

Appendix A – NZRT Capability and Competency Framework

March 2024 v3

Introduction

This framework outlines the minimum capabilities and competencies required of volunteer teams registered as a New Zealand Response Team (NZRT) and provides an overview of the role of NZRTs working in the emergency management sector.

The role of NZRTs varies and is based on local need, and the capability and capacity of emergency services, or other agencies in the team's home region.

The tasks volunteer response teams may undertake includes, but is not limited to:

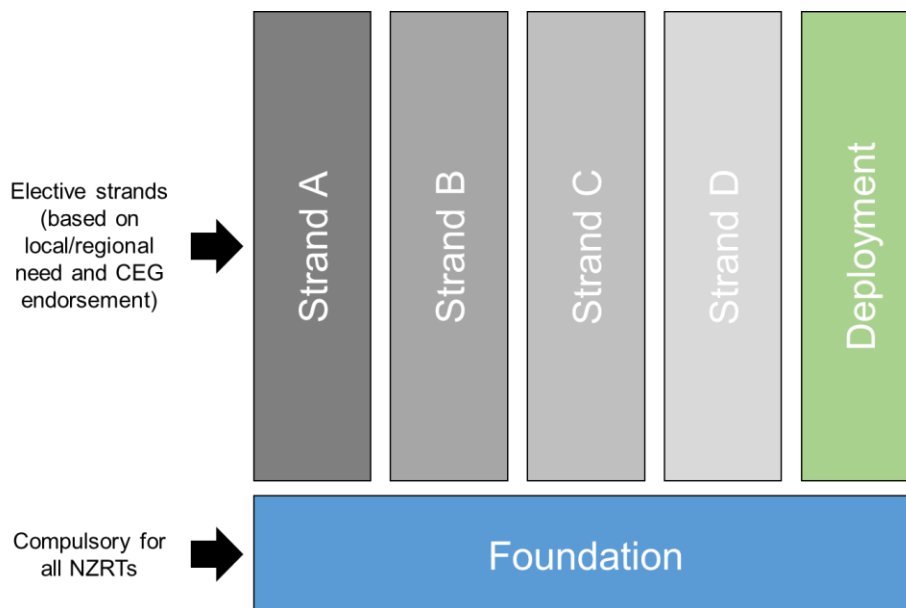
- Cordons and movement control
- Assisting with public notifications and evacuations
- Reconnaissance, impact assessment, survey, and information gathering
- Coordinating spontaneous volunteers
- Providing support or surge staffing for Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs) or Emergency Coordination Centres (ECCs)
- Assistance with multi-agency, rapidly deployable caches, and associated equipment – including NEMA multi-use habitation units (MHU), Deployable Capability Cache (DCC), and ambulance Major Incident Support Team (MIST) capability
- Light rescue – formerly general rescue
- Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) coordinated activities
- Preparing for, and responding to flood events
- Preparing for, and responding to severe weather events
- Establishing and staffing Civil Defence Centres (CDCs) – formerly welfare centres
- Assisting with welfare needs assessments for communities
- Water rescue
- Rope rescue and recovery
- Supporting ambulance services with pre-hospital emergency care and triage
- Providing general support and assistance to emergency services

Interim Framework

This is an interim framework to provide certainty to teams about their role in emergency management and to guide training and exercise plans in the short to medium term. This will also allow for a greater understanding within tasking agencies of the competencies and capabilities NZRTs provide. The framework will evolve over the next few years, as the Emergency Management System reform and reform of vocational education progress.

Capability Strands

The capability framework is divided into a number of strands; one of which (NZRT Foundation strand) is compulsory for all teams, whilst other strands are elective and based on local or regional need.



Foundation requirements outline the core capabilities and functions of a registered New Zealand Response Team. All NZRTs must be accredited and endorsed for the foundation components.

Dependent on the need in the local area or region, teams can also be accredited and endorsed in elective strands above and beyond the foundation requirements. The team must be endorsed by the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) for their region to be registered for a particular elective strand.

