

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION # 9 - SEARCH AND RESCUE**PRIMARY**

ESF 9 Coordinator - Henderson County Search and Rescue Coordinator

LOCAL SUPPORT

Henderson Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
Henderson County/City Chief Elected Official(s)

LOCAL RESOURCES

Henderson City / County Rescue Squad
Henderson County Coroner
Deaconess EMS
Deaconess Henderson Hospital
Henderson County Health Department
Henderson County Finance Officer
Henderson County Road Department
Henderson County Agriculture
Henderson County Volunteer Fire Departments
Henderson City Fire Department (Water / Dive Team)
Henderson Police Department
Henderson County Sheriff's Office
Henderson Municipal Power & Light
Henderson Water Utility
Henderson County Water Utility
Henderson Municipal Gas
Henderson Public Works
American Environmental Service (AES)
Tri-State Spill Response
Henderson County Schools (Buses)
Henderson Area Rapid Transit (City Bus Transit)
GRITS
Air Evac (Deaconess)
Stat Flight (St. Vincent)
Daviess County Search & Rescue
Daviess County Emergency Management
Union County Emergency Management

INDIANA RESOURCES

Ohio Valley Search and Rescue
Vanderburgh County Emergency Management

Marrs Township Fire Department
Black Township Fire Department (Water)
Newburgh Fire Department (Water/Dive)
Perry Township fire Department (Water/Dive)
Evansville City Fire Department (Water/Dive)

KY STATE RESOURCES

Kentucky State Police
Kentucky State Park Ranger
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
Kentucky National Guard
Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife
Kentucky Environmental Protection Agency
Kentucky Division of Emergency Management

FEDERAL RESOURCES

U.S. Coast Guard

PURPOSE

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

SITUATIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS

- The ESF 9 Coordinator will be the Henderson County Search and Rescue Coordinator 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, or trapped. Search, rescue, and recovery operations must be carried out in every part of the County on or under water, in man-made structures, and on and underground. Note, all underground operations will fall under the local State and mine laws, procedures, and protocols. If the person is deceased, it then becomes a recovery effort.
- SAR incidents may become crime scenes and all precautions to protect evidence must be taken. When this occurs, at least hourly communications between searchers and law enforcement are necessary for an effective search.

- SAR operations in an incident will require the use of existing trained search and rescue personnel, specialized equipment and other volunteer resources as available.
- 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.
- SAR operations frequently occur in the County as a result of accidents that occur during recreational activities, i.e., boating, hiking, and hunting, etc.

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, but are not limited to, searches for lost/overdue persons, downed or missing aircraft, structural explosions, transportation accidents, and natural or manmade incidents, where search and rescue is an integral part of the overall operations.

DIRECTION AND CONTROL

The Local Director, Deputy Director, SAR Coordinator or County Judge have the authority to activate ESF 9.

The ESF 9 Coordinator is responsible for coordinating search and rescue resources and operations within Henderson County, unless otherwise directed by the Henderson County Judge Executive, or the Henderson County Emergency Management Director or deputy. The County recognizes that it cannot provide all necessary equipment or personnel to cope with every SAR mission during an incident. Additional resources via mutual aid jurisdictions and KYEM should be considered before all local resources are exhausted.

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 Kentucky Department of Parks, Ranger, has the authority and responsibility for SAR operations within the boundaries of Kentucky State Parks and may exercise that jurisdiction at any and all times if desired. In the absence of a Kentucky State Park Ranger, the authority having jurisdiction will then be the Henderson County SAR Coordinator.

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

The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) may exercise jurisdiction over search and rescue operations on navigable waterways in Kentucky. In the absence of the USCG, the authority having jurisdiction will then be the Henderson County SAR Coordinator.

