



**FEMA**

## **US&R GENERAL MEMORANDUM – 2015-080**

July 28, 2015

**FOR:** National Urban Search & Rescue Response System  
Task Force Representatives

**FROM:** Fred Endrikat, Chief  
Urban Search and Rescue Branch

**SUBJECT:** US&R General Memorandum 2015-080 – US&R Strategic Group Meeting Notes  
– April 2014

The US&R Strategic Group meeting took place in San Diego, CA on April 9, 2015.

The attached draft meeting notes are being distributed to the National US&R Response System for review. Recommended changes or corrections to the notes should be sent to Wanda Casey at [wanda.casey@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:wanda.casey@fema.dhs.gov) within 21 days of this distribution.

If any changes are submitted, a revised version of this General Memorandum with the updated notes will be issued.

**Attachments:**

Strategic Group Meeting Notes – April 9, 2015

**cc:**

US&R Strategic Group  
US&R Branch Staff  
FEMA Regional ESF #9 Representatives  
US&R Advisory Group

**Federal Emergency Management Agency  
National Urban Search & Rescue Response System  
US&R Strategic Group Meeting Notes**

**San Diego, CA**

April 9, 2015

**PARTICIPANTS:**

Bob Farmer	FEMA Operations Division Director
Fred Endrikat	FEMA US&R Branch Chief (Vice-Chair/Facilitator)
Chief Steve Cover	Sponsoring Agency Chiefs' Representative – Divisional (East)
Chief Don Lombardi	Sponsoring Agency Chiefs' Representative – Divisional (Central)
Walter White	Sponsoring Agency Chiefs' Representative – Divisional (West)
Rickie Bartee	Task Force Representative – National
Bill Brown	Advisory Group Chair
Joe Downey	Task Force Representative – Divisional (East)
Rod Tyus	Task Force Representative – Divisional (Central)
Chris Costamagna	Task Force Representative – Divisional (West)
Dean Scott	FEMA US&R Branch – Operations Section Chief
Catherine Deel	FEMA US&R Branch
Andy Hubert	FEMA US&R Branch
Bill Kang	FEMA US&R Branch
Doug Nakama	Deputy Advisory Group Chair
Richard Ventura	Logistics Functional Group Leader
Keith Bevan	Planning Functional Group Leader
Jeff Saunders	Operations Functional Group Leader
Pat Seigh	Finance/Admin Functional Group Leader
Randy Journigan	RED IST Leader / IST Representative

**PURPOSE:**

Improve the effectiveness of the National Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Response System through a shared vision, communications, and consensus at the executive strategic level.

**MEETING PROCEEDINGS:**

**Opening Remarks / Introductions**

- **Pledge Of Allegiance**
- **Moment of Silence**
- **Welcome and Introductions** - Mr. Robert Farmer, Director of the Operations Division at FEMA, and Chair of the US&R Strategic Group delegated facilitation of the meeting to Fred Endrikat, US&R Branch Chief.

**Validate Agenda**

- All members agree with priorities in Agenda (Attached after meeting notes)

## US&R Strategic Group Meeting – April 9, 2015

### Reviewed and approved December 2014 Meeting Notes

- Motion to approve previous meeting notes by Chief Cover, second made by Chief Lombardi  
- Unanimous vote to accept the meeting notes.
- \* December 2014 Meeting Notes attached at end of this document

### Review of status of Action Items from December 2014 US&R Strategic Group Meeting

Action Item#	Status Description
<b>#1</b>	<p>US&amp;R Branch to prepare a business case to adequately fund the current level of capability for respiratory protection for all-hazards based on results from Action Item #2. Business would focus on a stand-alone congressional appropriation for adequate sustainment capability.</p> <p><b>(Fred Endrikat) Status: Work in progress, pending additional research.</b></p>
<b>#2</b>	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Operations Functional Group</b> to create a White Paper examining pros and cons of reducing the number of SCBA equipment within task forces, to include not just historical perspective but also catastrophic planning assumptions (e.g., 10KT in Chicago): <b>due date – February 2015.</b></p> <p><b>Status: Completed and recommendation now under consideration for final action</b></p>
<b>#3</b>	<p>US&amp;R Branch to create a white paper outlining a formal recommendation with potential courses of action and spreading out over years (reference #2 above). Build business case to present to OMB for a possible separate appropriation. Create as soon as possible in preparation for the FY2016 budget planning process.</p> <p><b>Status: Work in progress pending ongoing research, A little time was secured with possible 18 month window of time based on pending solution</b></p>
<b>#4</b>	<p>US&amp;R Branch to coordinate with Disaster Emergency Communications (DEC) to ascertain current status of their bulk purchase of DHS radios.</p> <p><b>Status: Work in progress, will be completed in conjunction with Advisory Group</b></p>
<b>#5</b>	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Logistics Functional Group</b> (in coordination with Andy Hubert, US&amp;R Branch) to analyze entire IST vehicle fleet to determine what is needed for replacement: <b>due date – February 2015.</b></p> <p><b>Status: Completed, more information and discussion at the annual Work Group meetings</b></p>
<b>#6</b>	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Logistics Functional Group</b> to research all options and develop proposed courses of action for overall IST Communications capability. This should include looking at leveraging TF ability to use other sources through MOU with agencies that already have asset around country to respond with IST – look at what is already out among the task forces. Will need to be “typed” to ensure we know what asset we are getting. Examine possibility to work with National Guard Civil support team for Comm capability – MOU or Pre- scripted MA: <b>due date – February 2015</b></p> <p><b>Work in progress; more information by the end of this meeting; further discussion and more information at the Advisory Group Meetings</b></p>

