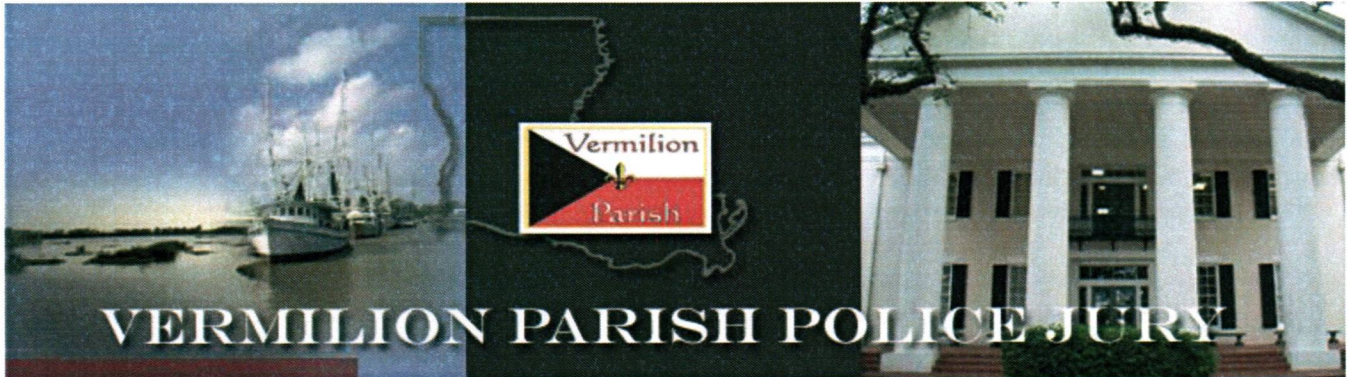


*Vermilion Parish
Office of Homeland Security &
Emergency Preparedness*



MULTI-HAZARD
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

ANNEX J
SEARCH & RESCUE (SAR)

June 2019

CONTENTS

I. PURPOSE	1
II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS	1
A. Situation	1
B. Assumptions	1
III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS	1
A. General	1
B. Phases of Emergency Management	2
IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES	3
A. Coordination	3
B. Operations	4
C. Resource Base Support	4
V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL	4
VI. CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT	4
VII. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS	4
A. Administration	4
B. Logistics	5
VIII. PLAN GOVERNMENT AND MAINTENANCE	5
IX. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES	5
A. State and Parish Authority	5
B. References	5
X. APPENDICES TO ANNEX	5

ANNEX J - SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR)

I. PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this annex to establish a plan for responding to any incident within the boundaries of Vermilion Parish.

It shall be the mission of this team to provide assistance as necessary to the victims of the incident. Types of assistance may include removal, medical treatment, and decontamination. Their duties will include the location, identification and removal from the stricken area: survivors, the injured in need of medical treatment and decontamination, the marooned and the dead.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. SITUATION

Reference Paragraph II. A., Basic Plan.

1. Vermilion Parish is subject to severe structural damage from severe thunderstorms, hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, industrial plant explosions, 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 Vermilion Parish Sheriff's Office will be the lead agency for coordinating 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 of resources, fire, sheriff, and municipal law enforcement agencies will combine their efforts.

B. ASSUMPTIONS

Reference Paragraph II B, Basic Plan.

1. An organized, trained, and well-equipped search and rescue team will have the capability to minimize injuries or loss of life within Vermilion Parish.
2. Vermilion Parish agencies with Search and Rescue capabilities 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

Reference Paragraph III, Basic Plan.

1. Day-to-Day Rescue Operations

All of Vermilion Parish's emergency response agencies assist in providing 24 hour a day response support capability in the area of fire safety and law enforcement throughout the Parish.

2. Volunteer Search and Rescue Assistance

The day-to-day rescue force in Vermilion Parish is augmented by volunteers and auxiliary units working in association with established emergency response agencies. Under the direction and control of established parish emergency response agencies these volunteers or auxiliary members are capable of assisting in search and rescue operations within the parish.

Volunteers search and rescue personnel responding will be managed by their own in-house chain of command in affiliation with prior established emergency response agencies, who will generally oversee that operation control, is maintained throughout the duration of the search and rescue operation. All participating units will coordinate their efforts through the Vermilion Parish Sheriff's Office, the chief law enforcement agency within Vermilion Parish.

3. National Security Threats

The technical competence and ready availability of the rescue force will be augmented during national security threats by mobilizing additional skills in medical, building trades, engineering services, heavy equipment operation, communications, air support (rotary and fixed wing aircraft) and water (divers and surface vessels).

