

BUTLER COUNTY, KANSAS EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

ESF9-Search and Rescue

Planning Team

ESF Coordinator	Butler County Emergency Management
Primary Agency	Andover Police Department Benton Marshall Butler County Sheriff's Department El Dorado Police Department Frontier El Dorado Refinery Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks Leon Police Department Rose Hill Police Department Towanda Police Department
Support Agency	Andover Fire Rescue Augusta Department of Public Safety Butler County CERT Butler County GIS Butler County Heavy Rescue Squad Cowley County FD 2 - Atlanta Fire El Dorado Fire Department Fire District 10 - Burns Fire District 3 - Rose Hill Fire District 4 - Cassoday Fire District 5 - Rosalia Fire District 6 - Latham Fire District 7 - Benton Fire District 8 - Douglass Fire District 9 - Leon Potwin Fire Department Towanda Fire Department Whitewater River Consolidated Fire District
State Agency	Kansas Highway Patrol Kansas National Guard
Federal Agency	Federal USAR Dog Teams

Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) #9 provides guidance for the organization of Butler County resources to conduct life saving search and rescue operations. Specifically, ESF #9 discusses:

- Specialized search and rescue resources
- Agency roles and responsibilities
- State and Federal search and rescue resources
- Local coordination and liaison activities

The goal of search and rescue operations is to save the lives of people who are unable to ensure their own survival without assistance. Search and rescue activities include, but are not limited to:

- Locating, extricating and providing immediate medical assistance to victims trapped in collapsed or damaged structures
- Locating and assisting missing or trapped persons, vehicles, boats, and downed aircraft

Day-to-day rescue capability within the county and within the incorporated areas of the county will be augmented during natural/techological disasters to the extent necessary to eliminate or minimize the problem at hand. Operations may include the mobilization of medical personnel, building trades, engineering services, heavy equipment operation, aerial reconnaissance and military support.

In the case of a mass casualty incident, the primary directive for search and rescue will be to protect the responder, extract the living and finally, to recover the dead.

Scope

This ESF Annex is designed to provide a flexible organizational structure capable of meeting the varied requirements of many emergency scenarios with the potential to require activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and implementation of the Butler County Emergency Operations Plan (BCEOP).

ESF #9 is a functional annex to the BCEOP and to the extent possible, information contained in other sections of the EOP will not be repeated in this document.

Policies

ESF #9 applies to all agencies and organizations with assigned emergency responsibilities as described in the BCEOP.

Many of the agencies with ESF #9 responsibilities have existing emergency plans and procedures. ESF #9 is not designed to take the place of these plans, rather it is designed to complement and support the departmental staffing and procedures already in place.

Concept of Operations

General

Butler County Emergency Management is the ESF Coordinator for ESF #9 – Search and Rescue. Since the responsibilities for Search and Rescue may vary depending on what the type, size, extent and duration of a situation is, all of the emergency response agencies in the county are primary agencies within this ESF.

Specially trained and equipped Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) teams are maintained by the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). USAR teams may be deployed to assist local jurisdictions with complex search and rescue operations. The closest USAR Teams to the County are located in Columbia, Missouri and Omaha, Nebraska.

This ESF Annex was developed to compliment the National Response Plan (NRP) dated December 2005. Where appropriate, ESF #7 also incorporates the elements of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) to help ensure a coordinated response.

All emergency response personnel are trained in the Incident Command System (ICS) and the NIMS to help ensure coordination during emergency situations and if necessary, the integration of State and Federal resources.

State and Federal search and rescue resources will be requested by the EOC through the procedures described in ESF #5 – Emergency Management.

As described in existing mutual aid agreements, outside search and rescue resources will remain under the direct control of the sponsoring agency but will be assigned by the Incident Commander and/or the EOC to respond as necessary.

In the event of a downed aircraft, the Federal Aviation Administration is responsible for locating the downed aircraft. Butler County will coordinate ground rescue and/or recovery operations of victims.

The following specialized capabilities exists with local and/or regional agencies for Search and Rescue:

- Surface water
- High angle
- Aerial
- Collapsed structures
- Missing persons
- Urban

Accurate records must be kept to provide information to various agencies and individuals at the completion of search and rescue activities.

Butler County EMS will document where injured persons were found, treated, and transported (if applicable) for additional medical care. Law enforcement, under the direction of the Butler 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.

