



# ESF 9 – Search and Rescue

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ESF 9 Tasked Agencies	
<b>Primary Agency</b>	Oregon Emergency Management (OEM) Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM)
<b>Supporting Agencies</b>	Department of Aviation (AERO) Oregon Military Department (OMD) Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
<b>Adjunct Agency</b>	American Red Cross (ARC) Civil Air Patrol (CAP)

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) 9 describes how the State of Oregon will provide state support to local governments and to coordinate deployment of resources in both urban and non-urban search and rescue during a major disaster or incident.

### 1.2 Scope

Activities encompassed within the scope of ESF 9 include:

- Describe Search and Rescue (SAR) operations within the State through OEM, and USAR through the OSFM.

Missing aircraft related to SAR missions are addressed in *Agreement between the State of Oregon and Executive Agent for Inland SAR* maintained at OEM.

### 1.3 Related Functions

ESF 9 often works closely with other State ESFs as a part of coordinated response and recovery activities. The following ESFs support search and rescue related to activities:

- **ESF 4 – Firefighting.** Provide specialized resources to support SAR operations.
- **ESF 8 – Health and Medical.** Coordinate emergency medical services for disaster victims.
- **ESF 16 – Law Enforcement.** Provide specialized resources to support SAR operations.

## 2 Situation and Assumptions

### 2.1 Situation

Oregon is faced with a number of hazards that may require search and rescue support. Considerations that should be taken into account when planning for and implementing ESF 9 activities include:

- A major disaster or emergency situation may result in large numbers of displaced, stranded, lost or trapped individuals needing prompt rescue and medical attention.
- The first 72 hours of a search and rescue are the most critical in terms of reducing the mortality rate of an incident and therefore must begin as soon as possible.
- Search and rescue personnel often need to be trained to deal with extreme or dangerous terrain for operations in remote areas. Similarly, they may need to work in dangerous conditions such as partially collapsed structures or areas with hazardous materials. These situations often require specialized skills that may not be available in a particular community and experts may need to be brought in from other areas.
- Strict search and rescue procedures may be implemented so as to avoid rescuers becoming victims themselves.
- Volunteer search and rescue personnel are familiar with the ICS and NIMS organization and have completed the basic training in both.

### 2.2 Assumptions

ESF 9 is based on the following planning assumptions:

- Search and rescue operations will continue to increase as population and recreational opportunities continue to grow.
- Operations may be overwhelmed during emergencies and disasters. Local search and rescue efforts may require technical assistance from other agencies, counties, and the State.
- Access to impacted locations may be limited due to steep or rocky terrain, water, or structural barriers. Some areas may only be accessible by aircraft or boat.
- Rapid assessment of impacted areas and lost individuals will assist in the determination of response priorities.

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- Local residents and unaffiliated volunteers may initiate activities to assist in search and rescue operations and will require coordination and direction.

### **3 Roles and Responsibilities**

The following section outlines the roles and responsibilities assigned to state agencies and community partners to ensure ESF 9 activities are performed in an efficient and effective manner to support response and recovery. This document does not relieve tasked agencies with the responsibility for emergency planning and agency plans should adequately provide for the capability to implement the actions identified below.

#### **3.1 Primary Agency**

The primary agencies for ESF 9 are OEM and OSFM. OEM and OSFM is responsible for the following overarching coordination activities:

- Coordinate regular review and update of the ESF 9 annex with supporting agencies.
- Facilitate collaborative planning to ensure state capability to support ESF 9 activities.
- Provide a representative to the State ECC, when requested, to support ESF 9 activities.
- Facilitate transition to recovery.

##### **3.1.1 Oregon Emergency Management**

OEM is statutorily responsible for coordination of the state's emergency management program. Key ESF 9 responsibilities for OEM include:

- OEM is the coordinating agency for SAR in Oregon for all events requiring Federal assets on behalf of the County Sheriffs' Office. In addition, OEM is the coordinating agency for missing aircraft within its borders.
- Coordinate rapid deployment components to provide specialized lifesaving assistance to local authorities when activated for incidents.
- During a Federally declared disaster, OEM takes a supporting role to FEMA who coordinates Federal assets.

##### **3.1.2 Office of the State Fire Marshal**

OSFM's mission is to protect citizens, their property, and the environment from fire and hazardous materials. Key ESF 9 responsibilities for the OSFM include:

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- Responsible for rapid deployment of components of the state USAR response system to provide specialized lifesaving assistance to State, Local and other authorities when appropriate.
- OSFM coordinates and directs the training, equipment and use of the state's structural collapse resources, Oregon USAR Task Force 1 is staffed by local firefighters organized under a state agreement and member-elected governance board.

Oregon Task Force 1 (OR-TF1) assists in structural collapse and technical rescue incidents statewide, at the request of the Governor. Covering multiple jurisdictions, the Team is organized geographically in north and south regional response teams.

OR-TF1 is capable of providing full incident support, up to a Type I Collapse Search and Rescue (National Incident Management compliant). Oregon Task Force 1 may be included in mobilization of State Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team, or the State Fire Marshal's Incident Management Team.

## **3.2 Support Agencies**

Supporting agencies contribute to the overall accomplishment of the mission of the ESF. Not every support agency will have input to, or responsibility for, the accomplishment of every mission assigned to the ESF.

### **3.2.1 Department of Aviation**

The Oregon Department of Aviation supports Oregon communities by preserving and enhancing aviation resources. Key ESF 9 responsibilities for the Oregon Department of Aviation include:

- Department of Aviation provides funding for search and rescue operations with 50% of pilot registration fees going to OEM Search and Rescue.

