S.O.P #: TACTICAL OPERATIONS MANUAL 37

SUBJECT: BACKCOUNTRY/ INACCESSIBLE AREA/ LOST PERSONS OPERATIONS

DIVISION: EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

Objective: To serve as a guide for all responders operating in and around the Backcountry/Inaccessible Area

environment during emergency and non-emergency operations.

Section 1: Purpose:

This SOP provides guidance in developing and implementing strategic and tactical decisions during Search and Rescue operations in and around the Backcountry/Inaccessible area/environment. This includes search and rescue for lost or known locations of subjects during Emergency Medical Services incident operations, rescue incident operations, and non-emergency/recovery incident operations.

Section 2: Incident objectives:

- A. The Six Phase Incident Response Process:
 - The six-phase process provides a reliable means to organize thinking and apply field management principles that aids in the development and implementation of an IAP as part of the ICS System. All six steps are repeated every operational period.
 - 1. Size up the situation- What is the nature of this response?
 - This is the total information gathering process about a situation to affect an efficient search, rescue, or recovery. The Rescue Group Supervisor/Branch Director's pre-planning and initial Risk Assessment shall include potential operational and environmental obstacles/problems and the potential need for specialized equipment.
 - 2. Continual Risk Assessment What could happen to make the situation worse?
 - Identify contingencies immediately, and throughout operational period, when the notification of the missing subject location and condition is discovered, e.g., lost, uninjured, injured, priority 4. The notification that the missing subject has been located changes the incident from a search to a rescue. Is speed a factor in evacuation? Safety factors for the team members must always dictate specific strategies and tactics in rescue. Daylight and visibility are a major factor.
 - A. Contingencies are based on factors such as:
 - The elapsed time since the operation began.
 - Possible subject location or likely areas of detection.
 - Weather and associated environmental hazards.
 - Availability of specialized resources.
 - Reported changes in the subject's condition.
 - Medical resources available.
 - 3. Establish goals and objectives- What and by when?
 - Establish goals and objectives that are based on an on-scene assessment regarding the search and rescue being time critical, the weather factors, is air support available, and the subject's condition.
 - 4. Identify required resources- What resources are needed and what is their availability?
 - This is a planning stage where resource expertise and capabilities are identified, or additional resources are requested for support based upon the terrain and environmental conditions.
 - 5. Build a plan and structure- Complete the IAP and RAP.
 - A. After choosing a course of action, at least two alternative plans should also be formulated. Whatever plan is chosen, be flexible.
 - B. Five elements should be considered simultaneously:

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- Locate
- Access
- Stabilize
- Extricate
- Responder Accountability
- 6. Take Action- Deploy existing resources and obtain sufficient expertise, personnel, and equipment.
 - This is the actual rescue/recovery phase and is based on the previous planning steps.
- B. Proper Personal Protective Equipment:
 - ABSOLUTELY NO TURNOUT GEAR
 - Head, Hand, and Eye Protection
 - Sturdy footwear (uniform boots)
 - Radios
 - Drinking Water
 - Rain gear if warranted.
 - Highway Safety Vest
 - Hand light(s)
 - Backcountry Backpack if equipped. (See Appendix B)
- C. Patient Care Considerations:
 - Anticipate and take all potential medical equipment needed for patient care without overloading crews with gear. The Backcountry Backpacks have a variety of BLS equipment and are an invaluable tool for providing initial care. Environmental Injury Considerations during search and extrication
 - o Hypothermia and hyperthermia
 - o Potential exposure to wetness (heavy rain/submersion)
 - o Insect stings/bites
 - o Wildlife
 - Mechanism of Injury
 - o Bicycle or ATV accidents
 - Falls from various heights
 - Muscular/skeletal injury and lacerations
 - Swimming/diving accidents
 - Nature of Illness
 - o Diabetic
 - o Heart Conditions
 - Breathing Problems
 - Other pre-existing conditions reported by the caller.
- D. Backcountry Rescue / Inaccessible Area Operations with known or probable location of Subject