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.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Phases of Management

Preparedness -

- Develop Search and Rescue operating procedures.
- Review and update search and rescue procedures as they relate to ESF 9 activities for Local, State and Federal regulations annually.
- Develop a system of determining availability and need of manpower, equipment, and other resources.
- Develop an organizational structure and recruit needed personnel in accordance with NIMS.
- Carry out a training program for the appropriate types of rescue missions to be provided by the rescue organization(s).
- Ensure that personnel concerned are familiar with their responsibilities.
- Develop alternate sources of notification.
- Develop plans in cooperation with adjacent jurisdictions or states to achieve the best balance of search and rescue services for Henderson County.
- Take part in tests and exercises.

Response -

- Activate ESF 9 when requested by the Henderson County Judge Executive, Henderson County Emergency Management Director or Deputy, and/or the Henderson County Search and Rescue Coordinator.
- Alert personnel needed to carry out the tasks outlined in the ESF 9.
- Implement and use organizational structure to carry out mission in accordance with NIMS.
- Perform rescue operations that attempt to save the greatest number of lives and limit property and environmental damage.
- Keep record of all personnel, work undertaken, and hours worked (refer to Henderson County Search and Rescue (SAR) Plan).
- Upon being advised that an order to demobilize search and rescue or recovery operations may be forthcoming, prepare to discontinue operations (refer to Henderson County Search and Rescue (SAR) Plan).

Recovery – (Refer to SAR Plan Appendix (A) for additional guidance)

- Demobilize personnel and operations in accordance with NIMS procedures.
- Restock, replenish, refuel, and/ or replace equipment and supplies to prepare for next operation.
- Provide ESF 9 coordination and support as required for Recovery Operations.
- Verify all paperwork is accurate and complete.
- Upon the end of recovery operations, survey the organization for cost of preparing for and conducting operations.

Review -

- Conduct internal after-action reviews. Document gaps, lessons learned and recommendations for improving future Search and Rescue Operations.
- Conduct Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) as needed.

ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Pursuant to KRS39F.090(1), the local SAR coordinator of each political subdivision, appointed in accordance with KRS 39F.200, shall be responsible for coordinating and planning for local search and rescue activities.

The ESF 9 Coordinator, through the Local EM Director or Deputy, will identify and request local, state, and federal agencies to support and perform search and rescue operations as needed for Henderson 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. Using NIMS guidance, the ESF 9 Coordinator must be prepared to assist in lengthy operations that start in response and continue through recovery and involve cleanup activities and return of resources.

SPECIFIC KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

Primary – ESF 9 Coordinator:

- Is responsible for coordination and planning of ESF 9 – Search and Rescue, pursuant to KRS 39F.090 (1).
- Shall assist local rescue squads in developing a comprehensive written search and rescue plan (KRS 39F.190) for Henderson County. This plan shall be included as Appendix A.
- Is responsible for ensuring adequate resources, relief personnel and that change of command takes place as needed to support overall operations on extended scenes.
- Shall immediately notify the local Director or Deputy Director and KYEM Duty Officer of any Search and Rescue missions lasting (4) four hours without the subject being located pursuant to KRS39F.180(3).
- Shall immediately notify the local Director or Deputy Director, KYEM Duty Officer and Kentucky State Police Post 16 once on scene for all missing minors pursuant to KRS 2.015 (KRS 39F.180 (2)(a)).
- Shall immediately notify the local Director or Deputy Director and KYEM Duty Officer for any search for an impaired person (KRS 39F.010 (3))
 - **Golden Alert D** – Autism, TBI, ETC (developmental disabilities) - KRS 39F.180 (2)(b)
 - **Golden Alert** – Alzheimer’s or other (cognitive impairments) - KRS 39F.180 (2)(c)
 - **Green Alert** - Veteran’s at Risk (Green Alert) KRS 39F.180 (3d),
- Manage search and rescue mission within NIMS guidelines.
- Assign, carryout, or delegate any necessary functions needed to accomplish search and rescue mission.
- Will ensure proper registering and accountability of emergency search and rescue resources.
- Will ensure all search related paperwork is filled out properly and in a timely manner and turned into proper agencies pursuant to KRS 39F.180(4).
- Pursuant to KRS39F.090(1), may request law enforcement agency to restrict access to specific search and rescue areas, except for authorized personnel.