The content and requirements for each strand (foundation and elective) are determined at national level by the agency or organisation who have a legislative responsibility for that response or recovery function, or who have accountability for determining the content as agreed by the NZRT Strategic Governance Group. For example, Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) determine requirements for 'USAR First Responder', whereas St. John Ambulance and the Ministry of Health (MoH) determine the requirements for 'Mass Casualty Support'.

There is no expectation on NZRTs that they are required to become endorsed for elective strands if they do not wish to, or if the CEG determine there is no need for the team to hold that capability in their local area.

Ideally, teams will seek accreditation for elective strands at the same time as the Foundation strand to streamline the accreditation process. However, where this is not possible due to extenuating circumstances, teams may elect not to. For example, a team may be building (or re-building) team members with specialist skills in an elective strand, and in the first instance they will be endorsed and accredited in the Foundation components and any other elective strands they are approved for, to allow them to become registered as an accredited NZRT. The team can then continue to work towards building the capability in the elective strand being (re)developed and go through the endorsement and accreditation process for this at a later date.

Note: Any decision to not attempt accreditation in an elective strand should be made in consultation with the NZRT Secretariat.

Individual strands are outlined in the Appendices.

Teams currently undertaking bespoke localised responses, in support of tasking agencies, to provide specific needs such as communications, transport, or logistical support etc. will still be able to undertake these at the discretion of the tasking agency. For any skillsets covered by the strands within the Framework, the appropriate minimum standards will apply.

Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) Endorsement

The Coordinating Executive Group for the team's home area must ensure an evidence-based rationale exists for setting up and maintaining the team based on known gaps in current response capabilities. When assessing the case for a new team, the CEG should consider whether:

- There is a gap in existing capability which could be filled by a NZRT.
- Existing resources and usual response arrangements can be meaningfully supported by a NZRT.
- A NZRT could provide surge capacity during an emergency where usual response arrangements are overwhelmed or otherwise require additional support.

The likelihood of individuals with multiple volunteer roles should be a consideration, i.e. will the establishment of a team likely mean that members will join from other local volunteer response agencies, for example, Fire and Emergency. This will create conflicting priorities, and in essence, not actually provide for additional capacity within the emergency response system. Team SOPs will reflect this possibility and consider this when reporting the team's minimum numbers.

The CEG must ensure any endorsed and registered NZRT within its geographical area of responsibility is integrated into response and recovery arrangements at the appropriate level. Integration should be done in a way that avoids unnecessary duplication or uncertainty about roles and capability.

Minimum Standards

The required standards outlined in the capability framework are the **minimum** required for a team to be accredited and endorsed in a particular strand, however, teams are encouraged to build their capabilities and competencies above and beyond these minimum standards.

Minimum standards are determined by the agency with the legislative or agreed responsibility to control responses in that particular discipline and afford the agency certainty around the level of competence achieved by an accredited team.

In order for operational team members to be considered qualified in the Foundation or any elective strands, they must hold the identified unit standards, or an assessed equivalent. An assessed equivalent can include recognised prior learning (RPL), assessment of prior learning (APL), or cross-credit (CC) where appropriate. The national process will be contained within the NZRT Operating Guidelines and will acknowledge transferable skills that team members possess from their BAU role, or other relevant experience. Approval for this will be through the NZRT Steering Group.

Minimum Team Size

The minimum team size is the minimum number of operational team members 'qualified' in the respective strand available to respond to an incident at any particular time. For example,

if a team is deployed to a light rescue incident, they must respond with a minimum of eight qualified operational team members.

If a team does not meet the minimum team size requirements, they are considered non-operational for that strand (i.e. cannot deploy when tasked) until the minimum team size is once again available.

Non-operational, in-training, or other support staff are not included in the minimum team size but may be utilised at the discretion of the tasking agency, or with specific prior approval from the NZRT Secretariat. A process for this will be contained within the NZRT Operating Guidelines and should be reflected in team SOPs.

