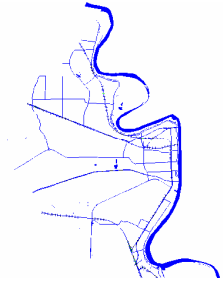


**WEST BATON ROUGE PARISH  
OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**



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**EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 9  
SEARCH AND RESCUE**

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I. PURPOSE

ESF 9 provides for a trained and equipped emergency rescue response force with the capability to perform search and rescue operations during extraordinary conditions. The services and activities provided under this ESF will include locating, removal from the stricken area, and identification of survivors, the injured in need of medical treatment and decontamination, the marooned, and the dead.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. West Baton Rouge Parish is subject to severe structural damage from severe thunderstorms, floods, tornadoes, terrorism and war. Any of these emergencies would provide a need for special assistance in order to locate the injured, missing or dead residents within the boundaries of the incident.
2. The West Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office and Fire Departments will coordinate open land search and rescue missions.
3. Individual Fire Departments will be the lead agency for

coordinating urban search and rescue missions.

4. Due to a limited number resources, fire, sheriff, and municipal law enforcement agencies will combine their efforts.

B. Assumptions

1. An organized, trained, and well-equipped search and rescue team will have the capability to minimize injuries or loss of life within West Baton Rouge Parish.
2. West Baton Rouge Parish Search and Rescue agencies shall maintain mutual-aid agreements in order to provide the necessary assistance during a major incident.
3. State and federal agencies are expected to assist local efforts after local resources are deemed insufficient.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. Daily Rescue Operations

West Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office and all Fire Departments shall maintain, on a 24-hour basis, search and rescue capability.

2. Volunteer Search and Rescue Associations

The day-to-day rescue forces of West Baton Rouge Parish are augmented by volunteer search and rescue organizations. Any operational activity shall be coordinated through the West Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office or the respective fire department.

3. Natural Disaster and Technological Hazards

The day-to-day rescue capability will be augmented by the parish's volunteer search and rescue organization

during natural and technological disasters to any extent necessary to effectively manage an on going incident. The operation may also require the mobilization of far reaching professional services. These may be acquired through mutual-aid agreements, state agencies or military support.

## B. Phases of Management

### 1. Mitigation

In addition to continuous plan review and updating, public awareness programs have been developed in an effort to reduce accidents on land and at sea.

### 2. Preparedness

- a. Rescue units and Emergency Medical Technicians are trained on a regular basis in rescue and techniques by the responsible controlling agency or organization.
- b. Any rescue equipment is tested, maintained and repaired as required by the responsible agency or organization.
- c. Response plans are revised at regular intervals and updated accordingly by the HSEP.

### 3. Response

Services provided by rescue groups include but are not limited to:

- a. Maintenance of law and order.
- b. Locating any overdue boaters.
- c. Directing and controlling traffic during emergency operations.

- d. Assisting in alerting and evacuating people in and around the designated emergency zone.
  - e. Initiation of search and rescue missions as necessary.
  - f. Evacuation and relocation as required.
  - g. Emergency Operation Center coordination as appropriate.
  - h. Mobilization of support activities as required.
  - i. Administering emergency first aid.
4. Recovery

The West Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office or fire department (s) shall maintain response operations as necessary. This may include expanding the duties of the Search and Rescue Team.

- a. Public information activities.
- b. Initiate return when mission completed.
- c. Inventory and replace losses.
- d. Secure and return to normal duty.

#### IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

##### A. Coordination

- 1. Rescue operations call for any rescue operation to be managed by the dispatcher and the on scene commander.

2. Any rescue operation initiated during a “State of Emergency Declaration” shall be managed by the on scene commander and channeled through the Emergency Operation Center.

B. Operations

1. Day to day rescue operations are the assigned duties of fire department and sheriff's office personnel.
2. Volunteer Search and Rescue Associations will provide support when dispatched.
3. Volunteer search and rescue assistance is requested primarily for water related incidents in the parish, including boat accidents, missing persons, and downed aircraft incidents.

- C. In the event that all parish resources are overwhelmed further assistance will be requested from the state or federal government.

V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

- A. Direction and control of the total rescue force is the primary responsibility of the West Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office. All emergency responses requiring rescue operations and additional resource support will be channeled through the Sheriff's Office to the HSEP.
- B. Direction and Control for search and rescue operations in West Baton Rouge Parish may be conducted as a joint venture involving more than one agency or rescue group.
- C. The command structure during any emergency will be the same as day-to-day operations unless otherwise stipulated by the Sheriff or his designee.

VI. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

(See Basic Plan, Section VI)

## VII. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

### A. Administration

The HSEP is charged with the responsibility of coordinating with representatives of all Search and Rescue groups to insure that necessary changes are made in the emergency operation plans or procedures.

### B. Logistics

1. The Sheriff's Office or Fire Department(s) shall maintain its own logistical support during the initial phase of any response operation. Additional support may be obtained through the Emergency Operation Center, or Incident Command as needed.
2. The Sheriff's Office will check and replenish resources.

## VIII. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE AND EXECUTION

- A. The HSEP Director has the responsibility for coordinating revision of this annex, keeping attachments current.
- B. Directors of supporting agencies bear the responsibility of maintaining internal plans, implementing procedures and resource data to ensure effective response to an emergency.
- C. All other agencies given responsibility in this plan, in coordination with the HSEP are responsible for maintenance of their respective annexes or appendices.

## IX. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

### A. Authorities

(See Basic Plan, Section IX.)

### B. References

1. Guide for All Hazard Emergency Operations Planning, (SLG) 101, 1996, Federal Emergency Management Agency
2. SM14.2 Rescue Skills and Techniques (Formerly FC-1-11.1) DCPA