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<p><b>#7</b></p>	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Logistics Functional Group</b> to conduct a vehicle survey, including assets and other major items in the cache: <b>due date – February 2015.</b></p> <p><b>Status: Survey is completed with actual survey to be out in next 10 days</b></p>
<p><b>#8</b></p>	<p>US&amp;R Branch to continue to pursue discussion with OCC and FEMA property (Luis Morales) to resolve issue of equipment cache titling to SAs and coordinate with Senior Staff.</p> <p><b>Status: Work in progress, working with OCC. Looking at options of excessing equipment. Several options under consideration.</b></p>
<p><b>#9</b></p>	<p>US&amp;R Branch to coordinate with Strategic Group and submit White Paper justification for increase in annual budget through channels at FEMA.</p> <p><b>Status: Work in progress, based on status of pending legislation. Senior FEMA leadership has been briefed.</b></p>
<p><b>#10</b></p>	<p>US&amp;R Branch (Wanda Casey) to assemble the detailed documentation from NM-TF1, from the first time they started to have the compliance issue through current, the measures that have been taken to help the task force.</p> <p><b>Status: Completed with details being finalized</b></p>
<p><b>#11</b></p>	<p>Line 75: US&amp;R Branch to work with GPD to work up specific parameters to provide more detail. How do you define “properly expend”?</p> <p><b>Status: Completed with the results edited in the White Paper.</b></p>
<p><b>#12</b></p>	<p>US&amp;R Branch to present revised non-compliance white paper to reflect changes agreed to by the Strategic Group to Mr. Farmer for his review.</p> <p><b>Status: Completed</b></p>
<p><b>#13</b></p>	<p>US&amp;R Branch to look at funding mechanisms, both the way we fund the grant and how we are going to rewrite the grant. Cost sharing with US&amp;R travel dollars and roll into grant vs. program office. Don’t want to touch the CA dollars.</p> <p><b>Status: Work in progress, pending further coordination with OCC and the GPD</b></p>
<p><b>#14</b></p>	<p>US&amp;R Branch to continue coordinating participation with NPAD and EMAP in the development of the EMAP pilot process, to include participation in eight pilot evaluations this year.</p> <p><b>Status: Work in progress, significant progress made. Anticipated the Final pilot to be done in July.</b></p>
<p><b>#15</b></p>	<p>US&amp;R Branch, in coordination with Strategic Group, to continue work with EMAP on the work group that is determining standards for the pilot ORE.</p> <p><b>Status: Work in progress, substantial progress made</b></p>