Composite teams can be formed from members of different NZRTs to deploy to a specified incident, but the composite team must still meet the minimum standards and requirements for the respective strand to which the team is responding. To form a composite team to deploy with an elective strand capability, at least one of the teams deploying must be accredited with that strand, and all of the members involved in the tasking must be suitably qualified.

Occasionally, requests for smaller NZRT numbers may be made by tasking agencies to support bespoke operations such as operation of a mobile facility (deployable cache including tentage), this will be at the discretion of the requesting agency and subject to the usual approval process.

Out-of-Region Deployment

Foundation and elective strands qualify NZRTs to undertake those respective roles and capabilities in their local or regional area. Only teams who hold an endorsement in the out-of-region deployment strand are able to deploy out of their local area or region. This is to minimise the resource burden on the area to which the team is deploying.

Group-to-group arrangements may be made by exception during the initial stages of an event however, both the NZRT Secretariat and NCC (once activated), must be notified and the requested teams must be self-sufficient where required. Out-of-region deployments (including offers of assistance from, and requests for, NZRTs) will be coordinated by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

The NZRT Operating Guidelines and team SOPs must have guidance that stipulate that no team is to self-deploy.

Capability Strands

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Appendix A - NZRT Foundation

Purpose

Foundation components are the minimum compulsory components required by any team wanting to become a registered New Zealand Response Team (NZRT).

These requirements allow teams to safely and competently work in civil defence or other emergencies within their home region where tasks may include, but are not limited to:

- Cordon & movement control.
- Assisting with public notifications and evacuations.
- Reconnaissance, assessment, survey, and information gathering.
- Providing general support and assistance to emergency services.
- Coordinating spontaneous volunteers.
- Providing support or surge staffing for Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs), and Emergency Coordination Centres (ECCs).
- Familiarity and establishment of rapidly deployable facilities and caches (where these exist).

General

Requirements for NZRT Foundation components are approved by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

Requirements

- In addition to meeting all of the Foundation qualification requirements, teams must be endorsed by the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) for their home region or area.
- Minimum team size of eight (8) NZRT Foundation qualified, operational team members, which must include a Team Leader and at least one (1) Team Medic. Consideration should be given to contingency planning around these positions in the event they are not available to respond.
- All Foundation operational team members must undergo police vetting appropriate to being in contact with impacted people and children.
- The team must have policies and SOPs as outlined in the guidance document.
- The team must have a formal service level agreement (SLA), memorandum of understanding (MoU), or contract with its owning organisation.

Minimum Standards

All Foundation qualified operational team members must hold the following unit standards, or an assessed equivalent:

- **6400** – Manage first aid in emergency situations
- **6401** – Provide first aid
- **6402** – Provide basic life support
- Psychological first aid (PFA) – Delivered by recognised provider to industry standard
- **497** – Demonstrate knowledge of workplace health & safety requirements; or
- **17593** – Apply safe work practices in the workplace
- **12355** – Describe strategies for managing stress

- CIMS Level 3 or ITF Foundation
- **7332** – Control the movement of people and vehicles at a specified location during a civil defence emergency
- **4573** – Communicate in the outdoors using two-way radio
- **20388** – Work safely with aircraft at emergency incidents
- **11099** – Develop strategies for communicating in a culturally diverse workplace; or
- **1304** – Communicate with people from other cultures

Team Leaders:

- **23690** – Conduct CDEM operational briefings and debriefings, and issue operational orders
- **23698** – Demonstrate knowledge of leadership theory and use it in CDEM situations
- **7335** – Demonstrate knowledge of the role and powers of a Controller in a declared emergency
- **29553** – Demonstrate operational knowledge of CIMS
- **29554** – Apply operational knowledge of CIMS

It is also recommended that Team Leaders hold unit standard:

- **23702** – Coordinate and manage spontaneous volunteers during a CDEM emergency

Team Medic:

- **29321** – Provide basic emergency care or EMT or equivalent

Team Drivers: In addition to a team driving policy, the below are the recommended minimum qualifications.