Locate / Access / Stabilize / Extricate / Responder Accountability (LASER)

*Refer to tactical card in the Appendix

- 1. **Locate:** (This is the **Passive Phase** of the search). Locating the subject can be one of the most challenging parts of the operation. Weather conditions, daytime vs. night-time, as well as the terrain, all play a major role. Good intelligence gathering from dispatch, the Reporting Party (**RP**), witnesses, the Subject themselves, and using various mapping software and or hard maps becomes key.
 - a. Establish the Incident Command Post (ICP) with a designated and fixed location. Request a 'Backcountry Rescue' assignment if not already dispatched.
 - b. Establish a staging area early, the location may need to be remote of the ICP. ICS 211. The ICS Form 211 can be a valuable tool for the Staging Officer to assist in collecting assets on scene.
 - c. Assign an Incident Safety Officer[JD1][EJ2] and a Rescue Group Supervisor/Branch Director with Technical Safety Officer if warranted.
 - d. Gather intelligence and have dispatch attempt a **REBID** of the subject's location via their cell phone. If the RP has the subject's cellphone number, a texted Live-Tracking Link can be sent via CALTopo.

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Either locating method should then be plotted in CALTopo. In addition to the REBID, the following can be key for good intel:

- e. Dispatch information
- f. The Reporting Party (RP)
- g. Witnesses
- h. The subject(s) of the operation
- i. Mapping software/hard maps
- j. Local residents' knowledge/familiarity of the area
- k. Gather trail maps/pre-plans of the area via CALTopo. Designate someone to manage the CALTopo data and research to assist the IC. When possible, obtain the Point Last Scene (PLS) or Last Known Point (LKP).
- 1. Determine the search area and develop an Incident Action Plan (IAP).
- m. Ascertain projected weather/sunset and plan ahead. Recheck weather conditions every 60 minutes.
- n. Resources: Assess the on-scene capabilities, the need for additional resources, and request them. This may include: USAR 17, ATVs, Swiftwater Teams, Dive Teams, Aircraft for Search & Rescue, Boats, Law Enforcement, K-9 Teams, BCoPD Search Manager, Natural Resources Police if the incident is in a State Park, Baltimore City Environmental PD for reservoirs, and Mutual Aid Special Ops Teams. Consider that Swiftwater Teams are trained and equipped for SAR, it may be easier to search, access, and extricate the Subject by boat if a waterway is involved. Staging an ATV with litter capabilities as a dedicated RIT Team is always suggested.
 - The primary asset for aerial search shall be the BCoPD Aviation Unit. All request for hoist must be vetted by the OIC of USAR 17 or a Special Operations Chief and approved by the Incident Commander.
 - Communication Considerations: If having issues with radios being able to transmit, two options are available:
 - o Utilize a Talk-Around channel (line of sight), may have to use multiple relay radios.
 - O Utilize Maryland First Responder Radio System Team (FiRST). Request that dispatch obtains a TAC Channel from MJOC on the MD FiRST System; Zone "PP MD TAC #".
- 2. Access: Once information and intelligence have been gathered and an IAP developed; it is time to move into the Active Phase of the search. It is counterproductive to blindly send resources into the environment, so it becomes imperative that an IAP is established and all personnel are briefed.
 - a. Brief all personnel with vital statistics about the subject.
 - b. Establish **Level II accountability** and collect all PAT tags at all points of entry. Consider multiple accountability officers. CALTopo should be used to provide live digital tracking of teams deployed. Ideally one individual from each team providing tracks.
 - c. Establish and deploy Search Teams, with a minimum of 2 personnel per team, based on search level: **Hasty, Tight Grid, Loose Grid**.
 - d. Begin to develop a Rescue Action Plan (RAP).
 - e. Ensure the Hasty teams communicate intel/CAN reports (Conditions/Actions/Needs) back to command and CALTopo, such as hazards, conditions, and any items found during the search.
 - f. Continue to refine the search and adjust based on continuous intelligence.
 - g. Ensure accountability checks are being conducted for deployed teams every 15 minutes.
 - h. If the subject is not located by Hasty teams in a timely matter, regroup personnel and deploy grid search teams accordingly for a more thorough search.
- Stabilization: Once crews have gained access/located the subject; ensure that the subject and/or the location are stabilized. This may necessitate additional resources such as rescue assets, rope rescue teams, BLS/ALS providers, or Police.
 - a. Ascertain and document the location on the subject, Latitude-Longitude (Decimal Degrees, DD), and plot on CALTopo map.
 - b. Have dispatch mark the time of subject contact.
 - c. Brief all units of the subject's location to ensure additional assets can be guided to the subject.
 - d. Ascertain the subject's status:

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- e. Mobility
- f. Priority Level and injuries. If priority 4, request police assistance.
- g. Ascertain additional assets that may be needed for rescue/extrication.
- h. Ascertain the trail conditions and if a litter wheel or ATV would be applicable.
- i. Ensure appropriate medical gear is sufficient for the subject's conditions and environment.
- 4. Extricate: This phase of the operation can range from simple to complex. Night-time conditions will always make this a complex extrication. The need for additional trained personnel and equipment are often underestimated by the crews who have gained access. The staging of trained personnel and rescue equipment is key for the prompt deployment of assets. USAR 17 will remain on all responses until all crews and the subject have returned to the "Hard Road".
 - a. Activate the **RAP** if warranted.
 - b. Ensure there is a designated Leader for the Extrication Group.
 - c. Ensure the lowest risk method to the subject and the crew for extrication is considered.
 - d. Request an approximate ETA of extrication to the "Hard Road."
 - e. Advise the Extrication Group to communicate to the IC when they are en-route to the "Hard Road."
 - f. Conduct a PAR when all personnel are leaving the extrication site en-route to the "Hard Road."
 - g. Continue accountability checks on all personnel in the environment every 15 minutes.
- 5. Responder Accountability: Accountability involves a personal commitment to work within the safety system at the incident. It will be the responsibility of all to keep their supervisors informed of their activities and location. Freelancing of activities will not be permitted and can lead to individuals becoming injured or lost in the environment.
 - a. Track all Teams deployed via CALTopo mapping software.
 - b. Once all crews are out of the environment conduct a PAR.
 - c. Have all crews that were actively engaged in rescue report to medical rehab.
 - d. Begin the demobilization process.

Section 3: Police Interaction

E. Missing or Lost Subject(s) Response

All missing subjects are a Police Incident and crime scene until proven otherwise. *There is no time limit before Police consider someone Missing. Baltimore County Police, Maryland State Police, Natural Resource Police and Baltimore Environmental Police have specialized search managers and equipment for lost/missing subjects, evidence collection, and interviewing. If not already done, suggest BCoPD K9 be notified..

- 1. Fire Department Considerations:
 - a. Establish a Unified Command Post with Police along with designating a staging area.
 - b. Refer to any Police Officer for "Search Urgency Form" and "Checklist for Search of Missing Person" for guidance.
 - c. Document all interactions and operations that occur prior to Police involvement for their records/forms.
 - d. Gather intelligence. The following can be key for good intel.
 - Dispatch
 - The reporting party (RP)
 - Witnesses
 - CALTopo maps
 - Utilize local residents' knowledge of area familiarity for intelligence.
 - Ensure police have identified and secured the Point Last Seen (PLS) or Last Known Point (LKP).
- F. EVIDENCE PRESERVATION is paramount. Do not touch potential clues or evidence.
 - a. Minimize the number of resources deployed to prevent damaging clues and scents that trained trackers and K9s could utilize. Scent articles are only collected by K9 handlers.
 - b. Level II Accountability is required. Use with CALTopo tracking is highly recommended.