### **3.2.2 Oregon Military Department**

OMD's purpose is to administer, house, equip and train the Oregon National Guard to support the Governor during unrest or natural disaster. Key ESF 9 responsibilities for OMD include:

- In support of SAR and USAR, the OMD tasks the Oregon Army National Guard to provide air support for SAR and USAR to aid the County Sheriffs and OEM.

### **3.2.3 Oregon Department of Transportation**

ODOT is responsible for maintenance of the state's transportation system. Key ESF 9 responsibilities for ODOT include:



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- Transport the USAR equipment cache trailers.
- Provide qualified Structural Specialists to participate on the USAR Task Force.
- Provide mechanic support for equipment cache trailer maintenance and deployments.

### **3.3 Adjunct Agencies**

Adjunct agencies are organizations that may not be part of state government but have direct role in the function.

#### **3.3.1 American Red Cross**

Within the State of Oregon, the American Red Cross has five chapters that provide program and services. ARC can expand its operations as a disaster requires. During a disaster ARC may assist ESF 9 in the following activities:

- Provide food and water resources in support of SAR and USAR missions as requested in a major disaster.

#### **3.3.2 Civil Air Patrol**

The CAP's primary mission areas include aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services. CAP's emergency services responsibilities include search and rescue, disaster relief, humanitarian services, and air force support. Key ESF 9 responsibilities for the CAP include:

- Directly support agencies by providing such services as airborne search, airborne disaster assessment, airborne and ground Electronic Locator Transmitter (ELT) tracking, transportation of officials, and assistance in a variety of ground operations
- Activation of CAP for Federal wilderness SAR missions is initiated by OEM exclusively. Only the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center can assign a Federal mission number for a wilderness SAR mission.

## **4 Concept of Operations**

### **4.1 General**

The State of Oregon Emergency Operations Plan, including ESF 9, is developed under the authority of Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 401 which assigns responsibility for the emergency services system within the State of Oregon to the Governor (ORS 401.035). The Governor has delegated the responsibility for coordination of the state's emergency program, including coordination of recovery planning activities to the Oregon Military Department, Office of Emergency Management (OEM; ORS 401.052). OEM, in turn, has assigned

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responsibility for coordination of the implementation of ESF 9 to the primary and supporting agencies identified above.

Additionally, Executive Order (EO)-14-**XX** establishes a Disaster Management Framework to facilitate Oregon's response and recovery actions and provides a flexible instrument for execution of prudent policy and decision-making. The EO establishes the Governor's Disaster Cabinet and Economic Recovery Councils that will serve as the policy making body during a large scale or catastrophic disaster in Oregon.

All ESF 9 activities will be performed in a manner that is consistent with the National Incident Management System and the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

## **4.2 Activation**

When a disaster occurs that results in a Governor's declaration, the OEM Duty Officer will activate the State ECC and establish communications with leadership and ascertain initial size up to determine an ECC staffing plan and set up operational periods. If the incident requires significant coordination of search and rescue activities, a notification will be made to OEM and OSFM requesting activation of ESF 9. OEM and OSFM will coordinate with supporting agencies to assess and report current capabilities to the ECC and will activate Agency Operations Centers as appropriate. OEM and OSFM and supporting agencies may be requested to send a representative to staff the ECC and facilitate ESF 9 activities.

## **4.3 ECC Operations**

When ESF 9 is staffed in the ECC, the ESF representative will be responsible for the following:

- Serve as a liaison with supporting agencies and community partners.
- Provide a primary entry point for situational information related to search and rescue needs.
- Share situation status updates related to communications with ESF 5, Information and Planning, to inform development of the Situation Report.
- Participate in, and provide ESF-specific reports for, ECC briefings including Disaster Cabinet and Economic Recovery briefings.
- Assist in development and communication of ESF 9 actions to tasked agencies.
- Monitor ongoing ESF 9 actions.

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- Share ESF 9 information with ESF 14, Public Information, to ensure consistent public messaging.
- Coordinate ESF 9 staffing to ensure the function can be staffed across operational periods.

**5 ESF Development and Maintenance**

OEM and OSFM will be responsible for coordinating regular review and maintenance of this ESF Annex. Each primary and supporting agency will be responsible for developing plans and procedures that address assigned tasks.

**6 Supporting Documents**

- National Response Framework, ESF 9 – Search and Rescue
- County and State Agency Search and Rescue Annexes
- State of Oregon Cascadia Subduction Zone Catastrophic Earthquake and Tsunami Operations Plan
- County Search and Rescue Plans

**7 Appendices**

- Appendix A – ESF 9 Work Plan
- Appendix B – ESF 9 Resources

## Appendix A ESF 9 Work Plan

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Action	Responsible Department	Point of Contact	Priority	Timeline	Status
Conduct a planning workshop with tasked state agencies to validate the ESF 9 Annex	OEM/OSFM in coordination with assigned supporting agencies	TBD	High	2015	To be completed

## Appendix B ESF 9 Resources

### State

- ESF 9 Primary and Supporting Agency Emergency Plans and Procedures
- State of Oregon Office of Emergency Management, Cascadia Playbook
- State of Oregon Cascadia Subduction Zone Catastrophic Earthquake and Tsunami Operations Plan

### Federal

- National Response Framework, ESF 9 – Search and Rescue