- **23692** – Demonstrate knowledge of driving legislation and CDEM organisation's standard operating procedure for driving

Appendix B - Light Rescue

Purpose

These requirements allow teams to safely and competently work in light rescue and other general rescue emergencies where tasks may include, but are not limited to:

- Reconnaissance, survey, and information gathering.
- General rescue of casualties at heights of up to 6 metres.
- Surface search and rescue operations.
- Supporting USAR First Responder and Light, Medium and Heavy Classified USAR teams as required.
- Assisting integration of UNDAC, out-of-region, or international USAR teams using local knowledge.
- Providing a base of operations (BoO) and logistics support.

Light rescue will be undertaken by NZRTs under the direction and control of tasking agencies.

General

Requirements for Light Rescue endorsement are approved by NEMA.

Note: FENZ will retain the requirements until the USAR First Responder training is available.

Requirements

- Teams must be endorsed for Light Rescue by the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) for their home region or area.
- Minimum team size of eight (8) light rescue qualified operational team members which includes a Team Leader and at least one (1) Team Medic.
- Teams endorsed in Light Rescue are required to participate in an NZRT exercise at least every two (2) years.

Minimum Standards

All Light Rescue qualified operational team members:

- **10618** – Rescue casualties using rescue techniques; or
- **20473 and 24500** – Rescue casualties at ground level using Civil Defence general rescue techniques – Demonstrate knowledge of, and use, CDEM rescue equipment and techniques, and rescue casualties at height
- **18516** – Demonstrate knowledge of, and provide support at urban search and rescue operations

Appendix C - Flood Response

Purpose

These requirements allow teams to safely and competently work in flooding emergencies where tasks may include, but are not limited to:

- Installation of temporary water diversion and flood protection systems (e.g. sandbags or flood barriers).
- Undertaking pumping operations to remove flood water from properties.
- Assisting property owners to protect properties and move valuables to safety prior to the onset of a flood.
- Reconnaissance, survey, impact assessment, and information gathering.
- Assisting property owners with salvage of damaged property, during or following a flood.
- Assisting with evacuation of residents and companion or domestic animals from flooded areas (refer to NZRT Operating Guidelines, section 16, for limitations and further guidance).

Flooding for the purposes of this strand, includes any incident or emergency where flood waters may be encountered (e.g. flash-flooding or prolonged rainfall events, coastal inundation, storm surge, tsunami, dam failure, etc.).

General

Requirements for Flood Response endorsement are approved by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

Requirements

- Teams must be endorsed for Flood Response by the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) for their home region or area.
- Minimum team size of eight (8) Flood Response qualified operational team members which includes a Team Leader and at least one (1) Team Medic.

Minimum Standards

All Flood Response qualified operational team members:

- **22297** – Provide initial response at flood incidents
- **22298** – Protect personal safety and the safety of others at flood incidents

Team drivers: In addition to a team driving policy, the below are the recommended minimum qualifications.

- **17976** – Demonstrate knowledge of operating a light 4WD vehicle in an off-road environment
- **17978** – Operate a light 4WD vehicle in an off-road environment
- **20620** – Develop a recovery plan and safely recover a light 4WD vehicle

Appendix D - Storm Response

Purpose

These requirements allow teams to safely and competently work in severe weather and storm related emergencies where tasks may include, but are not limited to:

- Making temporary building repairs for the purposes of public safety, debris clearance, and property protection including the temporary repair of windows, doors, cladding, roofs, and chimneys.
- Performing basic salvage to prevent further damage to property.
- Assisting in the clearing of roadways and other access routes impacted by storm debris.