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Section 4: Demobilization

- A. Once the search/rescue/recovery/ is complete, the Rescue Group Supervisor/Branch Director and the Safety Officer shall confer with the Incident Commander as to an appropriate demobilization plan.
 - a. Assure that all information gathered from the incident has been properly documented, and all forms are completed and turned into the Incident Commander.
 - b. Follow up and information passed on to the appropriate agency. (i.e., BCoPD, Natural Resources Police, Department of Natural Resources, Baltimore City Environmental Police County Police, etc.)
 - c. A complete inventory of all equipment that has been used is accounted for and any items lost or damaged documented.
 - d. Assure that initial steps are underway for the proper decontamination for all personnel and equipment if warranted.
 - e. Adjust Pre-Plans/Mapping Markers to reflect any new pertinent information.
 - f. Turn off all Live-Tracking devices in CALTopo.

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Appendix A

Definitions Page

Active Phase- The deployment of resources for search and rescue in the environment such as hasty teams, rescuers, EMS personnel that are actively looking for the Subject.

Backcountry/Inaccessible Area- An area that is difficult to access or navigate, which complicates search and or rescue activities and requires specialized search management, equipment, and training. It may also require an increased number of personnel. Examples include but are not limited to area state parks, reservoir's, remote fields, or woodlands, marked or unmarked trails regardless of the distance from a hard road. This could also result in a Complex Terrain.

CALTopo- A digital mapping software used to plot data and maintain accountability of crews operating in a backcountry environment.

Complex Terrain – Terrain that complicates search and or rescue activities and may require specialized search management, equipment, and training. Such as difficult topography, night-time operations, weather, limited access/egress, lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, caves, crevasses, and any other natural or man-made hazards or obstructions.

Coordinates- One or two sets of numbers, and potentially letters, that dictate a geospatial location. While available in multiple styles the preferred style used by the Department is **Decimal Degrees** (DD), ei: 39.39809, -76.6070. The other style primarily used in Search and Rescue is **Universal Transverse Mercator** (UTM), ei: 18S 0361627E 4362186N. All coordinates used should be done under the WGS84 datum system.

Hasty Team- A Type 1 search, designed to be fast and precise with 2-4 personnel per team. Quickly deployed to locate the subject by searching high probability areas, trails, and likely spots.

Incident Action Plan (IAP)- The strategic goals, tactical objectives, and support requirements for the incident. All incidents require an action plan. For simple incidents, the action plan is not usually in written form and is dynamic. Large or complex incidents will require the action plan be documented in writing.

Last Known Point (LKP)- The last known area the Subject was suspected or known to be at.

Loose Grid Search- A Type 2 Search that is fast yet systematic. 3-4 persons on a team, per assigned area, spread roughly 100' apart.

Passive Phase- The gathering of intelligence, using pre-plans, and maps, developing a search area, briefing emergency service personnel before deployment.

Point Last Seen (PLS)- The witnessed or identified last location of an object, person, or incident.

Rebid- A function conducted by Fire Dispatch where the Subject's cell phone is triangulated and assigned a Latitude and longitude location. This bearing is given in Decimal Degrees (DD): 39.####, -76.####.

Reporting Party (RP)- The person or persons who reported the incident to 911.

Rescue Action Plan (RAP)- The strategic goals and tactical objectives to conduct search and rescue operations.

Rescue/Injured vs Lost/Missing Subject- When operating in a backcountry environment it is important to differentiate the incident between subject(s) requiring 911 assistance versus reports of a Lost or Missing Person. An IAP must be developed prior to anyone entering the backcountry area. All Missing Subject incidents are a Police Matter and require an officer on scene coordinating with the [C[JD3][EJ4]].

Subject- The individual(s) that Emergency Teams are looking for.

Tight Grid Search- A Type 3 Search that is slow but highly systematic. Teams of 3-7 persons per area spread only a few feet. This search is geared more toward locating Clues.

