



March 9, 2021

House Finance Committee Ohio State Representative 77 South High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Chair Oelslager, Vice Chair Plummer, Ranking Member Crawley and members of the House Finance Committee:

This letter is to secure State of Ohio funding in the biennium budget starting July 2021. Ohio Task Force One (OH-TF1) is the State of Ohio's Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Task Force which is also part of the FEMA National US&R System in a partnership between FEMA, Ohio Emergency Management Agency, and the Miami Valley Fire/EMS Alliance (Sponsoring Agency of the OH-TF1, a local Council of Government headquartered in Dayton). For more on OH-TF1, please view an Ohio Department of Public Safety video (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wJ9qX60PMD4&t=4s</u>), or visit the Task Force's website <u>www.ohtf1.com</u>.

The Task Force became deployable in 1998. The following is a summary of some of the Task Force's larger activities and accomplishments:

- OH-TF1 personnel have supported COVID-19 response efforts in Ohio for Montgomery and Green Counties and the Ohio Dept. of Aging. This is in addition to what they do in their fire departments and hospitals.
- OH-TF1 has deployed 35 times including 9/11 (WTC); Hurricanes Katrina, Sandy, and Harvey; Ohio Xenia (2000) and Montgomery County (2019) Tornados; Washington Landslide and Colorado Flooding; Multiple Exercises
- Current Task Force staffing is 223 rostered, 192 deployable; most from 71 Ohio based fire and EMS agencies
- Task Force training in 2018-2020 averaged 36% of the calendar years
- Team member contact hours ranged from 14,007 (2018), 23,241 (2019), and 15,574 (2020); a combined total of 52,822 training hours over the three-year period. The following items are critical to these numbers:
 - The above numbers do NOT include State of Ohio or FEMA deployment hours
 - The Task Force does NOT pay team members for training, exercise, or other non-deployment contact time
 - \circ Total cost of the above contact time, had the TF been required to pay, would have been more than \$3,350,000
- OH-TF1 was the lead agency for the 2019 Operation Unified Response Exercise, the largest civilian based US&R exercise ever completed in the U.S. Over 1,600 personnel involved, 7 U.S. based US&R teams, 6 international US&R teams, 23 aircraft, 7 days long, ... See Appendix B for more details
 - OH-TF1 has hosted FEMA funded events that include first responders from Ohio, neighboring states, and Canada for:
 - multiple offerings of an eight-day *Structural Collapse Specialist* class
 - o multiple offerings of a four-day Heavy Equipment Rigging course
 - o multiple offerings of Technical Search and Search Planning courses, and Canine certification evaluations
 - multiple offerings of FEMA US&R System meetings
- In March 2020 OH-TF1 was required to leave our home of 15 years in Kettering. We made the move in less than three weeks to our new, 50,000 sq. ft. warehouse on the north side of the Dayton International Airport.

OH-TF1 is funded by FEMA to maintain administrative and operational standards as specified by FEMA to be a part of the National US&R System. However, this funding has for most of the past 18 years been relatively stagnant while the capability of the Task Force and the costs of maintaining the Task Force have increased. **Attachment A** to this request provides more detail about the federal funding and requirements/capabilities of the Task Force and associated sustainment costs.

In July 2019, OH-TF1 was funded by the Ohio Legislature for the first time since 1998. The Task Force received \$500,000 (\$250,000 in each biennium year) in the current State Operating Budget. As of March 9, 2021, we have remaining approximately \$94,000. The following summarizes the primary uses of the funding to date:

Expended

- \$48,000 to support OH-TF1's Sponsoring Agency, Miami Valley Fire EMS Alliance, for costs associated with ensuring the Task Force remains viable
- \$157,000; one year's rent on the Task Force's warehouse





- \$64,000 for a Telehandler forklift (used) for the Task Force's training center
- \$78,000 for a Landoll flatbed trailer (used)
- \$24,500 for a MCI 2011 bus (used)
- \$8,700 Commons Generator
- \$25,500 for the new warehouse's office equipment, supplies, signage, and COVID deployment masks and testing **Pending**
 - \$25,000 to install red lights and sirens in eight of the Task Force's 16 vehicles
 - Remaining funds will be used for COVID-19 supplies, new bus modifications, and Task Force sustainment needs

OH-TF1 is asking for another \$500,000 (\$250,000 in each biennium year) in State funding. The following summarizes proposed use of the funding:

Biennium Year 2021-2022

- \$24,000 to support OH-TF1's Sponsoring Agency, Miami Valley Fire EMS Alliance
- \$157,000 rent on TF's warehouse
- \$60,000 to develop joint helicopter-based rescue with Ohio National Guard and OH-TF1 Rescue personnel
- \$9,000 for the improvements to the Task Force's training center

Biennium Year 2022-2023

- \$24,000 to support OH-TF1's Sponsoring Agency, Miami Valley Fire EMS Alliance
- \$157,000 rent on TF's warehouse
- \$10,000 sustainment costs for helicopter-based rescue
- \$59,000 for training center improvements design and/or construction of new Rescue, Search, & Canine training props, upgrade/replacement of training cache items, and building IT and furnishings



National US&R Response System



Attachment A – Task Force Responsibility and Requirements

Section 1 – Task Force Requirements

Under this Readiness Cooperative Agreement, the Sponsoring Agency shall use funding to prepare the task force under the following categories: Administration/ Management, Training, Equipment, and Storage/Maintenance.

A. ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

- 1. Provide sufficient staff for management and administration of task force day-to-day activities. This staff shall be responsible for program management, grants management, financial management, administrative support, training coordination and instruction, logistics management and property accountability. These management responsibilities include, but are not limited to, task force salaries and expenses coordination; record-keeping; inventory and maintenance of task force equipment caches; communicating with task force members and parties who support task force activities; and similar management and administrative tasks. Cost to OH-TF1 is approximately \$500,000/yr. for 3 full-time positions, one ³/₄-time position, one half-time position, and multiple ¹/₄-time or less positions. Our yearly funding is approximately \$1.15M from FEMA and I have made it a personal requirement that we not exceed 50% of our yearly funding on task force staffing costs. Salary, medical, and other benefit costs have gone up in the 18 years I've been the Program Manager of the Task Force, but our funding has not.
- 2. Recruit, train, and maintain a roster of personnel to enable complete staffing of a National Incident Management System (NIMS) type 1 US&R task force. Positions shall be staffed from within the task force organization, unless prior approval is given by the US&R Branch. The rostered staffing level shall be a maximum 210 personnel, plus up to 10% allowable staffing overage, to address attrition, Incident Support Team (IST) members, etc. OH-TF1's current rostered staffing is 223 Task Force team members; we meet the FEMA requirement exactly. It also means we incur the costs for deployability tri-annual physicals, PPE, training, etc. for 192 deployable personnel and the new people each year to maintain this staffing.
- 3. The task force shall procure and maintain the required Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) preparedness and response equipment and supplies and train personnel according to current System policy. Doing so will allow the task force to perform rescue operations in a contaminated environment, as defined in the System's Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) Concept of Operations. I trust the cost of this compliance is relatively straight forward.
- 4. Ensure each task force member meets the necessary license, certification, or other professional qualification requirements of their assigned position at time of deployment. Six emergency medicine licensed doctors and eight professionally licensed civil engineers are two examples of complying with this requirement.
- 5. Attend FEMA-sponsored or FEMA-approved System meetings, conferences, and training sessions, or other events as directed by the US&R Branch as they relate to the System. This means six to 10 weeks of travel each year for others and myself in the senior leadership ranks of the Task Force.
- 6. Provide complete medical evaluations and immunizations to task force members as defined by the System's Medical Subgroup. Medical screening should be conducted, at a minimum, on a triennial basis for each task force member. Each task force member must have a current Fit for Deployment form signed by the examining physician on file. This document along with the medical evaluation shall become part of each member's personal medical record. Please refer to the most current Program Directive. This currently costs OH-TF1 approximately \$400/person for currently rostered personnel to as much as \$850/person for new team members and Haz-Mat Team team members. We spend \$80,000± each year on this requirement.
- B. TRAINING



National US&R Response System



- 1. Provide System-related or System-required training for task force personnel, including the delivery of local US&R training courses or other courses specifically required by the System's Position Descriptions or authorized by the US&R Branch. This should include equipment specific training provided by the manufacturer and authorized repair technician certification training to allow task forces to have members certified to conduct manufacturer-approved repairs in-house.
- 2. As funding permits, complete all five modules of the OREEP over a three-year period either as individual exercise components, or as one comprehensive deployment exercise. The task force is encouraged to exercise as many task force members as possible during this Cooperative Agreement. This typically costs OH-TF1 \$25,000 to \$50,000 over the three-year period. However, this is because we do not pay Task Force team members for their training and exercise participation time. As noted above, had we had to do that from 2018-2020, the cost to the Task Force would have been approximately \$3,350,000.
- 3. Ensure training and exercise activities of the task force meet System standards, requirements, and certifications. Ensure training records for all task force personnel are kept in a central, secure location.
- 4. Provide funding for expenses related to the acquisition, maintenance, training, and certification of Canine Search Teams.