Teams endorsed in Storm Response may also undertake temporary building repairs or salvage operations during non-storm events such as earthquakes, where these skills are also applicable (e.g., securing chimneys).

General

Requirements for Storm Response endorsement are approved by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

Requirements

- Teams must be endorsed for Storm Response by the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) for their home region or area.
- Minimum team size of eight (8) Storm Response qualified operational team members which includes a Team Leader and at least one (1) Team Medic.

Minimum Standards

All Storm Response qualified operational team members:

- **17600** – Explain safe work practices for working at heights
- **19359** – Inspect and maintain height safety equipment
- **23694** – Undertake storm damage operations in a CDEM emergency

Chainsaw operators: If the team has a chainsaw capability, identified operators must hold:

- **6916** – Demonstrate knowledge of the rules relating to chainsaw use
- **6917** – Demonstrate basic chainsaw operation

Team drivers: In addition to a team driving policy, the below are the recommended minimum qualifications.

- **17976** – Demonstrate knowledge of operating a light 4WD vehicle in an off-road environment
- **17978** – Operate a light 4WD vehicle in an off-road environment
- **20620** – Develop a recovery plan and safely recover a light 4WD vehicle

Appendix E - Civil Defence Centre & Welfare

Purpose

These requirements allow teams to establish, work in, or manage civil defence centres (CDCs), and carry out welfare tasks which may include, but are not limited to:

- Establishing and setting up a CDC.
- Staffing an existing CDC.
- Assisting with welfare needs assessments of affected individuals and communities.
- Providing support for the management of companion animals or other animal welfare in temporary housing facilities adjacent to evacuation centres.

General

Requirements for Civil Defence Centre and Welfare endorsement are approved by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

Requirements

- Teams must be endorsed for working in Civil Defence Centre and Welfare tasks by the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) for their home region or area.
- Minimum team size of eight (8) Civil Defence Centre and Welfare qualified operational team members which includes a Team Leader.

Minimum Standards

All Civil Defence Centre and Welfare qualified operational team members:

- **7336** – Demonstrate knowledge of welfare centre (*sic*) functions during an emergency or equivalent CDEM Group training
- **7330** – Supervise a welfare centre (*sic*) during an emergency or equivalent CDEM Group training

In addition, the below is recommended, subject to local need:

- **23695** – Provide companion animal welfare during a CDEM emergency

Appendix F - Swift Water Rescue

Purpose

These requirements allow teams to safely and competently work in swift water for rescues where tasks may include, but are not limited to:

- Shore-based swift water rescue.
- In-water and boat-based swift water rescue.
- Technical swift water rescue using advanced techniques such as rope systems.

Swift water rescue will only be tasked by NZRTs under the direction and control of one of the NZSAR coordinating agencies, Police, or the Rescue Coordination Centre (RCCNZ), where present. FENZ may task where an urgent need arises however, one of the NZSAR coordinating agencies must be notified as soon as practicable.

General

Requirements for Swift Water Rescue endorsement are approved by New Zealand Search and Rescue (NZSAR).

Requirements

- Teams must be endorsed for Swift Water Rescue by the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) for their home region or area.
- Minimum team size of eight (8) qualified operational team members which includes a Team Leader, at least one (1) Team Medic, and at least two (2) team members holding advanced swift water qualifications.

Minimum Standards

All Swift Water Rescue qualified operational team members:

- Swift water and flood water responder and technician certifications at a recognised industry standard, that meet the requirements, delivered by an approved provider

In addition, the below are recommended competencies:

- Rescue from vehicles in water
- Swift water rescue boat operator

It is required that at least two (2) of the eight (8) team members hold advanced swift water and flood water certifications at a recognised industry standard, that meet the requirements, delivered by an approved provider.

Appendix G - Rope Rescue

Purpose

These requirements allow teams to safely and competently work in rope rescue operations where tasks may include, but are not limited to:

- Access and stabilisation of patients in low, steep, and high angle environments.
- Extrication of victims using advanced techniques such as pick off or stretcher-based rescues.
- Providing access to patients for other agencies and emergency services.