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#16	<p>Divisional and National TFRs to coordinate with US&amp;R Branch to finalize student list for EMAP assessor class pilot and send to US&amp;R Branch by December 15<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Status: Completed and class delivered in FL</p>
#17	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Planning Functional Group</b> the adjustment of System doctrine to adhere to the new NIMS Resource Typing standards (the current 508) for Type III, to include deploying with a Type I cache when deploying as a Type III task force: <b>due date – Phase I - March 2015 and Completion by June 2015.</b></p> <p>Status: Work in progress</p>
#18	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Logistics Functional Group</b> to draft Type I, II, III, and IV cache lists (e.g., PPE): <b>due date - September 2015.</b></p> <p>Status: completed with future adjustments anticipated pending comments from System and adjudication from EMAP</p>
#19	<p>US&amp;R Branch to revise all courses and doctrine to reflect the new typing doctrine needing update.</p> <p>Status: Work in progress, pending continuing discussion related to EMAP and USAR typing standards. Coordination to occur by Response Operations AHWG.</p>
#20	<p>US&amp;R Branch in conjunction with Strategic Group to coordinate with NPAD to develop a concept of operation with corresponding potential COAs and build a business case to present to Katie Fox and Mr. Farmer.</p> <p>Status: Work in progress</p>
#21	<p>Advisory Group to meet and finalize personnel selection process for positions on groups that are vacant: <b>due date – December 15, 2014.</b></p> <p>Status: Completed</p>
#22	<p>Advisory Group assigned <b>Planning Functional Group</b> to re-communicate RadWatch/RadReader Policy/Procedures as delineated in Annex B, as required: <b>due date – March 1, 2015.</b></p> <p>Status: Completed and posted on responsesystem.org website for visibility</p>
#23	<p>US&amp;R Branch to have warehouse staff take a look at excess property and see if they can obtain up to 7 pick-up trucks for the Air trailer on the HEPP Cache.</p> <p>Status: Work in progress, Three have been obtained and delivered to TF at no costs</p>
#24	<p>Senior Staff to have <b>Planning Functional Group</b> coordinate with SIS Ad Hoc Group to expedite study and recommendations for new technology related to GIS search documentation and reporting: <b>due date – February 2015.</b></p> <p>Status: Completed with continuing movement; Ad Hoc continues to push this forward</p>

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#25	<p>US&amp;R Branch to develop White Paper with the help of Senior Staff related to GIS expertise considerations for the US&amp;R Branch staff. Consider having a full-time staff devoted to GIS for tactical operations, potentially through a detail from NGA.</p> <p>Status: Work in progress based ongoing discussion with NGA and FEMA remote sensing coordinator</p>
#26	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Operations Functional Group</b> to examine and make recommendation on rescue inflatable boats to be added to the cache: <b>due date – February 2015.</b></p> <p>Status: Work in progress pending system posting with due date change to July 15<sup>th</sup></p>
#27	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Operations Functional Group</b> to develop survey for task forces that have current swift water capability (# of trained, to what standard, etc.) and what would the costs be to train personnel to obtain this skill set within the task force: <b>due date – June 2015.</b></p> <p>Status: Work in progress pending system posting with due date change to July 15<sup>th</sup></p>
#28	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Planning Functional Group</b> to assist US&amp;R Branch in developing more detailed CONOPS for each of the OCONUS areas listed in this meeting's agenda: <b>due date – March 2015.</b></p> <p>Status: Work in progress, minimal accomplishment to date. Due date change to June</p>
#29	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Finance/Admin Functional Group</b> to coordinate with FEMA OCC to address SA's concern for coverage; workers' compensation issues: <b>due date – March 2015.</b></p> <p>Status: Work in progress</p>
#30	<p>US&amp;R Branch to finalize date of next Strategic Group meeting. Initial tentative date identified is April 9, 2015 pending confirmation with CA-TF8, same date as Grant Managers' Session.</p> <p>Status: Completed</p>
#31	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Planning Functional Group</b> appropriate Functional Group to develop and conduct a survey regarding ability each of the 28 SAs to simultaneously deploy a Type I and Type III (new) task force: <b>due date – March 2015.</b></p> <p>Status: Work in progress, Survey under development with adjusted due date to June.</p>
#32	<p>US&amp;R Branch to go back to GPD and appropriate Federal property entities to resolve in favor of Sponsoring Agencies in order to help develop another cache to allow for multiple task forces from the same SA.</p> <p>Status: Work in progress, Minimal accomplishment to date.</p>
#33	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Logistics Functional Group</b> to take a look at reducing the number of pallets required for deployment from 18 to 10 pallets (fly-away) with the new cache list in mind, potentially converting a Type I to a model comparable to that used for OFDA missions: <b>due date – September 2015.</b></p> <p>Status: Work in progress, maintain same due date.</p>