C. EQUIPMENT

- 1. Task forces are to ensure that the full complement of Communications capability that meets the requirements, per the current FEMA Approved Equipment Cache List has been purchased and/or identified within the Sponsoring Agency for immediate deployment. This Communications capability shall be maintained in a state of readiness for response. Service agreements, as required, shall be in place for immediate use of equipment upon activation. Communications capabilities shall be addressed in the following priority order:
 - a. Radio UHF, VHF, 800MHz, Marine, and Air frequency capability, to include the required quantities of portable handheld radio units; portable base station(s), mobile unit(s), and portable repeater(s); and mobile radio units installed and operational in all task force prime mover vehicles;
 - b. Satellite capability including satellite data via transportable .98-1.2M dish system, mobile satellite data system(s), and handheld and mobile satellite phones;
 - c. Cellular-based data and phone capability to include wireless mobile hotspots and wireless phones.
- 2. Purchase equipment necessary to conduct operations within the disciplines of the task force (e.g., Communications, Search & Logistics). These items may include but are not limited to, wireless tablets, personal communication devices (e.g., smart phones), software, printers, etc.
- 3. Transportation equipment is authorized for purchase as part of this Cooperative Agreement with prior approval from the US&R Branch in writing after submitting a completed FEMA Form 089-0-26. See attached sheet on OH-TF1's fleet. OH-TF1 has the most complete fleet of any Task Force in the US&R System, but all Task Forces are required to meet the same standard of five prime movers, 7 personnel movers, bus, and fleet maintenance vehicle for Type I deployment configurations.

D. MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

1. Provide manufacturer's recommended maintenance and repair to US&R equipment acquired and specifically identified on the System's current FEMA Approved Equipment Cache List. Also, provide maintenance and repair to any supplemental equipment as approved by FEMA, which was purchased with FEMA funding and delivered to the task forces, purchased during a federal System response, or was acquired with FEMA approval through the Federal Excess Property Program. Task forces are expected to perform routine maintenance of equipment to maintain a state of readiness. You saw the extent of our deployment cache, nearly \$8M dollars, and over 50,000 pieces of equipment. Since the Sponsoring Agency of OH-TF1 is not a first response entity, we





cannot just pull in an engine crew to do a day's work. OH-TF1 has to hire the staff to keep up with this level of maintenance and cache serviceability.

- 2. As part of the operational readiness of each task force, all US&R equipment shall be maintained in an immediate state of readiness in a cache storage facility or facilities. Each Task Force is required to have a facility(ies)/warehouse(s) to keep their cache and fleet under roof. For OH-TF1 we have been given notice to vacate our current warehouse which we have been in since 2005 at a cost of \$0.95/sq. ft. We are moving into a new facility but the new rate is \$3.00/sq. ft. and in three years will increase to \$4.00/sq. ft. If our funding does not go up, well....
- 3. The day-to-day repair, maintenance, storage, and administrative costs for all equipment purchased or provided by FEMA will be accomplished via this Cooperative Agreement funding.