Rope rescue will only be undertaken by NZRTs under the direction and control of relevant authorities (where present):

- For operations being undertaken in civil emergencies or USAR situations, NZRTs should be recommended to operate under Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ).
- For operations being undertaken for land search and rescue (LandSAR) purposes, it is recommended that NZRTs operate under one of the NZSAR coordinating agencies, Police, or the Rescue Coordination Centre (RCCNZ).

General

Requirements for Rope Rescue endorsement are approved by Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ).

Requirements

- Teams must be endorsed for Rope Rescue by the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) for their home region or area.
- Minimum team size of eight (8) Rope Rescue qualified operational team members which includes a Team Leader, at least one (1) Team Medic, and at least four (4) team members holding advanced rope rescue qualifications.

Minimum Standards

All Rope Rescue qualified operational team members:

- **17600** – Explain safe working practices for working at heights
- **19359** – Inspect and maintain height safety equipment; and
- **20536** – Demonstrate awareness of rope rescue operations and hazards; and
- **20537** – Provide initial response at rope rescue incidents; or
Rope Rescue operator and responder certifications at a recognised industry standard that meets the requirements delivered by an approved provider

At least four (4) of the eight (8) team members:

- **20538** – Perform descender-based rope rescue; and
- **20539** – Perform specialist rope rescue; or
Rope Rescue technician and specialist certifications at a recognised industry standard that meets the requirements delivered by an approved provider.

Appendix H - Mass Casualty Support

Purpose

These requirements allow teams to safely and competently work in mass casualty emergencies in advance of, or when requested to support a Road Emergency Ambulance Service (EAS). Tasks may include, but are not limited to:

- Performing patient triage (when appropriate clinical support is not on scene/available).
- Rendering first aid.
- Aiding patient packaging and extrication.
- Assisting a lead EAS with patient tracking.
- Assisting with set-up and pack-up of ambulance major incident caches.

Mass casualty triage will only be initiated by NZRTs where they reach patients in advance of EAS arrival, or where support has been formally requested via the Ambulance Communications Centre and will be under the direction of a Ministry of Health/ACC contracted Road EAS provider (St John or Wellington Free Ambulance).

Note: that St John is in the progress of rolling-out non-clinical, volunteer Major Incident Support Teams (MIST). The role of MIST is to deploy St John dedicated major incident support assets (Command Units, Incident Support Units and tents) in support of frontline emergency ambulances to suspected and declared major (including mass casualty) incidents. This will sit as an independent MOU with individual teams and not part of this strand.

General

Requirements for the Mass Casualty Support endorsement are defined by the Ministry of Health/ACC contracted Road EAS providers (St John or Wellington Free Ambulance).

Requirements

- Teams must be endorsed for mass casualty support by the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) for their home region or area.
- Minimum team size of four (4), Mass Casualty Support qualified operational team members, which includes a Team Leader.
- Teams endorsed in Mass Casualty Support are required to participate in a New Zealand Ambulance Major Incident and Emergency Plan (AMPLANZ) exercise (or an NZRT exercise observed by St John or Wellington Free Ambulance operations lead) every two (2) years.

Minimum Standards

All Mass Casualty Support qualified operational team members:

- One day of patient packaging, manual handling and triage education as defined by the local road EAS provider, refreshed at bi-annual exercises (as defined above).
- **29321** – Provide basic emergency care
- **29322** – Demonstrate knowledge of emergency response systems in New Zealand
- An MOU with local EAS provider allowing for triage refresher training as/when required.

Appendix I - Out-of-Region Deployment

Purpose

Registered and accredited New Zealand Response Teams (NZRTs) are required to meet certain criteria to be eligible to deploy outside of their home region for the purposes of national-level response or recovery operations, to support other regions during local emergencies, or to support response and recovery operations in other regions when requested by CDEM Groups or emergency services.