Primary communications are via radio. Alternate communications are either through cellular or public telephones, and pagers.

Organization

Tactical search and rescue operations will be controlled by the Incident Commander(s) at the scene(s) ICS

structure. The Incident Commander(s) will assess the need for additional resources and request that the EOC deploy assets to support field operations.

Outside search and rescue resources will be controlled by the procedures outlined in mutual aid agreements. These agencies will remain under the direct control of the sponsoring agency, but will be assigned by the Incident Commander and/or the EOC to respond as necessary.

The Butler County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will serve as the central location for interagency coordination and executive decision-making, including all activities associated with ESF #9.

The ESF #9 team members are critical members of the EOC Team and will work within the EOC structure as described in ESF #5 – Emergency Management.

In events involving search and rescue operations, the Emergency Management Department will request that an appropriately trained representative report to the EOC to coordinate ESF #9 activities.

As additional EOC staffing needs become apparent, other agency personnel may be asked to report to the EOC to assist with search and rescue activities. If necessary, State and Federal representatives may be asked to report to the EOC to ensure appropriate coordination.

Notifications

In events involving search and rescue operations, the Emergency Management Department will request that an appropriately trained representative report to the EOC to coordinate ESF #9 activities.

As additional EOC staffing needs become apparent, other agency personnel may be asked to report to the EOC to assist with search and rescue activities. If necessary, State and Federal representatives may be asked to report to the EOC to ensure appropriate coordination.

Actions

Preparedness

- Maintain this ESF Annex as well as supporting operating procedures and guidelines
- Ensure personnel receive appropriate emergency operations training
- Ensure mutual aid agreements are in place with surrounding jurisdictions
- Develop and maintain mutual aid agreements with private area resources that could be useful during search and rescue operations
- Participate in Emergency Management training and exercises

Response

- Respond as required on a priority basis
- Activate mutual aid if needed
- Coordinate activities with other responding agencies
- Coordinate with search and rescue elements responding from outside the jurisdiction
- Alert or activate off-duty and auxiliary personnel as required by the emergency
- Conduct other specific response actions as dictated by the situation

Recovery

- Replenish supplies and repair damaged equipment

- Continue all activities in coordination with the EOC based on the requirements of the incident
- Participate in after-action briefings and develop after-action reports
- Make necessary changes in this ESF Annex and supporting plans and procedures

Prevention

- Review the hazards most likely to affect Butler County and identify potential vulnerabilities in the search and rescue function
- Develop plans to overcome these deficiencies (i.e., new equipment, training, mutual aid procedures)

Direction and Control

The ESF #9 (Search and Rescue) Coordinator will:

- Work with the EOC Team to rapidly assess the situation and take appropriate actions to support search and rescue operations at the scene(s)
- Assess the need to request specialized search and rescue resources from outside the County
- Serve as the liaison with search and rescue resources from outside Butler County, including State and Federal agencies
- Work with ESF #3 (Public Works and Engineering) to ensure heavy equipment support to search and rescue operations
- Coordinate with ESF #8 (Health and Medical Services) to help ensure the coordination of emergency medical assistance and victim transport
- Work with the Incident Commander(s) and the EOC Team to help ensure search and rescue personnel deployed to the disaster scene are appropriately outfitted with and trained to use personal protective equipment required by the presence of any potentially hazardous materials/substances

Responsibilities

All tasked agencies will:

- Maintain updated resource inventories of supplies, equipment, and personnel resources, including possible sources of augmentation or replacement
- Develop applicable standard operating procedures, guidelines and/or checklists detailing the accomplishment of their assigned functions
- Deploy a representative to the Butler County EOC to assist with ESF #9 activities
- Provide ongoing status reports as requested by the Search and Rescue Coordinator
- Document all costs and expenses associated with response and recovery activities taking care to clearly separate disaster related work from daily work in the event that reimbursement from the State and Federal government becomes available
- Maintain up-to-date rosters for notifying personnel and 24-hour EOC staffing capabilities
- Participate in Emergency Management training and exercises.

