

Harlan County, Kentucky
Emergency Operations Plan



Search and Rescue

ESF – 9

Coordinates and organizes search and rescue resources in preparing for, responding to and recovering from incidents which impact the citizens of Harlan County.

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION # 9 - SEARCH AND RESCUE

PRIMARY

Harlan County SAR Coordinator

LOCAL SUPPORT

Chief Elected Official(s)
Local City's
Harlan County Sheriff's Office/Local City Law Enforcement
Harlan County Rescue Squad/Local Rescue Squads
Black Mountain Search and Rescue
Harlan County Fire Department(s)
Local City Fire Department(s)
Harlan EMS Ambulance Service
Life Care EMS Ambulance Service
County Coroner
Harlan County EMA
Kentucky Community Crisis Response Board – 888-522-7228

LOCAL RESOURCE

Harlan County Health Department
Tucker Guthrie Memorial Airport
Harlan County Finance
Harlan County EMA
Kentucky State Police E 911 Center
Harlan County Sheriff's Office/Local City Law Enforcement
Local Search & Rescue Teams
Harlan County Fire Department(s)
Local City Fire Department(s)

STATE RESOURCE

KyEM SAR
Kentucky National Guard
Civil Air Patrol
Justice and Public Safety Cabinet
Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)
U.S. Coast Guard

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(Not all agencies are listed under this section, as it would vary and be difficult to include all agencies that could be affected by the impact of a disaster. This ESF will expand/collapse as needed during an incident.)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance in coordinating search and rescue (SAR) activities in the County. It outlines the general procedures that may be implemented as necessary for search and rescue activities, to include providing medical assistance to victims upon rescue.

SITUATIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS

- The ESF 9 Coordinator will be the Emergency Management Director or his appointee, as directed by KRS 39F.200.
- Search and Rescue (SAR) is the employment of resources (private, municipal, corporate, county, state and Federal) to locate and bring to safety persons who have become lost, injured, stranded, trapped or who have died. Search, rescue and recovery operations have to be carried out in every part of the County, on or under the ground, on or under water, and in man-made structures. If the person is deceased, it then becomes a recovery effort.
- SAR incidents may become crime scenes and at that time all precautions to protect evidence must be taken. When this occurs, hourly communications between searchers and law enforcement is necessary for an effective search.
- SAR operations in an incident will require the use of existing trained search and rescue personnel and specialized equipment.
- SAR emergencies may reach such magnitude as to require resources from adjacent jurisdictions, the state, private organizations or the Federal government. Catastrophic incidents within the County, or adjacent jurisdictions, could result in rescue problems of such an extent as to require utilization of all rescue resources within the state and the exchange of resources between states via mutual aid/EMAC.
- The potential for an incident can result in the same level of mobilization as an actual rescue operation or search mission.
- Terrorist/WMD and violent activity may result in search and rescue emergencies.
- Environmental incidents (i.e., floods, earthquakes, tornadoes) may result in search and rescue emergencies.
- Civil disturbances frequently result in injuries to persons and property damage, with rescue resources likely to be mobilized

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- SAR operations frequently occur in the County as a result of accidents that occur during recreational activities, i.e., boating, hiking, and hunting, etc.
- SAR operations may be required as a result of an accidental chemical release from the Bluegrass Army Depot.

