist the Sheriff with the use of State resources. Search and Rescue activities may include

- Structural Collapse Urban Search and Rescue
- Waterborne Search and Rescue
- Wilderness Search and Rescue
- Aeronautical Search and Rescue

Section III: Assumptions & Relationships

Assumptions

For the purpose of developing appropriate state-level responses within an all hazard environment, this annex is predicated on the following assumptions:

- A missing or lost person is always considered to be alive and in need of rescue until such time that a person of authority (such as the Sheriff) concludes that there is no chance of survival or support, including rescue and is no longer required.
- The safety of the rescue personnel is foremost in any operation
- Inclement weather may be a factor in any urban/technical search and rescue activity - restricting the types of resources to be used, the length of time they can be used and even the locations to be searched.
- Under some circumstances, the incident scene is also a crime scene and care must be taken to protect evidence.
- ESF #9 "Support Agency" partners may be asked to provide individuals to staff key positions at the SECC as needed.

Relationships

This section describes how ESF #2 relates to other elements of the whole community. Basic concepts that apply to all members of the whole community include:

Local, Tribal, & State Government

- The County Sheriff or his designee will assess the situation and determine if additional resources are needed for the Search and Rescue operation.
- All state assistance will be provided to the local Sheriff and will operate under the appropriate incident commander.
- DES may assist in coordination of additional resources if requested by the County Sheriff, his designee or the Incident Commander.
- As described in the MERF, the State Emergency Coordination Center (SECC) and consequently, Emergency Support Function #9 - Search and Rescue, may be activated at any one of five levels.
- In accordance with MT DES's "Coordinating Role" (MCA Title 10, Chapter 3, Part 105), DES is responsible to ensure there are trained and experienced staff to fill appropriate positions in the SECC. In order to support the broad mission of ESF #9, the SECC may choose to activate one or more of the other Montana ESFs. "Primary Agencies" (and, occasionally, "Support Agencies") may also be asked to send an "Agency Representative" to the SECC. Following the principles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the size and complexity of any event will determine the number of personnel operating in the SECC and which ESFs are staffed. Under certain circumstances, one individual or organization may be required to perform several functions.

- State-to-state SAR assistance is requested by the affected state through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). Other local SAR resources are requested by the affected locality through other mutual aid and assistance agreements. Non-Federal SAR resources are, as appropriate, incorporated into any coordinated SAR operations.

Section IV: Core Capabilities

The following table lists the Response core capability that ESF #9 most directly supports along with the related ESF #9 actions. Though not listed in the table, all ESFs, including ESF #9, support the core capabilities of Planning, Operational Coordination, and Public Information and Warning.

Core Capability	ESF #2 – Communications
<p style="text-align: center;">Mass Search & Rescue</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESF #9 is activated when an incident is anticipated or occurs that may result in a request for a unified SAR response to an affected area. • SAR responders assist and support local, state, tribal, territorial, and insular area SAR capabilities in incidents requiring a coordinated Federal response. No provision of this annex is to be construed as an obstruction to prompt and effective action by any agency to assist persons in distress. • The ESF #9 response is scalable to meet the specific needs of each incident, based upon the nature and magnitude of the event, the suddenness of onset, and the capability of local SAR resources. Response resources are drawn from ESF #9 primary and support agencies. • ESF #9 may operate under the Economy Act 1 when there is no Stafford Act declaration. • For every incident, the ESF #9 coordinator assesses the specific SAR requirements and assigns one of the four primary agencies as the overall primary agency for SAR for that particular incident. Designation is dependent upon incident circumstances and the type of response required. • When assigned as the overall primary agency for a particular incident, that organization conducts the following actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordinates planning and operations between primary and support agencies. ○ Coordinates resolution of conflicting operational demands for SAR response resources. ○ Provides representation to appropriate incident facilities (e.g. State SECC and local emergency operations centers [EOCs]). • All ESF #9 primary agencies provide support to the designated overall primary agency as required

Section V: Operational Functions

The County Sheriff or his designee will assess the situation and determine if additional resources are needed for the Search and Rescue operation. All state assistance will be provided to the local Sheriff and will operate under the appropriate incident commander.