Access shall be restricted only for the period necessary to accomplish the SAR mission.

- Provide public information officer as required.
- Assist in collecting information and compiling data for operational reports necessary to emergency operations in accordance with NIMS guidelines.

Support – (Any agency requested for equipment, expertise, and/or manpower.)

- All supporting agencies for this ESF will only provide available resources when requested.
- 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 -

- Formulate major policy decisions.
- Provide liaison as needed.
- Make emergency proclamations when needed.
- Provide representative to the EOC as requested.

Henderson Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

- Provide incident coordination to SAR Coordinator
- Provide resources through Kentucky Emergency Management (KYEM)
- Assume duties of SAR Coordinator in his/her absence

Law Enforcement -

- Provide efficient service to the public through crowd and traffic control.
- Provide personnel and equipment to assist in search missions.
- Provide representatives to the Emergency Operations Center if required.
- Support response and recovery activities as required.
- Return department activities to normal levels unless involved with recovery activities.

Local & Regional Search & Rescue Teams

- Participate in training for Search-and-Rescue techniques for both urban and rural searches.
- Assist in recovery of victims from flooded areas.
- Provides resources for ground, water, and airborne activities to locate, identify, and remove victims from a stricken area.
- Provide support for specialized emergency response and rescue operational requests.

Fire Departments -

- Local fire departments shall be prepared to provide support during emergency situations using available expertise, equipment, and manpower, to ensure efficient and effective emergency operations as requested.
- Provide a representative to the Emergency Operations Center or mobile command post as required.
- Provide personnel and equipment to assist in search missions.
- Report any damage of department facilities, equipment, or resources.

Emergency Medical Services

- Provide basic and advanced life support services.
- Provide a representative to the Emergency Operations Center or mobile command post as required.
- Assist in collecting information and compiling data for operational reports necessary to emergency operations.
- Support response and recovery activities as needed.
- Report any damage of department facilities, equipment, or resources.
- Return department activities to normal levels unless involved with recovery activities.

Coroner

- Coordinate and provide mortuary services, including investigating causes of sudden unexpected, non- natural deaths; handling mass deaths and burials; and body identification and disposition.
- Assist in the coordination of public information on identification and confirmation of deceased disaster victims.
- Maintain vital records, including collection and recording of death data and information for required operational reports.

- Provide representatives to the Emergency Operations Center or mobile command post as required.
- Report any damage of department facilities, equipment, or resources.
- Return department activities to normal levels unless involved with recovery activities.

Public Utilities, Public Works, Co. Road Dept

- Provide personnel and equipment to assist in search mission as requested.

APPENDICIES

Henderson County SAR Plan.....Appendix A

REFERENCES

KRS 39A-G

106 KAR 1:390

The National Response Framework

National Preparedness Plan

The National Incident Management System

Henderson County SAR Standard Operating Procedures

DEFINITIONS

Support- To have a subordinate role with

Resource- Someone or something that lies ready to use or can be drawn upon for aid.

Rescue- Gaining access, rendering appropriate care, and transporting of a person or persons by whatever means, to a safe environment for appropriate care. 39F.010(3)

Search- The process of looking for a person or persons whose location is not precisely known, and who may be in distress 39F.010(5)

Search and Rescue- SAR- The process of looking for a lost, missing, or overdue person or persons who may be in distress and rendering care with the use of appropriately trained and equipped personnel. 39F.010(6)

Search and Rescue Mission- Includes, but is not limited to, searching for a lost or missing person or persons, cave rescue, high angle or rough terrain rescue, urban search and rescue, dive rescue and recovery of drowning victims, inland water search, rescue, and recovery. Search and Rescue may also include any mission permitted to this chapter. A search and rescue mission does not include mine rescue missions under the jurisdiction of the Department of mines and minerals pursuant to KSR Chapter 351. 39F.010(7).

Victim Recovery- The search for and removal to the jurisdiction of the coroner of the remains of a person known or believed to be dead. If the person is found alive, it includes the rescue of the person. 39F.010(9).