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<p>#34</p>	<p>US&amp;R Branch will provide comments from this meeting’s Sponsoring Agency Chief’s break out session to Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Group members when seated for consideration.</p> <p><b>Status: Will be completed today.</b></p>
<p>#35</p>	<p>Senior Staff assigned <b>Planning Functional Group</b> to collaborate multi-task force exercise planning, to include lessons learned from the previous year’s activities, to include: funding amounts, exercises types, venue selection, and proximity exercising task forces based on renewed support by the SAC’s.: <b>due date – February 15, 2015.</b></p> <p><b>Status: Work in progress, survey completed and under review. Due date change to September 2015</b></p>
<p>#36</p>	<p>US&amp;R Branch and Strategic Group to work with FEMA OCC to coordinate with DOJ in reference local law enforcement personnel and their ability, or inability, to be federalized. Additionally, identify any unmet System needs related to either Force Protection or Physical Security.</p> <p><b>Status: Work in progress,</b></p> <p>{Fred Endrikat} Need to have further discussion for force protection Requirements in System Doctrine by or before next Strategic meeting.</p> <p>{Dean Scott} - Determine the difference between Force protection and BoO Protection and the need for prescribed Mission Assignments</p> <p>{Randy Journigan} Can we use National Guard partners at the State level. IST leaders have had discussions.</p> <p>{Keith Bevan} In the past Law Enforcement presence has been a deterrent</p> <p>{Walt White} Issues seems to be communications/interaction between TF and Force Protection/Law Enforcement</p> <p>{Rickie Bartee} Can we push issue back to SAC Chiefs for review of “requirement”?</p> <p>{Bob Farmer} Caution to adding anything that will make our TF’s Slower. US&amp;R is now the only entity that requires/request Force Protection. Need to be judicial in use.</p>
<p>#37</p>	<p><b>Finance/Admin Functional Group and Wanda Casey</b> to change FY2015 SOW language to give the ability to fund HRD capability expenses in the same way as Live Find Canine Search Teams. <b>due date – January 15, 2015.</b></p> <p><b>Status: Accomplished in draft form and will be finalized in budget discussion</b></p>

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<b>#38</b>	Senior Staff assigned <b>Operations Functional Group</b> to examine potential Alternative methods to maintain System canine resources depth: <b>due date –June 2015.</b>  <b>Status: Work in progress, meeting next week</b>

### Finalization of FY 2015 Draft Budget Spend Plan

{Fred Endrikat} The goal was to get as much funding as possible to the Sponsoring Agencies /TF's. Discussion about the "uniform" baseline amount; Lines 1-8 can be adjusted by individual TF; \$ 1.125 Million. Rickie Bartee and Chris Costamagna were comfortable with that level of funding.

Line Items 9-11 (Base Cooperative Agreement Costs) will remain the same.  
Discussion on line items 9-12

**Action item #1:** Move cost subtotal for the IST Medical Equipment caches to the three TFs that support IST equipment caches as opposed to individual doctors. Initiate study on Medical Cache components/inventory and develop Conop and provide recommendation to Senior Staff

Line Item 10 (IST Cache Maintenance) discussion: Group discussion with acceptance of current funding level

Line Item 11 (HEPP Cache Maintenance) discussion: Group discussion with acceptance of current funding level

Line item 12 (SCBA Replacement) – zero out (184K to be transferred to another line item);

Discussion: {Fred Endrikat} 6 initial "WMD" (post 9-11) Task Force's SCBA bottles to timeout. Possible alternative idea discussion heard yesterday. {Richard Ventura}- reallocate resource to decrease SCBA bottles to 16 per TF and reallocate the remaining SCBA's to HEPP; Placed funds into Base Cooperative Agreement Amount (now Line Item 6) for shipping

{Fred Endrikat} This buys our system some time. SCBA bottles will need to be shipped with maintenance records

**Action Item #2:** Advisory Group to poll Allied Work Group input- Hazmat, Logistics, etc. to finalize and determine logistics, shipping costs, details to transfer/process, and consideration to changing system doctrine to modifying HEPP response to match system need.

Line 13 (National Level Training Delivery Hosting) - The aggregate amount will remain the same.

Discussion: More discussion to determine which TF's host which courses. Priority will be to utilize pilot courses of new LMS.

Group discussion to the need for additional T t T courses and associated system need.



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**Action Item #3:** Advisory Organization to determine specific requirements for the number of students for additional deliveries (one or more) of Hazmat Specialist T t T course and work with TFR-D's to determine delivery locations and associated costs.

Line 14-15 (Multi-Task Force Field and Table Top Exercises) Pause expenditure this year pending more research

Group discussion to the succession planning benefit of these exercises. Based on conversations with System members and TFR's, consideration to pause the exercises for the FY to do more research as to true cost.

Task Forces to evaluate possibility of doing local exercises or other alternative options.

{Randy Journigan} Discussion as to the possibility of appropriating funding for IST to participate at local level Mobex level training.

**Action Item #4:** US&R Branch to work with John Rabin and make contact with National Exercise Division as to additional possible funding streams for US&R System exercises.

**Action Item #5:** Advisory Organization to work with Functional groups & IST GA and IST GR to determine true cost of IST participation in Exercise and evaluation of S-420 courses for ISTs.

Line item 16 (IST S-420 Course Hosting – Additional Funding to IN-TF1): Group Discussion relative to IST participation per Task Forces. Item represents addition to FY2014 to fund remaining gap in costs (from original cost projected in FY14 budget).