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Appendix B

Backcountry Backpack

With the physical task of hiking terrain to a subject's location, it is not ideal to carry multiple EMS bags with personnel. The following items have been identified suitable for a lightweight backpack to carry. This, coupled with the small oxygen bag if deemed potentially warranted, should handle most rapid treatment for injured/ill persons in the backcountry environment.

- 2 Rolls Cling
- 2 Trauma Pads
- Expired AED Pads for Occlusive dressings
- 4 Triangle Bandages
- Burn Sheet
- 5 4x4 dressings
- 2 Tourniquets
- Small padded split board
- 2 Cold Pack
- 2 Hot Packs
- 2 Emergency Blankets
- 1 Narcan
- 1 Glucose paste
- IV Kit
- IV Bag
- Bottle of Water
- Powerpack for Phone Charging

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BACKCOUNTRY/ INACCESSIBLE AREA RESCUE FOR AN INJURED OR DISORIENTED PERSON

<u>Backcountry/Inaccessible Area-</u> An area that is **difficult to access or navigate**, which complicates search and or rescue activities and **requires specialized search management**, **equipment**, **and training**. These areas may also require more personnel. Examples include but are not limited to state parks, reservoirs, remote fields, woodlands, or marked/unmarked trails, regardless of the distance from a hard road.

Rescue/Injured vs Lost/Missing Subject— When operating in a Backcountry environment, it is important to differentiate the call between known and unknown location of the subject needing 911 assistance. With a known location, crews can identify the best route(s) of travel and execute an objective. With an unknown location of the subject, an IAP must be developed prior to anyone entering the Backcountry Area. All Missing Subject incidents are a Police matter and require an officer on scene coordinating with the IC.

<u>CALTopo-</u> A digital mapping software used to plot data and maintain accountability of crews operating in a backcountry environment.

<u>Coordinates-</u> Preferred <u>Decimal Degrees</u> (DD), i.e: 39.39809, -76.6070. Secondary <u>Universal Transverse Mercator</u> (UTM), i.e: 18S 0361627E 4362186N. All coordinates used should be done under the WGS84 datum system.

Incident Objectives: Locate / Access / Stabilize / Extricate / Responder Accountability (LASER)

 Request a Backcountry Rescue Assignment if not already dispatched Have Dispatch ping subject location using mobile phone REBID or SMS Locate available through ADO. Establish Command with a fixed Command Post (CP) and plot on CALTopo Assign Incident Safety Officer and Operations Branch Director Make sure there is an Incident Action Plan before blindly deploying resources Establish Level II Accountability at all points of entry Conduct Safety Briefing at CP 	or		
officer/IC available through ADO. Establish Command with a fixed Command Post (CP) and plot on CALTopo Assign Incident Safety Officer and Operations Branch Director Make sure there is an Incident Action Plan before blindly deploying resources Establish Level II Accountability at all points of entry	or		
Command and Size-Up. © Establish Command with a fixed Command Post (CP) and plot on CALTopo © Assign Incident Safety Officer and Operations Branch Director © Make sure there is an Incident Action Plan before blindly deploying resources © Establish Level II Accountability at all points of entry			
 Command and Size-Up. Assign Incident Safety Officer and Operations Branch Director Make sure there is an Incident Action Plan before blindly deploying resources Establish Level II Accountability at all points of entry 			
Size-Up. o Make sure there is an Incident Action Plan before blindly deploying resources o Establish Level II Accountability at all points of entry			
 Establish Level II Accountability at all points of entry 			
Conduct Safety Briefing at CP			
Assess on scene capabilities			
Resource needs Ohrest Assess need for additional resources and request them. This may include: USAR			
ATVs, Swiftwater Teams, Aircraft for Search & Rescue, Boats, Law Enforc			
RP questioning, K9 Teams, BCoPD Search Manager, Natural Resources Po			
incident is in a state park, Balto City Environmental PD for reservoirs, and			
Aid Special Ops Teams.			
Mapping with CALTopo			
Additional o Utilize local residents' knowledge for area familiarity			
Considerations • If the RP is not on site, consider BCoPD bringing them to the CP			
Consider staging rescue assets until the subject is located			
o PPE: Station uniform with a helmet, gloves, and eye protection			
Ascertain projected weather / sunset and plan ahead			
Medical • Consider traveling light with medical equipment if remote operations			
Consider warming/cooling techniques. If wet, hypothermia could occur much fas	ster.		

