

# US&R Response Profile

- A response starts at the local level. If the emergency is beyond the capabilities of local responders, the state can request support from FEMA. If a task force has an agreement with their state the task force can be requested to be used as a state resource.
- Deployments vary depending on the severity of the incident. - A full team or a modular component of a team, such as canines, may be deployed. If only specific resources are required - In cases of a major FEMA response the closest three Task Forces are deployed
- Hazardous Materials Specialist investigate and inform the task force and Safety Officer of any potential hazards or contaminants in the area.
- Structural Specialists investigate and inform the task force and Safety Officers of the structural integrity of the building and the risk of secondary collapse.
- The Search team then enters the collapse area attempting to locate trapped victims. Technical Search Specialists utilize technology, search camera's etc. to locate victims, while K9 Specialist utilize dogs.
- Once a victim is located Rescue Specialists begins breaking and cutting through debris to reach the victim while stabilizing and supporting the entry and work areas with shoring to prevent further collapse.
- Medical Specialists will provide medical care to victims as well as the rescuers, if necessary. A fully stocked mobile emergency treatment component is part of the task force equipment cache.
- Throughout the effort Hazardous Materials Specialists continue to evaluate the disaster site, and decontaminate rescue and medical members who may be exposed to hazardous chemicals or decaying bodies.
- Heavy rigging specialists direct the use of heavy machinery, such as cranes and bulldozers.
- Technical information specialist gather situational data and assist the Planning Team Manager operations and plan for the next operational period.
- Communication specialists ensure that members can communicate with each other and that the task force can communicate with the IST.
- Logistics specialists manage all of the equipment used to support the search and extrication of the victims, and the cache used to support the task force.

## Mode of Operations

In **Blitz** mode one full Task Force works in 12 hour shifts, 12 hours on and 12 hours off.

**Continuous Operations** mode is where one task force splits into two teams and alternates 12 hour shifts, covering an entire 24 hours.

In **Multiple Task Force Operations** mode several full task forces alternate 12 hour shifts, on task force on for 12 hours while another is off and then they switch.



## US&R Response System Components

- 28 US&R Task Forces
- 3 US&R Incident Support Teams (IST)
- US&R Technical Specialists
  - State and local governments
    - ~State Emergency Management
    - ~State Patrol
- Other Federal Agencies
  - FBI
  - Military Corp. of Engineers
  - OSHS

**NEBRASKA TASK FORCE 1**  
**901 West Bond St. #140**  
**Lincoln, NE 68521**  
[www.nebraskataskforce1.com](http://www.nebraskataskforce1.com)