Line Item 17 (IST S-420 Course Hosting CY2016): Increased amount based on actual expenses from 2015 IST courses

Line Item 18 (IST Continuing Ed Workshop Hosting): Discussion as to maintaining IST Continuing Education and occurrence of TF's rotating personnel through IST Con. Ed and not going every year.

Group Discussion as to benefits, timeframes, and Instructor cost of S420 Courses, designed outside of our system. The S420 course provides an opportunity to mentor and shadow

Indiana to provide actual costs to US&R Branch for S420 course 2015

Line Item 19 (Annual SAC, TFR & Advisory Org Mtg Hosting): Members ok with line item.

Line Item 20 (IST Leader/C&GS Stipend) -Agreed with line item, Significant discussion as to existing costs and desire to take advantage of opportunities for senior leaders/C&G. Discussion as to the benefit to the System of having senior leaders/C&G at training inside/outside of our System.

**Action Item #6:** Advisory Organization to coordinate with TFR-D's to coordinate on requirements and parameters for training opportunities related to additional Stipend. Cross referenced with statement of work.

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Group Discussion and recommendation to increase Line 20 stipend overall to incorporate 10 C&G members at \$1500 each to add an additional \$15,000. Discussed and preliminarily approved.

**Action Item #7:** Advisory Organization to review charter for ESF partner Ad Hoc Work Group and make a recommendation regarding Sunsetting this work group and reassigning responsibility to Exercise Planning subgroup.

**Action Item #8:** Randy to develop priority list of IST personnel and forward to Advisory Organization to be included to system wide exercise opportunities

Line Item 21(Advisory Org Member Stipends)-Group reviewing line item, FE- subtotal is more than last year. Discussion on the issue with DFGL not having dedicated stipend.

Group discussion about possibly lowering FGL stipend from 12k to 8K creating 4k for DFGL positions. TFR-D also offered to reduce to from 18k to 15k .

**Action Item #9:** US&R Branch Staff to add line item for 4 Deputy Functional Group Leaders with stipend amount TBD and location of funding stream TBD. Discussion revolved around reducing FGL Stipend or reducing TFR-D's Stipend, or accessing 184K made available from SCBA purchase deferment.

Line Item 22 (Canine Evaluations)-Significant change from nine to six. Based on additional analysis and after consultation with System SMEs.

Line Item 28 (US&R Branch Training, Exercise & RAP Travel Costs)- Change, near doubling due to EMAP and readiness travel. Will monitor and adjust in coming months.

Line Item 34 (USACE Interagency Agreement) - Carry over from previous years

Line Item 35 (Nat'l Training Development/Delivery/LMS Upgrade) - Represents a reduction from 900k to 600k. Targeted to course Construction/revision/updates. 500k represents development of pending 3 classes. The additional 100k represents inclusion of GPS Awareness, Technician, and Specialist Training. Based on discussion today Air Ops will likely require additional training funding. Discussion of cost of SCORM requirement to include classes into LMS system.

Group concurred.

Line Item 37 (IST Equipment) – Used for IST member clothing, etc.

Line Item 38 (Security Clearances) – US&R Branch to validate this is the correct # of clearances needed for this FY

**Action Item #10:** US&R Branch to research and obtain more accurate estimate of costs/number of needed security clearances /projections

Line Item 39 (US&R IST & HEPP Fleet Use & Maintenance) - slight increase based on actuals

Line Item 42 (IST Cache Trailers) – zeroed out but in previous fiscal year we spent near 80 k

## US&R Strategic Group Meeting – April 9, 2015

Line Item 93 (Travel Total) - Total individual line

{Fred Endrikat} Proposed that this budget spend plan be finalized by April 20<sup>th</sup>  
{Fred Endrikat}The remaining 184K (initially identified for SCBA capital reinvestment) should be distributed to cooperative agreements pending status of DFGL stipends allotments.

### **Canine Search Team discussion**

{Fred Endrikat}-Need to evaluate the need to 12 canines per TF. Need to discuss existing language in doctrine for resource sharing. According to system doctrine, TF's need to have 8 canines in order to participate in resource sharing.

Need to re-visit and re-evaluate resource sharing.

{Scott- Chair of canine subgroup} Average Canines is 8 per TF's. Important and proven resource. Subgroup will evaluate options of systems/dogs.

{Fred Endrikat}- Need to evaluate options for system doctrine without lowering standards but remaining realistic.

{Jeff Saunders} Asked Subgroup to look into possibility of canines/handler cross-training. Need to comprehensively evaluate and find alternative solutions.