These requirements ensure teams are self-sufficient and can undertake response or recovery operations out of their home region (for the strands in which they are accredited) whilst not placing an undue resource burden on the region to which they have been deployed.

Depending on the type of deployment, self-sufficiency may not be required, however, teams must maintain this capability and capacity to be eligible for out-of-region deployments.

In certain situations, and under specific circumstances such as the forming of a composite team, the need for personnel only, or specific agency requests, these conditions may be exempted when specifically permitted by the NZRT Secretariat. Refer to the NZRT Operating Guidelines for more information on composite teams.

General

Requirements for the Out of Region Deployment endorsement are approved by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

Requirements

- Teams must be endorsed for out of region deployments by the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) for their home region or area.
- Minimum team size is determined according to the purpose of deployment (i.e. light rescue, mass casualty support, storm response, etc.).
- Teams must have access to vehicles suitable for transporting sufficient personnel and equipment required for the deployment.
- Teams must be fully self-sufficient (or have resupply arrangements in place) for at least 72 hours (3 days) for the below:
 - Accommodation and sanitation (including toilets and wash facilities)
 - Food and water
 - Transport and fuel

Appendix J - USAR First Responder

Purpose

Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) First Responder, provides a rescue capability within the USAR environment at a level above the Light Rescue strand.

It fits within the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) methodology to provide an effective layer of response prior to the arrival of a full USAR team.

These requirements allow teams to safely and competently work in USAR where tasks may include, but are not limited to:

- Reconnaissance, assessment, survey, and information gathering integrated with a USAR coordination cell (UCC) where established.
- Application of INSARAG guidelines and concepts including building marking systems.
- Basic USAR search techniques.
- Temporary shoring techniques (to facilitate basic overhead stability).
- USAR surface and near surface operations, including cutting/lifting/moving structural wood systems or light metal components and unreinforced masonry, which in general provide support for floors, walls or roofing assemblies in light-frame construction.
- Basic initial hazardous materials (hazmat) procedures.
- Supporting Light, Medium and Heavy Classified USAR Teams as required.
- Assisting integration of UNDAC, out-of-region, or international USAR teams using local knowledge.
- Support in establishment and operation of a United Nations Reception Departure Centre (RDC).

USAR First Responder will only be undertaken by NZRTs under the direction and control of Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ).

General

Requirements for USAR First Responder endorsement are approved by Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) based on the INSARAG methodology.

Note: Skillsets for surface search and rescue will remain current in the Light Rescue strand until the USAR First Responder training is available.

Requirements

- Teams must be endorsed for First Responder by the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) for their home region or area.
- Minimum team size of eight (8) First Responder qualified operational team members which includes a Team Leader and at least one (1) Team Medic.
- Teams endorsed as First Responders are required to participate in a national or local FENZ USAR exercise (or an NZRT exercise observed by FENZ) every two (2) years.

Minimum Standards

All USAR First Responder qualified operational team members:

- Will successfully complete the FENZ USAR First Responder course.

Appendix K - Light USAR

Purpose

Light Urban Search and Rescue (USAR), provides a rescue capability within the USAR environment at a level above the First Responder strand.

It fits within the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) methodology to provide an effective USAR team. All tasks and capacity are designed to reflect those of Classified Medium and Heavy team standards, to be performed with hand tools and small mechanical tools to the determined specifications.

These requirements allow teams to safely and competently work in USAR environments where tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Reconnaissance, information gathering, and rapid disaster assessments (RDAs) to level 1 and 2 ASR (assessment, search and rescue).
- Supporting and full integration with Medium and Heavy Classified USAR Teams as required.
- Assisting integration of UNDAC, out-of-region, or international USAR teams using local knowledge.
- Support in establishment and operation of a United Nations Reception Departure Centre (RDC), or a USAR/sector coordination cell (UCC/SCC).
- Application of INSARAG guidelines and concepts including building marking systems
- USAR technical search and/or canine search.
- Search and rescue operations in collapsed structures of wood, masonry, and light reinforced concrete construction to ASR level 3 including breaking and breaching, cutting, shoring, technical rope, lifting and moving.
- Conduct rigging and lifting operations.
- Initial hazardous materials (hazmat) assessment procedures including atmospheric monitoring.

