



Ensuring a safe and secure homeland for all North Dakotans

Regional Response VISION: An Integrated CBRNE response throughout North Dakota

Phase 1

Bomb Squad
SWAT
HAZCHEM

Phase 2

Search & Rescue
Urban-Search & Rescue
Structural Collapse
Underwater Search & Rescue

Phase 3

All Hazards

April 2011 Regional Response Coordinator Update:

Equipment Highlights:

Phase 1: Below are pictures of the equipment that was purchased for Bomb, SWAT, HAZCHEM and Mass Casualty. Although not all of these items were purchased with State Homeland Security Program funds – it is a representation of what is available for response. This equipment may be available to respond to your jurisdictions should an incident be beyond the local and mutual aid partner's capabilities and the proper procedures are followed by your jurisdiction. Each region has equipment that is similar in nature. This has been done to assure that each region has like capabilities and also to ensure if one region needs to go to another region to help out they will be using like equipment which helps in the transition. This equipment also comes with trained personal whom have been through extensive training to operate the equipment and whom train and use it on a regular basis. Please see the equipment pictures below:



Andros bomb disposal robot



Bomb squad response unit



ICOR bomb disposal robot



Bomb containment vessel



Kevlar suit for bomb disposal



Quick response vehicle and bomb disposal ICOR robot



Night vision goggles



Tactical officer wearing Kevlar body



Special operations response vehicle



SWAT team armored vehicle - located in anchor communities



Ballistic shield



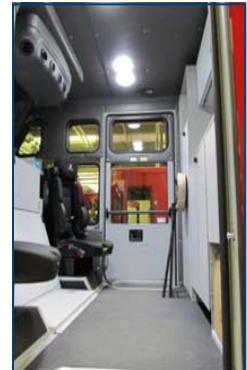
Body armor



Fully encapsulated Level A HazMat suit



Haz-Mat Emergency Response Vehicle



Interior - Emergency Response Vehicle



Equipment Trailer



Level B HazMat suit



Self-contained breathing apparatus

Phase 2: The possibility of statewide flooding this spring expedited the allocation of a portion of the FY 2010 grant under the Underwater Search & Rescue category. Those departments that were eligible applied and were awarded the funds for training and equipment that will be used for cold water search and rescue. Look for additional opportunities to apply for Phase 2 funding in the near future.

Personnel Highlights:

Bill Brown started in November serving as the coordinator in the SW Region. Bill, a retired captain from the Minot Police Department has 35 years of law enforcement experience working as a security policeman in the USAF and as an officer for the Minot Police Department. He was part of the Minot police department during the West Chem chemical fire in Minot during the early 80's as well as the anhydrous ammonia train derailment in Minot in 2002. Since 9-1-1, he has received considerable training from the Center for Domestic Preparedness and is certified Hazmat technician and is certified to teach a wide variety of both law enforcement and first responder training including all of the ICS classes through 400, WMD awareness, law enforcement protective measures for WMD, stress management and critical incident stress debriefings. During his spare time he also teaches criminal justice classes for Minot State University including terrorism. Below you will find Bill's contact information:

Bill Brown, MS
SW Regional Emergency Response Coordinator
North Dakota Department of Emergency Services
Homeland Security
C/O Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health Department
500 East Front Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58506-5503
Cell: (701) 425-4518
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Bob Wetzler, NW Regional Emergency Coordinator, resigned in February. The northwest region is currently being served by Joe Lies and Bill Brown until the position is filled as follows:

Bill Brown: Divide, Burke, Ward, McKenzie, Mountrail, McLean, Williams, and Three Affiliated Tribes.

Joe Lies: Bottineau, McHenry, Sheridan and Renville

Training Highlights:

Exercise Roughrider was conducted in the four regions. Exercise Roughrider was a two-fold exercise: the first part of the exercise was designed to test North Dakota's Frequency Management Plan. In particular, the exercise tested radio communications interoperability utilizing the Bank 5. The second part of the exercise was a tabletop exercise to provide participants an opportunity to evaluate current HazMat response concepts, plans, and capabilities for a response to a CBRNE event in North Dakota. The Exerciser Roughrider After Action Conference video is available on the NDDES website: <mms://video.ndhealth.gov/health/>

[Roughrider AARS 032411.wmv.](#)

IMAT Training: Members from IMAT teams participate in a flood exercise in preparation to this spring's potential flooding events. Members were also shown the IMAT command and gateway trailers which would be used in an IMAT deployment as well as the State Emergency Operations Center.