Section 2 - Task Force Fleet & Operational Cache

A. FLEET

				Fleet Records -	Current	March 2021					
		ve Aggreement Funded									
Vehicl											
OH-TF1		Brand	License*	VIN	DOM	Туре	Capacity	FEMA CA No.			
40	N/A	Caterpillar Forklift	N/A	AT351152	2007	P5000-G-LP-Catrepillar	5K	EMW-2006-CA-0176			
24	21	Chevrolet	355YSU	1GC4KYC8XFF558410	2015	Silverado 3500 1-Ton 4WD Deseal		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
25	20	Chevrolet	360YSU	1GC4KYC80FF557640	2015	Silverado 3500 1-Ton 4WD Deseal		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
26	24	Chevrolet	504YVQ	1GC4KYC8XGF126613	2016	Silverado 3500 1-Ton 4WD Deseal		EMW-2013-CA-K00007			
27	25	Chevrolet	508YVQ	1GC4KYC85GF126969	2016	Silverado 3500 1-Ton 4WD Deseal		EMW-2013-CA-K00007			
12	2	Freightliner Business Class	OD5996	1FVACYDC04HN29636	2004	Straight w/24' box, lift gate, sleeper		EMW-2003-CA-0296			
13	3	Freightliner Business Class	OD6002	1FVACYDC24HN29637	2004	Straight w/24' box, lift gate, sleeper		EMW-2003-CA-0296			
14	4	Freightliner Business Class	OD5994	1FVACYDC44HN29638	2004	Straight w/24' box, lift gate, sleeper		EMW-2003-CA-0296			
33	N/A	Kubota RTV1140CPX	N/A	A5KD1HDAEEG033522	2014	Utility 24.8 HP Kubota All Terain Veh.		EMW-2013-CA-K00007			
39	N/A	Kubota RTV1140CPX	N/A	A5KD1HDAAFG036336	2015	Utility 24.8 HP Kubota All Terain Veh.		EMW-2013-CA-K00007			
41	16	Load Master	860YNB	1L9CB2523DC237058	2013	Boat Trailer		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
42	17	Load Master	865YNB	1L9CB2525DC237059	2013	Boat Trailer		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
34	9	Utility Trailer	OK6931	1A9UT18A471668727	2007	18' Utility Trailer Flat Bed Dual Axle		EMW-2005-CA-0278			
35	10	Utility Trailer	OK7360	1A9UT18A871668729	2007	18' Utility Trailer Flat Bed Dual Axle		EMW-2005-CA-0278			
6	15	Volvo Tractor	931YLJ	4V4NC9KJ08N490398	2008	Tractor w/sleeper		Split##			
4	1	Volvo, VNL	OD5987	4V4NC9GHX4N372049	2004	Tractor w/sleeper		EMW-2003-CA-0296			
20	5	Wabash	OK6275	1JJV532WX5L907667	2005	Box Trailer 53' w/Liftgates side & rear		EMW-2003-CA-0296			
21	6	Wabash	OK6274	1JJV532W85L907666	2005	Box Trailer 53/ w/Liftgates side & rear		EMW-2003-CA-0296			
	1	T	1		s & Moto		1	1			
B-1	N/A	Weld Craft	N/A	WKG10822K617	2016	Model 1648 16 foot Jon Boat	l	EMW-2013-CA-USR-0021 M005 - M007			
B-2	N/A	Weld Craft	N/A	WKGG 9093 C313	2013	Model 1648 16 foot Jon Boat		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
B-3	N/A	Weld Craft	N/A	WKG10823K617	2016	Model 1648 16 foot Jon Boat		EMW-2013-CA-USR-0021 M005 - M007			
B-4	N/A	Weld Craft	N/A	WKG10824K617	2016	Model 1648 16 foot Jon Boat		EMW-2013-CA-USR-0021 M005 - M007			
B-5	N/A	Zodiacs	N/A	FR-XMPC086YC717	2017	Model FC420 14 foot Zodiac Boat		EMW-2016-CA-00001			
B-6	N/A	Zodiacs	N/A	FR-XMPC087YC717	2017	Model FC420 14 foot Zodiac Boat		EMW-2016-CA-00001			
M-1	N/A	Mercury Boat Motor	N/A	OR 518938	2013	Model ME25 ML EFI 4		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
M-2	N/A	Mercury Boat Motor	N/A	OR 518939	2013	Model ME25 ML EFI 4		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
M-3	N/A	Mercury Boat Motor	N/A	OR 518940	2013	Model ME25 ML EFI 4		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
M-4	N/A	Mercury Boat Motor	N/A	OR 518941	2013	Model ME25 ML EFI 4		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
M-5	N/A	Mercury Boat Motor	N/A	OR 764748	2017	Model ME30 ML EFI 4		EMW-2016-CA-00001			
M-6	N/A	Mercury Boat Motor	N/A	OR 764794	2017	Model ME30 ML EFI 4		EMW-2016-CA-00001			
M-7	N/A	Mercury Boat Motor	N/A	OR 521924	2013	Model ME25 ML EFI 4		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
M-8	N/A	Mercury Boat Motor	N/A	OR 764764	2017	Model ME30 ML EFI 4		EMW-2016-CA-00001			
T-1	N/A	Weld Craft	N/A	WKGG 9092 C313	2013	Model 1648 16 foot Jon Boat		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
T-3	N/A	Weld Craft	N/A	WKGG 9096 C313	2013	Model 1648 16 foot Jon Boat		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
T-4	N/A	Weld Craft	N/A	WKGG 9097 C313	2013	Model 1648 16 foot Jon Boat		EMW-2012-CA-K00013			
				Task Force Funded to Include Donations or Grants							
Task Ford	ce Funde										
Task Ford Vehicl	<mark>ce Funde</mark> le No.		ants								
Task Ford	<mark>ce Funde</mark> le No.			VIN	DOM	Туре	Capacity	Funding Source			
Task Ford Vehicl	<mark>ce Funde</mark> le No.	d to Include Donations or Gr	ants	VIN 1ZFUF12295B000636	DOM 2005	Type Utility Trailer (Single Axle)	Capacity	Funding Source Non-budgeted Federal			
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Task Ford Vehicl OH-TF1 29	ce Funde le No. VFIS 7 8	d to Include Donations or Gr Brand International	ants License* OK6446	1ZFUF12295B000636	2005	Utility Trailer (Single Axle)	Capacity	Non-budgeted Federal			
Task Ford Vehicl OH-TF1 29 30 36 State of O	ce Funde le No. VFIS 7 8 N/A Dhio Grau	d to Include Donations or Gr Brand International International	ants License* OK6446 OK6776	1ZFUF12295B000636 1ZFUF12206B000302	2005 2006	Utility Trailer (Single Axle) International Trailer (Single Axle)	Capacity	Non-budgeted Federal Levin Foundation			
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National US&R Response System