{Rod Tyus}- Concur to evaluating overall issue but personal considerations are a factor with handler and dog

{Randy Journigan}When we consider resource sharing discussion it is past just dogs and applicable to Dogs, Docs, STS when considering standard changes

{Fred Endrikat}Need to review ARE requirements/benchmarks before we self-impose and take TF's out of service over these requirements

{Keith Bevan}The importance of taking all system documents and ensure they are consistent and aligned will be focus of Policy and Documentation.

{Bill Brown}- need to ensure we don't conflict with EMAP Standards. EMAP standard comment period closes today.

{Richard Ventura}-We can't be only system with maintaining canine certifications. {ROD TYUS}- Many SUSAR Teams only have type 2 certified dogs.

{Richard Ventura}- In our State, RTF utilize similar canines for RTF Certifications. Flexibility

{Dean Scott}- need to also consider one handler may be certified with multiple canines. Need to evaluate that the number of canines versus handler. What does the standard say as to the actual standard terminology?

{Tom Neal} Are we considering opening course to SUSAR resource to deepen pool of resources.

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{Bill Kang} –The recommendation to the National Integration Center (NIC) Resource Typing Standard on Canine resource definition(s) was formally “reject”.

{Walter White}- Concerned about the number of teams a single canine can be shared with. Need a defined policy and practice.

{Don Lombardi}-Regional approach may give us a more robust flexible system.

**Action Item #11:** Advisory Organization to further evaluate canine resource sharing doctrine

Discussion: {Bill Brown} Can we make an interim rule to lower canine number in concert with canine subgroup by next Strategic meeting

{Scott Mateyaschuk- Chair of canine subgroup} Good with reducing line item 22 to 6 canine search Specialist Training. Those events can accommodate live find and HR.

{Fred Endrikat} We need to review how funding for Canine Evaluations has been distributed in the past. Historically, this has been divided up equally between Divisions, as opposed to “Centers of Excellence”.

{Joe Downey} Are site considerations an issue? Personnel issue? Cost from flights, etc.

{Dean Scott} Costs of concrete is very expensive to construct rubble piles specific to California.

{Rickie Bartee} Should we survey where 6 locations should be?

{Fred Endrikat} Scott Mateyaschuk to poll subgroup on Training locations

{Scott Mateyaschuk} TF personnel issues are a significant issue. Will discuss currency issues with reducing training opportunities.

{Dean Scott} The evaluations will be relative to when the canines time out and/or are actually ready to test.

{Jeff Saunders} The announcements need to come out 90 days in advance

\*\*Discussion on cycle of meetings and the ability to preschedule. Specifically missing holidays, and high traffic locations. Discussion on keeping meetings close to similar time frame.

### **Finalization of Task Force Non-Compliance White Paper**

{Fred Endrikat} Request members to review reference documents E&F. Mr. Farmer and senior FEMA leadership are in support of Non-Compliance action.

Significant discussion about status; clarification provided for a number of issues.

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**Action Item #12:** Advisory Organization to clarify Line 109. Changes should be concurrent with PD language of first 24 hour/closest response language. Resend out to Strategic group for final comment.

\*\*Above comments reference the non-compliance White Paper document and the associated comment adjudication review form (projected in large format on screen).

### US&R Future Considerations

- US&R Resource Cataloging & Validation AHWG Initiative

Discussion: Fred Endrikat- Work in progress. Fred discussed previous actions of this AHWG and the three interdependent considerations (the work of this AHWG; the NIMS/US&R Resource Typing Standard and the third-party (EMAP)) validation initiative. Fred discussed the “future vision” of the National US&R Response System.

Bill Brown – Where ever this lives it needs to have permanent staff to monitor and maintain

Rickey Bartee- We should give an opportunity for SACR to consult with 28 TFR to provide concurrence

Mr. Farmer – If resource request comes to Federal side (NRCC) it will be filled with Federal Type I TF.

Group Discussion regarding Response Only Cooperative Agreement and past System history. Additional discussion regarding what could potentially make up the “Response System” and resource comparison and resource type comparison.

Questions/discussion as to the clarification/defining the true benefit (I.E. Interoperability) of the Capabilities of Federal Task Forces.

Significant discussion occurred on the NIMS US&R Typing Initiative.

**Action Item #13:** Advisory Organization to assign senior staff to draft CONOP for the Type IV NIMS US&R Resource

- Detailed overview on the NPAD EMAP Pilot Readiness Assessment Program, presented by Fred; and follow-on discussion.

### US&R Advisory Organization

Discussion: {Fred Endrikat} Question if the IST is being represented appropriately with new Advisory Organization structure.