Upcoming Training:

Course PER 213 Wide Area Search.

Location: National Guard Army Aviation Support Facility, Bismarck ND

Date: October 18-20, 2011

The course is applicable to jurisdictions that would need to conduct wide area searches due to a natural disaster or terrorist incident. Participants will learn practical search methods and skills in order to perform systematic searches over a large affected area. To register use the email link below:

<http://www.nd.gov/des/events/detail.asp?eventID=72>

Planning Highlights:

Phase 2 of the Regional Emergency Response project is well underway. Phase 2 consists of Wild Land Search and Rescue, Urban Search and Rescue, Collapsed Structure Rescue and Water/Underwater Search and Rescue. Initial phase two focus was information gathering to determine what assets were already in place in North Dakota. This information was necessary so that it could be presented to a Search and Rescue Technical Committee. This committee is made up of three elected Sheriffs, four dive team members, (one from each region in the state) four firefighters with expertise in technical rescue, (one from each of the anchor city's fire departments) and a member of the Civil Air Patrol.

The first duty of the SAR Technical Committee was to address the first SAR priority set by the Policy Network for developing cold water search and rescue in our state. With flooding occurring nearly every year in our state, it was determined that addressing cold water rescue was paramount to the safety of those North Dakota residents that are affected. The SAR Technical Committee did recommend that the Policy Network release SHSP grant funds to assist the identified 13 dive teams in our state to purchase appropriate cold water rescue equipment. Ten dive teams applied for and were given grants to enhance their cold water rescue capabilities. These grants were awarded across the state with the individual needs of the different dive teams taken into consideration.

The SAR Technical Committee has also recommended that the Policy Network bring Search and Rescue Training into the state via the TEEX Wide Area Search course taught by Texas A&M University. The Policy Network has in turn directed ND DES training staff to schedule this course for North Dakota. It is now scheduled for October 18-20 in Bismarck and registration is open now.

The SAR Technical Committee is working to finalize recommended plans for development of regional collapsed structure and Urban Search and Rescue response. They will also be looking at completing the needs assessment for water rescue in our state and looking at any other potential Search and Rescue needs that may need to be addressed in the future. Once

complete, their recommendations will be presented to the Policy Network for consideration.

A State of North Dakota Recommended Mutual Aid Agreement has been developed and is being distributed. The template meets all of the FEMA required nine elements. Regional Coordinators will be assisting in distributing this document throughout their regions beginning in April.

Communications Highlights:

The Statewide Frequency Management Plan has been finalized and tested during the Exercise Roughrider.

The state is in the process of working on meeting the federal narrow banding requirements and will be hiring an employee to head up that process.

Description of Phase 2 Capabilities

Search and Rescue

A search and rescue mission conducted in a rural area often given to farming or to woodland and is usually sparsely to moderately populated. May include areas of wilderness generally uncultivated, uninhabited and often inaccessible by road.

Urban Search and Rescue

A search and rescue mission conducted in moderately to heavily populated areas given primarily to business and residential development.

Structural Collapse

A search and rescue mission of persons from collapsed buildings or other urban and industrial entrapments. Structure collapse may include dangers associated with live electrical wires, broken natural gas lines and other hazards.

Underwater Search and Rescue

The use of aircraft, surface craft, specialized submarine equipment and rescue teams to search for and rescue personnel in distress on or below the surface of the water.

Descriptions derived from definitions from United States Search and Rescue Task Force Glossary and Acronyms at www.ussartf.org/glossary.

In Closing:

As always, if you have questions regarding regional response, or would like to schedule a visit to your area for a regional response update, call your regional response coordinator. We will continue our effort to strengthen capabilities and improve communications. Thank you for your assistance and commitment to public safety.

NW Regional Coordinator: Vacant

NE Regional Coordinator: Joe Lies – 701-425-4522

Including the following NW Counties: Bottineau, McHenry, Renville, Sheridan

SE Regional Coordinator: Dwight Stewart – 701-425-5056

SW Regional Coordinator: Bill Brown – 701-425-4518

Including the following NW Counties/Tribe: Burke, Divide, McKenzie, McLean, Mountrail, Three Affiliated Tribes, Ward, Williams