- B. CACHE LIST
 - 1. The current FEMA Cache List, *US&R Program Directive 2020-007 2020 FEMA Approved Equipment Cache List (Supersedes US&R PD 2019-002)*, can be found at <u>https://www.responsesystem.org/logistics</u>.
 - 2. The cost of the deployment cache is:
 - i. TOTAL Manufacture Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) \$7,152,251.89
 - ii. Comm Section MSRP
 - iii. HazMat Section MSRP
 - iv. Logistics Section MSRP
 - v. Medical Section MSRP
 - vi. Plans Section MSRP
 - vii. Rescue Section MSRP
 - viii. Technical Section MSRP
 - ix. Water Section MSRP

\$1,836,071.50 \$723,937.66 \$2,961,447.69 \$377,372.72 \$2,320.80 \$553,783.48 \$289,338.13 \$407,979.91

Section 3 – Federal Funding History for FEMA US&R System Task Forces

A. MOST RECENT (2014) FUNDING INFORMATION PRODUCED BY THE US&R SYSTEM

Urban Search and Rescue involves the location, rescue (extrication), and initial medical stabilization of victims trapped in confined spaces. Structural collapse is most often the cause of victims being trapped, but victims may also be trapped in transportation accidents, mines, and collapsed trenches.

FEMA US&R task forces are staffed, trained and equipped to conduct round-the-clock search and rescue operations following a variety of emergencies or disasters, including earthquakes, hurricanes, typhoons, storms, tornadoes, floods, mudslides, dam failures, technological accidents, terrorist activities, and hazardous materials releases. The events may be slow in developing, as in the case of hurricanes, or sudden, as in the case of earthquakes.

Task forces are sponsored by local agencies that serve as a federal (FEMA) or state resources during national or regional emergencies. Each task force entails:

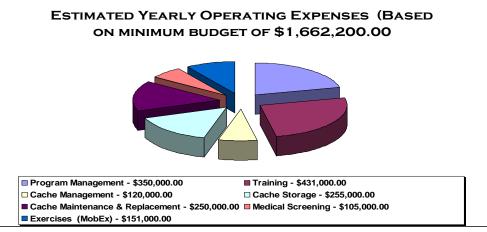
- 210 members three 70-person teams, composed of highly trained, highly skilled responders from a wide variety of disciplines who are ready to respond within four hours of notification:
 - 90,000-pound comprehensive equipment caches
 - Dedicated Deployment Fleets including Air and Water Operations
 - Partnering Agencies
 - Doctors, Engineers, and Canines

Program Costs

On January 31, 2006 at the US&R Task Force Leaders / National US&R Conference, the FEMA US&R Program Office provided an overview of their "Report to the Congress on the Status of the Urban Search and Rescue Program." Although the report has never been made public, it did provide a conservative estimation of the cost to manage and maintain a Federal US&R Task Force. This briefing of the report divided the annual and recurring costs into the following sections:





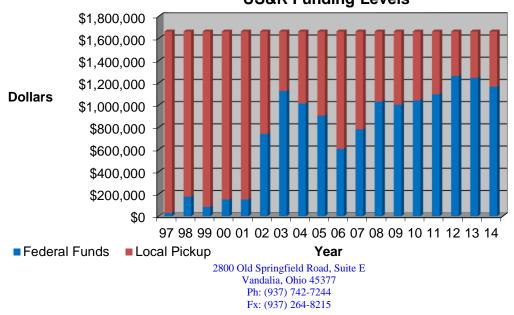


Based on the figures above, the DHS/FEMA US&R Program Office estimated the annual and recurring cost for each task force to be \$1,662,200. Although the sponsoring agencies believe that this amount is below the actual costs – (for example, important elements such as funding for eventual replacement vehicles is missing) – the US&R Program Office did an exceptional job in determining an "average" cost.