Light USAR will only be undertaken by NZRTs under the direction and control of Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) USAR Management Team (UMT).

General

Requirements for Light USAR endorsement are approved by Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) based on the INSARAG methodology.

Requirements

- Teams must be endorsed for Light USAR by the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) for their home region or area and the in-country INSARAG operational focal point.
- Minimum team size is between 17 and 20 personnel, which includes one (1) Team Leader, one (1) Medical Doctor and/or one (1) Physician/Paramedic/Nurse, one (1) crane rigging (dogman) specialist, and one (1) dedicated Safety Officer.
- Familiarity with the INSARAG methodology.
- The ability to deploy one (1) person to INSARAG support (RDC/UCC/SCC) for the duration of a deployment and continue operations.
- Able to provide the five components of USAR within the team (Management, Search, Rescue, Logistics and Medical).

- Must be adequately staffed and resourced to allow maximum 12-hour operations on one site (site may change) for up to five (5) days, with capability for transport into and out of the affected area.
- Have self-sustaining ICT equipment able to integrate intelligence into the INSARAG coordination management system (ICMS) based on the ArcGIS applications.
- Must be able to medically treat its own team members (including dogs if present) as well as victims encountered.
- Atmospheric monitoring capability of oxygen (O²), carbon monoxide (CO), hydrogen sulphide (H²S), and flammability levels.
- Logistics component will be capable of establishing a Base of Operations (BoO) including shelter, sanitation, tool repair, feeding, and hygiene arrangements which is self-sustaining for five (5) days.
- Deploy as a full team within 8 hours of activation.
- Meet the requirements of the approved Light USAR Team checklist.
- Teams endorsed as Light USAR are required to participate in a FENZ USAR exercise (or an NZRT exercise observed by FENZ) every year.

Minimum Standards

All Light USAR qualified operational team members:

- Will meet the USAR First Responder strand requirements
- 23692 Demonstrate knowledge of driving legislation and CDEM organisation's standard operating procedure for driving
- 17976 Demonstrate knowledge of operating a light 4WD vehicle in an off-road environment
- 17978 Operate a light 4WD vehicle in an off-road environment

At least eight (8) team members must:

- Meet the Rope Rescue strand requirements and be able to rescue a patient from ten (10) metres above or below the work site.
- FENZ USAR rapid disaster assessment (RDA) training.
- Be trained in structural assessment and shoring.
- Be trained in technical search equipment and techniques including Delsar and Search Cam and/or;
At least two (2) team member with trained search dogs coordinated and approved by the New Zealand Search Dog Association (SDA).

At least two (2) team members must:

- Be trained in hazmat assessment including emergency response guide (ERG) use; and
- be trained in using and interpreting a four-gas detector for atmospheric monitoring.

The Team Leader and at least one (1) other team member (not the medic, safety, hazmat, search, rescue or rigging member):

- INSARAG USAR Coordination Cell (UCC) course
- INSARAG reception departure centre (RDC) course
- INSARAG coordination and management system (ICMS) course

Team Medic/s:

- Must be a registered, practicing medical doctor, physician, paramedic or nurse.
- Minimum one of the above, recommended two.

Rigging (dogman) specialist: (up to 5 tonne)

- **3789** - Sling varied regular loads and safely direct a crane during crane operations
- **3801** - Prepare and sling complex loads for crane operations
- **30072** - Demonstrate and apply knowledge of slinging regular loads safely

In addition, the following is recommended:

- **16617** - Use a truck loader crane to lift and place regular loads
- Equivalent crane rigging courses and experience