Review of implementation, structure, and current thoughts on lines of communication

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{Randy Journigan} Seems to be some struggles with full implementation/Rolls responsibilities of IST-GA

{Ken Wright} Seem to be in a holding pattern with regard to decision capabilities.

{Keith Bevan} It seems as though the IST piece doesn't really have a place. Should IST-GA be in Management?

**Action Item #14:** Senior Staff to complete a one year review of new Advisory Organization including issue of IST Representation

{Keith Bevan}- What is an Issue? What is a recommendation? These definitions are going to be more spelled out in doctrine.

{Chris Costamagna}- Some issues get resolved at lower levels but TFR-D's need more visibility.

{Keith Bevan}- Can you please provide example?

{Keith Bevan}- The system seems to be handling issues at appropriate level.

Group discussion – Information passage improvements and the current flow path of forms.

Bill Brown – We need to remember that this new system is only officially 3 months old. These growing pains are completely normal and expected from this type of system.

**Action Item #15:** Senior Staff to review status of Advisory System during first day at June Advisory Group meetings

Randy Journigan – Advisory Organization still needs personal growth. This system is moving fast in a short period.

### Seating of US&R Strategic Plan AHWG

Fred Endrikat - our Strategic Plan needs to be in line with the new FEMA Strategic Plan and Administrator Fugate's guidance document.

Discussion: Group Discussion to add additional representatives to the new Strategic Plan AHWG to balance representation.

**Action Item #16:** US&R Branch to validate and finalize member of Strategic AHWG Refresh and to draft and distribute GM, as well schedule initial Conference call. This should include training plan. In Addition to noted applicants in reference document, the group decided to add Chris Costamagna, Jim Yakimovich, Kevin Fetterman, Jeff Strickland, and Craig Murphy, Dean Scott, and Mike Good .

\*Overarching Guidance:

1. Merge Strategic Training Plan with overall Plan
2. Should be a rewrite as opposed to a new plan

### Discussions and issues from TFR / TFL Meeting on April 7-8, 2015

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Proposed US&R Legislation: Brief discussion of the progress.

Brief Discussion of recent engagement with Congressional Research Service

- AAR submittal is pending

### Logistics Issues

- FY15 Budget-related issues (Capital investments)
- Cache reduction initiative
- Cache considerations relative to NIMS US&R Resource Typing
- 29<sup>th</sup> Cache
- Vehicle / Convoy Standards
  - Busses / Sprinter vans

Group discussion on Convoy Plans and vehicles.

{Richard Ventura}- We really need honest feedback as to convoy standard and vehicles that exist in task force inventories.

**Action Item #17:** Advisory Organization/senior staff to task Logistics Functional Group Leader to develop a survey regarding existing inventory, use, use/purchase of buses, sprinter vans and/or overall fleet type. Provide a recommendation as appropriate.

### US&R Response Operations Ad Hoc Work Group

Discussion as to the recent meeting and pending recommendations

Deployment of Multiple Teams from Individual Task Forces

- Reference: US&R Bottom-Up Review
- Type III Equipment Cache Gap Analysis
- Catastrophic Planning Initiatives / NLEs

Group discussion

### US&R System Calendar

US&R Calendar reviewed and discussed on overhead projector.

### New Business

Group discussion as to training class cycle and training delivery. Consideration to not using hotel blocks and not getting locked into contracts.

**Action Item #18:** Advisory Organization to task Medical Work Group to research and develop a recommendation for post deployment medical surveillance and long term medical surveillance.

Adjourn at 1730

## US&R Strategic Group Meeting – April 9, 2015

### Strategic Group Meeting Action Items Summary April 9, 2015

**Action Item #1:** - Move cost subtotal for the IST Medical Equipment caches to the three TFs that support IST equipment caches as opposed to individual doctors. Initiate study on Medical Cache components/inventory and develop Conop and provide recommendation to Senior Staff

**Action Item #2:** Advisory Group to poll Allied Work Group input- Hazmat, Logistics, etc. to finalize and determine logistics, shipping costs, details to transfer/process, and consideration to changing system doctrine to modifying HEPP response to match system need.

**Action Item #3:** Advisory Organization to determine specific requirements for the number of students for additional deliveries (one or more) of Hazmat Specialist T t T course and work with TFR-D's to determine delivery locations and associated costs.

**Action Item #4:** US&R Branch to work with John Rabin and make contact with National Exercise Division as to additional possible funding streams for US&R System exercises.

**Action Item #5:** Advisory Organization to work with Functional groups & IST GA and IST GR to determine true cost of IST participation in Exercise and evaluation of S-420 courses for ISTs.