4. Natural Disaster and Technological Hazards

The day-to-day rescue capability will be augmented by the Parish's existing emergency response agencies capable of search and rescue operations, supported by volunteers when necessary, during natural and technological disasters to the extent necessary to eliminate the problem(s) at hand. Operations of this nature may also require the mobilization of medical personnel, building trades, engineering services, heavy equipment operations, mutual aid and military support.

B. PHASES OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

1. Prevention

- a. Create a list of available resources required for performing search and rescue function.
- b. Create a public awareness campaign to inform residents of dangers of staying at home when ordered to evacuate.

2. Mitigation

In addition to continuous plan review and updating, public awareness programs have been developed, and are in further development, in an effort to reduce accidents on

land and water. (On-board inspections of vessels are made at regular intervals by the U.S. Coast Guard).

3. Preparedness

- a. Vermilion Parish Rescue Units and Emergency Medical Technicians are trained on a regular basis in rescue skills and techniques by the responsible controlling agency or organization.
- b. Rescue equipment is tested and maintained by the responsible agency or organization. Rescue equipment is repaired by qualified and capable unit personnel or by the manufacturer in order to maintain the integrity of the equipment in question.
- c. Emergency response plans are revised at regular intervals and updated accordingly by the personnel of the Vermilion Parish Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness (OHSEP).
- d. Individual Search and Rescue Unit Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) should be subject to annual update and revision. When deficiencies are noted during an actual emergency implementation, steps should be taken to change/correct or otherwise amend the deficient portion of the SOG as soon as possible following the termination of the emergency situation.

4. Response

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

- a. Initiation of search and rescue missions as necessary.
- b. Traffic and perimeter control as needed.
- c. Evacuation and relocation as required.
- d. EOC coordination as appropriate.
- e. Mobilization of support activities as needed.
- f. Administering emergency first aid.
- g. Maintenance of law and order.
- h. Locating any overdue boaters.
- i. Assisting in alerting and evacuating people in and around the designated emergency zone.

5. Recovery

- a. Public information activities.
- b. Initiate return to normalcy when mission is completed.
- c. Inventory and replace losses.
- d. Secure and return to regular duty(s).

IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Reference Paragraph IV. A., Basic Plan.

A. COORDINATION

1. Normal day-to-day rescue managed through the appropriate dispatcher by the designated on-scene commander.
2. A "State of Emergency" will be managed by the designated on-scene commander and the EOC.

B. OPERATIONS

1. Day to day rescue operations is 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.
4. The Sheriff's Office, Paid or Volunteer Fire Departments, and support parish agencies provide motor-vehicle transportation support.

C. RESOURCE BASE SUPPORT

In the event that a search and rescue operation might exceed the capability of local emergency response personnel, the parish search and rescue agencies/organizations will contact other agencies including Louisiana State Police, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, U.S. Coast Guard, Civil Air Patrol, and Department of Environmental Quality for additional equipment and/or personnel support through the Vermilion Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and WebEOC.

V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

1. Direction and control of the total rescue force is the primary responsibility of the Vermilion Parish Sheriff's Office. All emergency responses requiring rescue operations and additional resource support will be channeled through the Sheriff's Office to the Vermilion Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.
2. Direction and Control for search and rescue operations in Vermilion Parish may be conducted as a joint venture involving more than one agency or rescue group.
3. 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

Reference Section VI, Basic Plan.

VII. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

Reference paragraph VII, Basic Plan.

A. ADMINISTRATION

The OHSEP will be responsible for coordinating with representatives from all affected search and rescue groups in order to insure that necessary updates and structural changes are made.

B. LOGISTICS

The Sheriff's Office and/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 EOC, or Incident Command as needed.

The Sheriff's Office will check and replenish resources.

VIII. PLAN GOVERNMENT AND MAINTENANCE

Reference paragraph VIII., Basic Plan.

1. The primary responsibility for the development and maintenance of this annex rests with OHSEP.
2. Support will be provided by representatives from parish fire departments, law enforcement agencies and other emergency response agencies to include volunteer units and auxiliary personnel from within Vermilion Parish.

IX. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

A. STATE AND PARISH AUTHORITY

1. Refer to Basic Plan.
2. Louisiana Emergency Assistance & Disaster Act of 1993, as amended.
3. Any other which may apply now or in the future.

B. REFERENCES

1. SM14.2 Rescue Skills and Techniques (formerly FC-1-11,1) DCPA.
2. CPG 1-6, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Disaster Operations, Washington, D.C.
3. Federal Emergency Management Agency, 1979, Local Government Emergency Planning, CPG 1-8, Washington, D.C.

X. APPENDICES TO ANNEX

1. Search and rescue organizational chart

ANNEX J – APPENDIX 1

SAR ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