MISSION

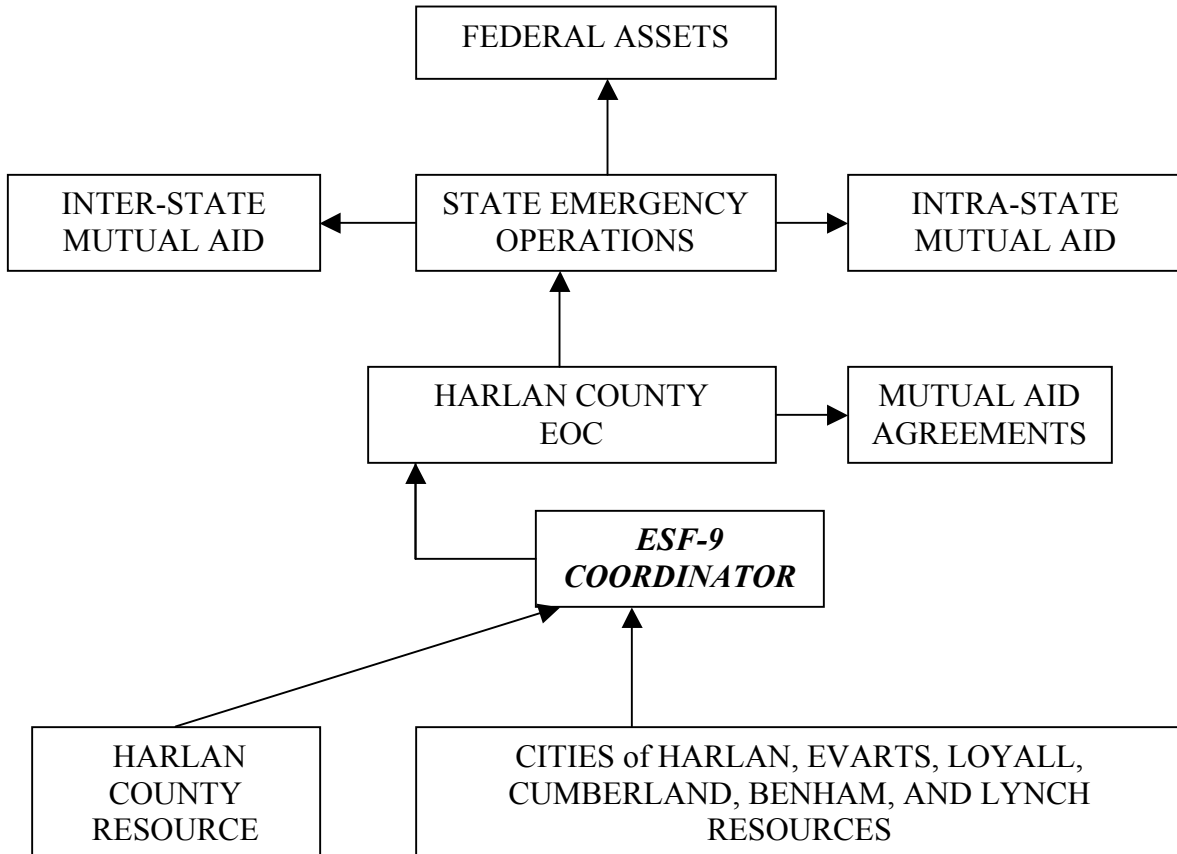
To provide an organizational structure and guidance for search and rescue, by means of ground, marine, or air activity, of any person who becomes lost, injured, stranded, trapped or has died. The procedures include searches for lost persons, downed or missing aircraft, structural explosions or transportation accidents, and natural or man-made incidents, where search and rescue is an integral part of the overall operations.

DIRECTION AND CONTROL

The ESF 9 Coordinator is responsible for coordinating search and rescue resources and operations within the County/jurisdiction, unless otherwise directed by the County Emergency Management Director.

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Requests for Emergency Assistance Flow Upwards from the Lowest Level



The County recognizes that it cannot provide all necessary equipment or personnel to cope with every SAR mission during an incident.

Other SAR missions, such as downed military and commercial air carriers and Electronic Locator Transmitter (ELT) searches, will be under the operational control of the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC).

SAR operations involving mine rescue missions will be under the jurisdiction of the Office of Mine Safety and Licensing.

The National Park Service has the authority and responsibility for SAR operations within the boundaries of the national parks located in Kentucky.

The Kentucky Department of Parks, Ranger, has the authority and responsibility for SAR operations within the boundaries of Kentucky state parks.

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The U.S. Forest Service has the authority and responsibility for SAR operations within the boundaries of national forest areas in Kentucky.

The appropriate U.S. military service has the authority and responsibility for SAR operations within the boundaries of military installations located in Kentucky.

The U.S. Coast Guard may exercise jurisdiction over search and rescue operations on navigable waterways in Kentucky.

Kentucky shares concurrent jurisdiction with bordering states for incidents (including SAR) on waterways located along state boundaries.

SAR activities may result in the discovery of a deceased person and SAR workers may assist in the recovery of human remains.

SAR operations in and around the Bluegrass Army Depot resulting from an accidental chemical release or other incident will be under the direction and control of the U.S. Army.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Phases of Management

Preparedness- (This needs to be expanded upon by each County as to their capabilities) (Cave rescue, swift water rescue, etc.)

- Review and update disaster procedures as they relate to ESF 9 activities both State and Federal.

- Develop search and rescue operating procedures.

- Develop a system of determining availability and need of manpower and equipment and other resources.

- Develop an organizational structure and recruit needed personnel.

- Carry out a training program for the appropriate types of rescue missions to be provided by the rescue organization(s).

- Insure that personnel concerned are familiar with their responsibilities.

- Develop alternate sources of notification.

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- Develop plans in cooperation with adjacent jurisdictions or states to achieve the best balance of search and rescue services for the Commonwealth.

- Take part in tests and exercises.

Response

- Activate ESF 9 when requested by the EM Director.

- Alert personnel needed to carry out the tasks outlined in the ESF. Carry out any needed training.

- Perform rescue operations that attempt to save the greatest number of lives and limit property damage.

- Activate the Water Rescue Teams, Swift Water Action Team, Ground Search Team, Sheriff’s Dive Team, Millard Fire Rescue Dive Team and Water Rescue and Recovery Team.

- Keep records of workers available, work undertaken and hours worked.

Recovery

- Provide ESF 9 coordination and support as required for Recovery Operations.

- Activate Ground Teams and or Water Recovery Teams, Sheriff’s Office Dive Team, Millard Fire Rescue Dive and Recovery Team, Pike County EMA Boats with Side Scan Sonar.

- Conduct internal After Action Reviews and document lessons learned and recommendations for improvement of Emergency Operations Plans, Procedures and Guidelines. Carry out lifesaving or damage limiting operations.