LATITUDE and LONGITUDE from REBID / Location Notes:

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^{*}The primary asset for aerial search shall be the BCoPD Aviation Unit. All requests for hoist must be vetted by the officer of USAR 17 and the Incident Commander





Lost Person Questionnaire

Date	911 CONNECT TIME	DISPATCH TIME	VICTIM LOCATED TIME

Reporting Party / Witness

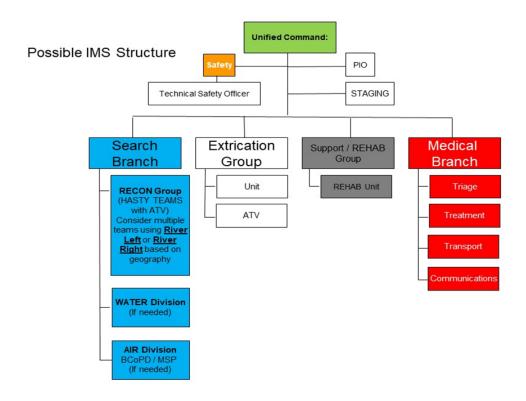
Name	Address	Phone Number	
What Informant Believes to Have Happened			

Subject Information

Age	Sex	Nickname(s)		
MOBILE PHONE:				
	Age	Age Sex		

Physical Description

Identification	Clothing / Style	Color	Size	Health
Height:	Shirt / Sweater:			Overall Health:
Weight:	Pants:			Physical Condition:



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BALTIMORE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT Backcountry Rescue/Inaccessible Area Pre-Plan



Rescu	ie Pre-Plan	Box			
Purpose:					
Sartopo/Cal	Sartopo/Caltopo Map Link:				
Location and Area:					
GPS Coordinates:					
Rescuer Hazards:					
Initial Assignment: Back County Rescue 1-Batt Chief, 1-Engine, 1-Truck, 1-Squad, 1-Medic, 1-ATV, 1-EMS Supervisor, USAR17, Safety Officer • If a waterway is involved, 1 Swiftwater & Dive Team will be dispatched					
Contact Nur	mbers:				
• If havi	ing issues with radios being able to transmit, 2 options Utilize talk around channel (line of sight) may have to Utilize MD FIRST NET Request dispatch to obtain a TAC Channel fro Consider using the MD First Net in state parks or	use multiple relay radios m MJOC on the MD FIRST NET			
	agencies/ jurisdictions are involved to ensure into scene must be made aware of the changeover to radio must remain on the Baltimore Co. Platform.	the MD First TAC channel and 1			
Equipment Considerations:					
Access- Egress and Staging: (Include boat access-egress if applicable):					

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BALTIMORE COUNTY

BALTIMORE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Backcountry Rescue/Inaccessible Area Pre-Plan



Liberty Reservoir Dam Rescue Pre-Plan

Box 46-15

Purpose: Create an action plan for response to incidents involving emergencies located at or near the Liberty Reservoir Dam

Sartopo/Caltopo Map Link: https://sartopo.com/m/878A/6BSSTUDA81U1KSV8

Location and Area: Liberty Dam is at the end of Liberty Dam Road. It can be accessed off Wards Chapel Road between Liberty Road and Reisberg Lane. Access to the bottom of the dam is via walking trail parallels the Patapsco River left.