DES may assist in coordination of additional resources if requested by the County Sheriff, his designee or the Incident Commander. As described in the MERF, the State Emergency Coordination Center (SECC) and consequently, Emergency Support Function #9 - Search and Rescue, may be activated at any one of five levels.

In accordance with MT DES's "Coordinating Role" (MCA Title 10, Chapter 3, Part 105), DES is responsible to ensure there are trained and experienced staff to fill appropriate positions in the SECC. In order to support the broad mission of ESF #9, the SECC may choose to activate one or more of the other Montana ESFs. "Primary Agencies" (and, occasionally, "Support Agencies") may also be asked to send an "Agency Representative" to the SECC. Following the principles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the size and complexity of any event will determine the number of personnel operating in the SECC and which ESFs are staffed. Under certain circumstances, one individual or organization may be required to perform several functions.

The following table lists the Response operational functions that ESF #9 primary agency and support agencies most directly supports:

Primary Agency	Operational Functions:
<p>Montana Disaster & Emergency Services</p>	<p>Coordinating Agency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate, activate, and direct State assets and capabilities to respond to an incident or hazard, and coordinate with local and tribal governments and other appropriate entities. • Work with all partners to develop coordinated interagency operational plans. • Coordinate operations, activation, and deployment of assessment assets. • Coordinate staffing at the SECC and, upon request, at Departmental Operations. • Centers for our ESF partners. <p>Primary Agency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MT DES, as the Primary Agency for ESF #9, will actively engage ESF partners in planning, training, and exercises to ensure an effective operation upon activation. • Ensure a common operating picture and shared situational awareness through effective planning and information management. • Provide logistic, incident management, and planning support.

Supporting Agencies	Operational Functions:
<p>All Support Agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide personnel to the SECC and/or JFO as requested to assist with ESF operations and provide situational and incident-specific information to ESF #9. All agencies, as directed, identify staff liaisons or points of contact (POCs) to provide technical and subject-matter expertise, information and staff support for operations within the purview of each agency. • Support agencies will maintain comprehensive and current plans and procedures identifying how they will execute the support functions for which they are responsible.
<p>Montana Department of Military Affairs</p>	<p>Montana Army National Guard: Montana Army National Guard assets are many and all of them will not be listed here. Request for those assets will be made thru DES. The assets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personnel • Air Support • Ground Vehicles • A Liaison for coordination with other military agencies • Various types of Equipment <p>Montana Air National Guard: Montana Air National Guard can provide Request for those assets will be made thru DES. The assets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aircraft • Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR)
<p>Montana Fire Services Mutual Aid</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon request may provide USAR (lite) • Rescue Equipment and other resources
<p>Montana Sheriff's and Peace Officers Association</p>	<p>County Sheriff's Offices will be able to provide the following from either their own resources or implementing Memorandum of Agreements/Understandings with other counties to provide the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Team to include Liaison and Search Coordinator/s o Computer aided programs for mapping purposes • Manpower for ground searches • Specialty craft : Watercraft Snowmobile/ATV/Rotary aviation asset • Animals: Search canines and Equestrian Teams o Radio equipment for members or teams of members • All personnel are uniformed for identification purposes and • Should be considered as Auxiliary Officers/Deputies during any search mission
<p>Montana Highway Patrol</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Events Support Unit (S.E.S.U.) provides up to 30 Troopers on short notice • Rotary aviation assets with Forward Looking • Infrared (FLIR) o Radio Technicians • Communications o Snow Cat for back country access

Supporting Agencies	Operational Functions:
<p>Montana Department of Transportation</p>	<p>Aeronautics Division:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missing and overdue aircraft. • Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) • Two fixed wing aircraft. • Becker direction finding receiver. • Fourteen district coordinators. • 300 volunteer pilots.
<p>Montana Wing Civil Air Patrol</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a Memorandum of Understanding with DES they may conduct Search and Rescue Missions to search for, locate and relieve a distress situation, including overdue aircraft • Attempt to locate Emergency Locator Transmitters and persons in distress • Conduct Airborne Photography flight to provide photographs of distress areas