- Upon being advised that an order to end recovery operations may be forthcoming prepare to discontinue operations.

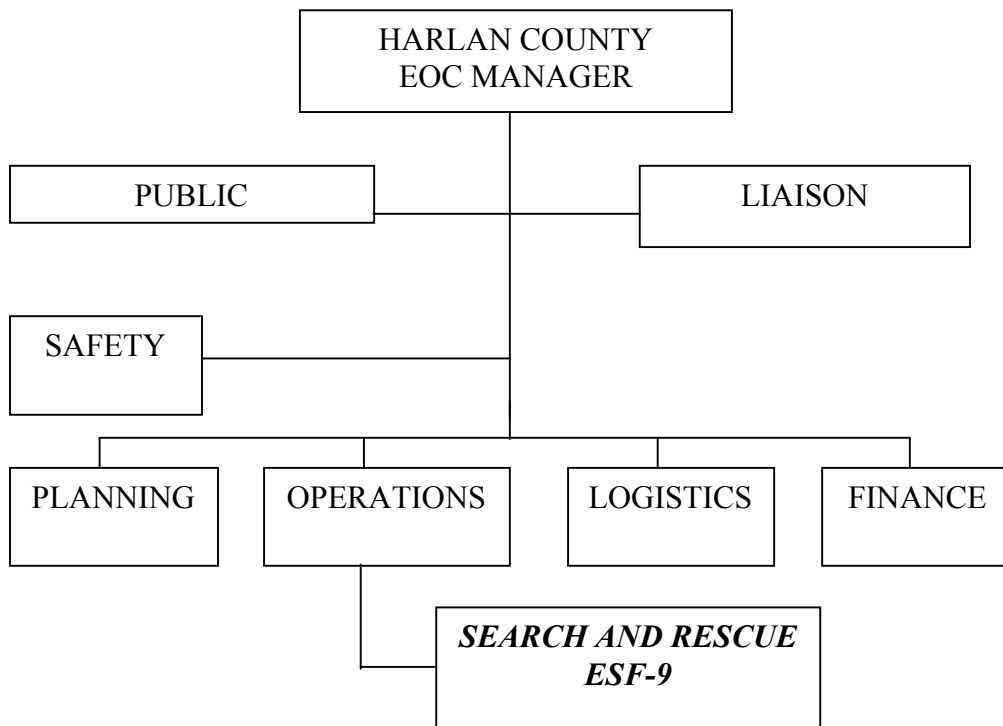
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- Upon the end of recovery operations, survey the organization for cost of preparing for and conducting operations.

- Critique operations for updating plan and standard operating procedures.

ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The ESF 9 Coordinator will identify and coordinate local, state and federal agencies to support and perform search and rescue operations as needed for the County.



GENERAL ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBILITIES

Operational control remains the same during emergency situations as during normal activities; however, operations may require 24-hour coverage, and a central point of overall coordination. The ESF 9 Coordinator must be prepared to assist in lengthy operations that start in response and continue through recovery and involve clean up activities and return of resources.

SPECIFIC KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

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Primary – ESF 9 Coordinator:

- Is responsible for coordination and planning of ESF 9 – Search and Rescue, pursuant to KRS 39F.090 (1).

- Is responsible for the activation and operation of ESF 9 for the County.

- Is responsible for developing and maintaining Standard Operating Procedures for ESF 9.

- Shall notify the KyEM Duty Officer of all search and rescue missions.

- Will coordinate registering emergency search and rescue workers.

- Pursuant to KRS 39F.090 (1), may request appropriate law enforcement agency to restrict access to specific search and rescue area(s), except for authorized personnel. Access shall be restricted only for the period of time necessary to accomplish the SAR mission.

Support

- All supporting agencies for this ESF will provide information and resources as required to ensure the proper functioning of ESF 9.

- Supporting Agencies will ensure their representatives to ESF 9 are properly trained and exercised on the plans and procedures relating to their work.

- When requested, conduct ESF 9 support activities in accordance with the Kentucky Mine Rescue Plan.

Specific Agency Duties:

Chief Elected Official's Office

Provides Support for the EMA program and provide support for SAR Teams

Law Enforcement

Provide scene security, assist in gathering information, assisting with search and recovery where a crime may be suspected.

Local Search & Rescue Teams

Provide manpower and equipment to safely conduct search, rescue and recovery efforts.

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Fire Department

Assist with additional manpower for search activities, provide ATVs where possible and assist with ICS when needed

EMS

Provide on site medical support for SAR Teams and lost of missing persons when located and if needed.

Coroner

Provide Coroner Office Support and death investigation services when needed.

Office of Mine Safety & Licensing

- The EPPC – Department of Mines and Minerals will manage and conduct all Mine Rescue support within the Commonwealth based on the Mine Rescue Support Plan.

REFERENCES

KRS 39A-G

106 KAR 1:390

The National Response Framework

The National Incident Management System

ESF 9 Standard Operating Procedures

Office Mine Safety & Licensing EOP/SOP