Butler County Rescue Team

The Butler County Rescue Team is a composition of four units each highly trained and technically skilled. The El Dorado Unit is composed of volunteers from the public safety and private sector. This unit operates under the direction and control of the Director of Butler County EMS. The second unit is composed of staff from the Augusta Department of Public Safety. The third unit is composed of a combination of paid and volunteer professionals from Butler County Fire District #3 (Rose Hill). The fourth unit is composed of a combination of paid and volunteer professionals from Andover Fire/Rescue.

Day-to-day rescue events such as vehicular accidents are supplemented by the equipment and training of the El Dorado Fire Department, the Whitewater River Consolidated Fire District and Cowley County Fire District #2 (Atlanta). In addition, private vendors in the City of El Dorado can be called upon to assist with large vehicle incidents to provide heavy equipment.

Specialized rescue events and capabilities within Butler County include:

- Surface water

Incidents involving water rescues in deep water or flash flood areas are directed to the El Dorado and Augusta Rescue Team members. The Butler County Rescue Team is available for all local incidents, 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 its resources.

- High angle

Incidents involving high angle rescues are directed to the El Dorado Rescue Team with the exception of incidents involving Frontier Refinery in El Dorado or the PPM Energy Wind Farm outside of Beaumont. If requested by those entities, the El Dorado Rescue Team may be called upon to assist both the refinery and the wind farm.

- Aerial

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

- Collapsed structures

All fire districts/departments in Butler County are the first line of response for most rescue situations including vehicular extrications, collapsed buildings and trench collapse. The Rescue Team out of El Dorado is called upon to provide heavy rescue, additional manpower and equipment. The local fire districts/departments provide the initial size up of the situation as well as 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.

- Urban

Cases involving missing persons or fugitives are the responsibility of law enforcement who may call upon the assistance of the Butler County Rescue Team and/or local fire departments to assist in the search efforts. Local search and rescue dogs are available through the Augusta Department of Public Safety, and the Andover Police Department. K-9 assistance is also available through the Sedgwick County Department of Emergency Management.

Community Emergency Response Teams:

Butler County has an active group of citizens who have participated in training for the Citizen Corps CERT program. Part of this training involves light search and rescue utilizing cribbing and shoring techniques. These citizen volunteers received training from the Butler County Rescue Team. The CERT team is also utilized by the Butler County Sheriff's Department to provide traffic control and to conduct search efforts.

Transportation Events:

Certain disaster/emergency events such as transportation emergencies involving railway or airplanes as well as acts

of terrorism would quickly deplete our local resources and capabilities bringing with them particular standards. Among these are the involvement of federal agencies such as the National Transportation Safety Board, the Federal Aviation Authority, Department of Homeland Security or the military. One or more of these agencies would become the lead in the investigation and recovery efforts with Butler County resources providing supplemental assistance for security, etc.

Administration and Support

Support

Requests for emergency assistance will be resolved at the lowest level direction and control facility with appropriate response resources capabilities. Unresolved assistance requests will normally flow upward from cities to the county, and/or field deployed command posts to responsible representatives in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), and as required to other states or the federal government for assistance support.

Agreements and Understandings

All agreements and understandings entered into for the purchase, lease, or otherwise use of equipment and services, will be in accordance with the provision of laws and procedures.

The Proclamation of a Local Disaster Emergency by the Board of County Commissioners or a State Disaster issued by the Governor may suspend selected rules and regulations that affect support operations. The primary agency will determine the specific impact of the situation and inform the ESF group members.

Status Reports

The primary agencies will maintain status of all outstanding assistance requests and unresolved ESF-related issues. This information will be summarized into periodic status reports and submitted in accordance with applicable operating procedures.

Expenditures and Recordkeeping

Each ESF agency is responsible for establishing administrative controls necessary to manage the expenditure of funds and to provide reasonable accountability and justification for federal reimbursement in accordance with the established guidelines.

The first source of funds for expenditures by agencies in response to an emergency, imminent disaster, or recovery from a catastrophic incident, is to be from funds from each agency.

Critiques

Following the conclusion of any significant emergency event/incident or exercise, the primary agencies representative will conduct a critique of the group activities during the event/incident/exercise.

Support agencies will provide written and/or oral inputs for this critique and the primary agency representative will consolidate all inputs into a final report and submit it to the Butler County Emergency Management Director.

Attachments

- Search and rescue resources

[RESOURCES](#)

- Actions by Time Frame

[LINK TO CHECKLIST](#)