

Mutual Aid Box Alarm System – Illinois

Special Operations – Swiftwater / Flood Water Rescue / Recovery

Statewide Team Standards

Index #:

Adopted: 2-11-2020

Revised:

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Subject: MABAS Swiftwater / Flood Rescue / Recovery Statewide Response Team Standards

Functional Area: Operations – Statewide Plan

Category: Procedure

Approved By: MABAS Executive Board



Purpose:

To provide measurable minimal standards for Swiftwater / Flood Rescue / Recovery teams for a MABAS Statewide Response regarding team member rosters, deployment, package size, team inventory, team member training and certification minimums.

Responsibility:

This procedure applies to all MABAS recognized Swiftwater and Flood Rescue / Recovery teams that are looking to become recognized as a Statewide Response Team. It will be the responsibility of the individual division to meet the minimal requirements stated in this standard.

To be eligible, a member of a MABAS Statewide Swiftwater/ Flood Rescue / Recovery Team cannot hold a position on any other Statewide Special Operations Response Team (Haz Mat, Technical Rescue, Urban Search and Rescue) except for their Divisional Water Rescue Team.

Service Area:

This standard applies to any division that meets the requirements listed in the procedure to become Swiftwater / Flood Rescue / Recovery team. This procedure does include the current recognized statewide MABAS subsurface dive teams that will have the ability to function both as a subsurface and a Swiftwater / Flood Rescue / Recovery team if they meet the listed procedure requirements. Swiftwater / Flood Rescue and recovery teams will be qualified for surface search, rescue, and recovery operations within the MABAS-Illinois jurisdiction.

Accountability:

Enforcement of this procedure, its standards, and guidance documents rests initially upon the MABAS Water Rescue Committee Co-Chairs; the statewide team's own Divisional Executive Board, and the MABAS Operations / Deputy Operations Section Chiefs or designee(s). Ultimate arbitration of disputes associated with this statewide team standard is the MABAS Operations Section Chief followed by the MABAS CEO and/or the MABAS President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer/Comptroller.

Reporting Requirement:

Statewide teams shall manage and maintain all records and documentation associated with their team's personnel, training, exercises, inventory, equipment maintenance, responses, etc.

Background

Certain MABAS Divisions have maintained dive water rescue teams over the years. Division water rescue team standards were and currently are determined at the local Division level.

The MABAS Water Rescue Committee has recognized the fifteen (15) teams as the statewide cadre for response through MABAS. In 2019 the MABAS Water Rescue Committee has developed in-state Swiftwater / Flood team typing.

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Procedure

I. Divisional Swiftwater / Flood Rescue / Recovery Team MABAS Team Roster Position Assignments for a Type A Team:

	Fully Trained Response Ready	In Upgrade Training
A. Swiftwater Team Leader	2	1
B. Boat Operators certified to NIMS Swiftwater / Flood SAR Technician – Boat Operator	4	2
C. Boat Operators trained to OSFM Watercraft Technician	8	4
*Base Team Structure	10	7
Total: (7) Primary (7) Backup	14	7

II. Divisional Swift Water / Flood Rescue / Recovery Team MABAS Team Roster Position Assignments for a Type B Team:

	Fully Trained Response Ready	In Upgrade Training
A. Swiftwater Team Leader	2	1
B. Boat Operators trained to OSFM Watercraft Technician	6	3
Total: (4) Primary (4) Backup	8	4

Response package for In-State Team will include:

- A minimum of seven (7) individuals fully trained in areas noted A, B, C for Type “A” Team and A, B for Type “B” Team.
- Boat operators will bring MABAS assigned Zodiac and flat-bottom boat as part of the deployment package is preferred.
- Divisions that do not have the MABAS provided boat package may substitute with appropriate watercraft provided that a Type “A” Team has two (2) watercrafts with motors (minimum of HP40) one watercraft must be an Inflatable minimum fourteen (14) feet in length. Type “B” Team shall provide one (1) inflatable watercraft with motor (Minimum HP25) minimum twelve (12) feet in length.

III. Statewide Team Member Position Responsibilities, Description, and Capabilities in the Team.

A. Swift Water / Flood Command Operations:

Team Leader -The person designated within the NIMS Command System as Rescue Group Leader responsible for the direct supervision of Special Operations Swiftwater / Flood Team.

B. Boat Operators:

These individuals are trained in and competent with boat handling in current, rough seas, and around hidden obstacles. They will be able to navigate with compass or GPS. These individuals have the responsibility of anchoring boats in the required position.

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Training Requirements for Type A Team:

One (1) Team Leader

- Trained to Level II Swiftwater Technician
- ICS 100, 200, 300, 700, 800

Two (2) Boat Operators

- Trained to Level II Swiftwater Technician
- NIMS Swiftwater / Flood Search and Rescue Technician Boat Operator or equivalent

Four (4) Boat Operators

- Trained to Level II Swiftwater Technician
- Trained to OSFM Watercraft Technician or equivalent

Training Requirements for Type B Team:

One (1) Team Leader

- Trained to Level I Swiftwater Technician
- ICS 100, 200, 300, 700, 800

Three (3) Boat Operators

- Trained to Level I Swiftwater Technician
- Trained to OSFM Watercraft Technician or equivalent

- a. MABAS Statewide Swiftwater / Flood Rescue / Recovery Team members must have successfully completed all required training/certifications as stated below in order to be listed on the response side of the roster. Team members listed on the training roster are not allowed to fill a slot on the response ready roster nor are they allowed to fill in on a response for a response ready member.
- b. Swiftwater Level I (Dive Rescue International), SRT (Rescue 3 International), (Indiana River Rescue School 5-day ops/tech program) or equivalent. Programs must follow NFPA 1670 and NFPA 1006.
- c. Swiftwater Level II (Dive Rescue International), SRT A (Rescue 3 International), (Indiana River Rescue School 5-day ops/tech program) or equivalent. Programs must follow NFPA 1670 and NFPA 1006 (Chapter 17.3-17.3.3) Guidelines.
- d. NIMS Swiftwater / Flood Search and Rescue Technician Boat Operator or equivalent.
 1. Requisite Training:
 - Swiftwater Level I
 - Swiftwater Level II
 - NIMS Swiftwater / Flood SAR Technician Boat Operator or equivalent
 2. Attached is a starter set of records for tracking team member initial and recurring qualification training. Each team member's records must be maintained by team leadership and available for review by MABAS staff upon request.

Equipment Requirements:

1. Minimum equipment inventor per team member on In-State Response Swiftwater / Flood Rescue / Recovery MABAS Team. *All equipment must be maintained per manufacturer's specifications.*
 - Swiftwater Dry suit
 - Lightweight water rescue helmet

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- Headlamp and/or lighting device for night operations
 - Cutting Device
 - Type III or Type V Personal Flotation Device (Type V recommended) with whistle
 - Water rescue boots
 - Thermal undergarments (appropriate for operating temperatures).
 - Gloves (appropriate for operating temperatures).
 - Throw bag (recommended length seventy-five (75) feet)
2. U.S. Coast Guard required equipment
- A vessel's overall length dictates the equipment that the watercraft must have to comply with federal and state laws. Watercraft operating at MABAS events shall comply with these regulations. U.S Coast Guard lists minimum equipment requirements base on the following vessel length: Less than sixteen (16) feet, sixteen (16) feet to less than twenty-six (26) feet, twenty-six (26) feet to less than forty (40) feet, and forty (40) feet to less than sixty-five (65) feet.