GPS Coordinates:

•	BCoFD CMD Post	39.3781, -76.8889 Elev. 495'
•	BCoFD Lookout	39.3772, -76.8898 Elev. 417'
•	Dam Descent Trail Start	39.376676.8887 Elev. 495'

Dam Descent Trail End 39.3743, -76.8889 Elev. 291' Distance 1,628'

Marriottsville trail start 39.3670, -76.8854 Elev. 285'

Marriottsville trail end 39.3761, -76.8901 Elev. 280' Distance 0.71 mile (3,749')

Dam Top Staging
 Dam Base Staging
 39.3781, -76.8886 Elev. 498'
 39.3668, -76.8854 Elev. 285'

Rescuer Hazards:

- Trails leading to the base of the dam are not currently maintained. Trails are prone to fallen trees.
- Footing is an issue. Rescuers should be prepared to traverse rocky, loose soil. After storms trails will be muddy.
- Technical Safety Officer should report to the BCoFD lookout on top of the dam for overall view
 of incident at the base. Equipment needed radio, binoculars.
- Dam Descent trail has a significant elevation change. 217' difference over the 1628' trail. The
 Descent trail provides quicker access to the dam base for recon / patient first-aid but is has a
 steep grade. Crews could have foot entrapment / loose soil issues during the descent.
- If patient is stuck on spillway all personnel operating near the edge shall be in class III harness with safety
- No personnel will wear structural firefighting gear (NO Structural Gear).

Initial Assignment: Back County Rescue

1-Batt Chief, 1-Engine, 1-Truck, 1- Squad, 1- Medic, 1- EMS Supervisor, USAR17, 1-ATV, Safety Officer

. If a waterway is involved, 1 Swiftwater & Dive Team will be dispatched

Contact Numbers:

Baltimore Environmental Police 410-517-3600

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Communication Considerations:

- If having issues with radios being able to transmit, 2 options are available
- Utilize talk around channel (line of sight) may have to use multiple relay radios
- Utilize MD FIRST NET
 - Request dispatch to obtain a TAC Channel from MJOC on the MD FIRST NET
- Consider using the MD First Net in state parks or on incidents when multiple agencies/ jurisdictions are involved to ensure interoperability. All units on the scene must be made aware of the changeover to the MD First TAC channel and one radio must remain on the Baltimore Co. Platform.

Equipment Considerations:

- First Due engine and truck should report to dam top staging area and establish command.
 Determine patient location.
- If patient is located at bottom of the dam, medic unit should utilize the dam base staging area
 off Marriottsville Road
- Hasty Team should deploy from Dam top staging area and utilize the Dam Descent Trail for quick access to the dam base. Travel fast and light minimum equipment (radio, back country BLS back pack)
- Stokes Basket with evac wheel can be utilized to remove patient from base of the dam via the trail that parallels the river
- If priority 1 patient consider a helicopter hoist operation (This needs to be agreed upon by the IC and the officer of USAR 17)

Access- Egress and Staging: (Include boat access-egress if applicable):

- Command Post should be established by 1st arriving units in the parking lot at the end of Liberty Dam Road above the dam.
- If vehicle access is needed down to top of the dam, units should use the dam key in the key box on the apparatus.
- Top of the Dam: stage fire apparatus in parking lot at the end of Liberty Dam Road adjacent to the command post.
- First Due engine and truck should report to dam top staging area and establish command.
 Determine patient location.
- Hasty Team should deploy from Dam top staging area and utilize the Dam Descent Trail for quick access to the dam base. Travel fast and light minimum equipment (radio, back country BLS back pack)
- South Side: Stop traffic and stage Apparatus on Marriottsville Road. Trail that parallels the
 river has a small parking lot. If patient is located at bottom of the dam, medic unit should utilize
 the dam base staging area off Marriottsville Road for transport.
- 3732 Wards Chapel Road possible ATV access to original dam road (under investigation)

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