**Action Item #6:** Advisory Organization to coordinate with TFR-D's to coordinate on requirements and parameters for training opportunities related to additional Stipend. Cross reference with statement of work.

**Action Item #7:** Advisory Organization to review charter for ESF partner Ad Hoc Work Group and make a recommendation regarding Sunsetting this work group and reassigning responsibility to Exercise Planning subgroup.

**Action Item #8:** Randy to develop priority list of IST personnel and forward to Advisory Organization to be included to system wide exercise opportunities

**Action Item #9:** US&R Branch Staff to add line item for 4 Deputy Functional Group Leaders with stipend amount TBD and location of funding stream TBD. Discussion revolved around reducing FGL Stipend or reducing TFR-D's Stipend, or accessing 184K made available from SCBA purchase deferment.

**Action Item #10:** US&R Branch to research and obtain more accurate estimate of costs/number of needed security clearances /projections

**Action Item #11:** Advisory Organization to further evaluate canine resource sharing doctrine



## US&R Strategic Group Meeting – April 9, 2015

**Action Item #12:** Advisory Organization to clarify Line 109. Changes should be concurrent with PD language of first 24 hour/closest response language. Resend out to Strategic group for final comment.

**Action Item #13:** Advisory Organization to assign senior staff to draft CONOP for the Type IV NIMS US&R Resource

**Action Item #14:** Senior Staff to complete a one year review of new Advisory Organization including issue of IST Representation

**Action Item #15:** Senior Staff to review status of Advisory System during first day at June Advisory Group meetings

**Action Item #16:** US&R Branch to validate and finalize member of Strategic AHWG Refresh and to draft and distribute GM, as well schedule initial Conference call. This should include training plan. In Addition to noted applicants in reference document, the group decided to add Chris Costamagna, Jim Yakimovich, Kevin Fetterman, Jeff Strickland, and Craig Murphy, Dean Scott, and Mike Good.

**Action Item #17:** US&R Branch to validate and finalize member of Strategic AHWG Refresh and to draft and distribute GM, as well schedule initial Conference call. This should include training plan. In Addition to noted applicants in reference document, the group decided to add Chris Costamagna, Jim Yakimovich, Kevin Fetterman, Jeff Strickland, and Craig Murphy, Dean Scott, and Mike Good.

**Action Item #18:** Advisory Organization to task Medical Work Group to research and develop a recommendation for post deployment medical surveillance and long term medical surveillance.

# US&R Strategic Group Meeting – April 9, 2015

## Federal Emergency Management Agency National Urban Search & Rescue Response System US&R Strategic Group Meeting –San Diego, California

April 9, 2015

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



## Agenda

- Opening Remarks / Introductions
    - Pledge Of Allegiance
    - Moment of Silence
    - Welcome and Introductions
  - Validate Agenda
  - Review and approve December 2014 Meeting Notes (*\*Reference Document*)
  - Review of status of Action Items from December 2014 US&R Strategic Group Meeting (*\*Reference Document*)
  - Discussion / Validation of Priority Issues for this meeting (*\*Listed below in suggested priority order*)
- 
- Finalization of FY 2015 Draft Budget Spend Plan (*\*Reference Documents*)
  - Finalization of Task Force Non-Compliance White Paper (*\*Reference Documents*)
  - US&R Future Considerations (*\*Reference Documents*)
    - US&R Resource Cataloging & Validation AHWG Initiative
    - NIMS US&R Typing Initiative
    - NPAD EMAP Pilot Readiness Assessment Program
  - US&R Advisory Organization
    - Review of implementation, structure, and current thoughts on lines of communication
    - Recent National TFR election process)
  - Seating of US&R Strategic Plan AHWG
  - Discussions and issues from TFR / TFL Meeting on April 7-8, 2015
  - Proposed US&R Legislation
    - Recent engagement with Congressional Research Service

## US&R Strategic Group Meeting – April 9, 2015

- Training and Exercises issues related to FY15 Budget Spend Plan
- Logistics Issues
  - FY15 Budget-related issues (Capital investments)
  - Cache reduction initiative
  - Cache considerations relative to NIMS US&R Resource Typing
  - 29<sup>th</sup> Cache
  - Vehicle / Convoy Standards
    - Busses / Sprinter vans
- US&R Response Operations Ad Hoc Work Group
- Deployment of Multiple Teams from Individual Task Forces
  - Reference: US&R Bottom-Up Review
  - Type III Equipment Cache Gap Analysis
  - Catastrophic Planning Initiatives / NLEs
- US&R Calendar (*Reference Document*)
- New Business
- Adjourn