The sponsoring agency's contributions to this national program have exceeded the cooperative agreement funds provided by DHS/FEMA. The program managers of the Task Forces evaluated each of their sponsoring agencies' contributions and found the national average to be \$863,695. These averages were calculated in 2004/05, when the cooperative agreement funding was at higher levels.

Funding

The US&R Program is based on partnerships between the federal Government, states and local governments. In the early years, the funding received by each task force was minimal. This funding was used to cover purchases of cache equipment. After the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, program funding increased to purchase additional vehicles, equipment and training to meet the mandated Weapons of Mass Destruction response capabilities. The amounts received by the individual Task Forces from FY 1997-2014 and the deficit being covered by local agencies are reflected in the table below. Since FY 2013, the funding for the program has remained leveled at \$35.18 million, with the exception of FY 2019 funding and an additional \$10 million was added for equipment capitalization.



US&R Funding Levels



National US&R Response System



Conclusion

Based on the 2006 presentation by the US&R Program Office on the "Report to Congress", the average cost to maintain a National US&R Task Force is \$1,662,200.00. Maintenance and personnel costs have continued to increase along with the mission of Task Forces.

B. ADDITIONAL (2021) FUNDING INFORMATION

Federal	Congressional	Base Funding	OH-TF1
Fiscal	Funding to FEMA	Amount to Each	Funding
Year	US&R System	Task Force	Tunung
2008	\$32,500,000	\$1,000,179	\$1,030,179
2009	\$32,500,000	\$1,001,910	\$1,036,910
2010	\$32,500,000	\$1,041,900	\$1,041,900
2011	\$32,500,000	\$1,077,078	\$1,109,577
2012	\$41,250,000	\$1,261,108	\$1,261,108
2013	\$35,180,000	\$1,132,154	\$1,212,154
2014	\$35,180,000	\$1,150,631	\$1,168,631
2015	\$35,180,000	\$1,154,582	\$1,203,582
2016	\$35,180,000	\$1,158,582	\$1,244,082
2017	\$38,280,000	\$1,151,021	\$1,181,013
2018	\$35,180,000	\$1,147,990	\$1,208,990
2019	\$45,330,000	\$1,145,104	\$1,205,604
2020	\$37,832,000	\$1,176,631	\$1,253,631

FEMA US&R System & OH-TF1 Funding Amounts: 2008-2020



National US&R Response System



Attachment B – Operation Unified Response Exercise June 2019

The following is a summary of the Operation Unified Response Exercise. OH-TF1 was the lead agency for the exercise. It was the largest exercise ever conducted by the FEMA US&R System, and I've been told the largest civilian based Urban Search and Rescue ever done in the United States.

The Operation Unified Response 2019 Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Joint Task Force Exercise was the first to jointly test and foster relationships among FEMA US&R task forces, national Emergency Support Function (ESF)-9 Search and Rescue support elements that included non-FEMA US&R task forces in the United States, Title 10 and 32 U.S. military resources (Illinois Army National Guard [ILARNG], Tennessee Army National Guard [TNARNG]), and international US&R teams from Canada and Australia. The exercise occurred June 1-7, 2019, at the Muscatatuck Urban Training Center (MUTC) in Butlerville, Indiana. As indicated in the following depiction, the week-long exercise included about 1,600 participants.



One of the major exercise focus areas was aviation support. North American Aerospace Defense Command/United States Northern Command provided mobilization support with a C-17 aircraft to transport the FEMA Task Force California Task Force Five (CA-TF5)'s Water Mission Ready Package and an MQ-9 Reaper unmanned aerial system during the exercise. TNARNG provided UH-60s (Blackhawk) and LH-72s (Lakota) rotary wing aircraft, and ILARNG provided CH-47s (Chinook) rotary wing aircraft. Civil Air Patrol (CAP) also flew two daily missions to maintain overall situational awareness. Exercise outcomes and lessons learned through air operations presented unique opportunities to strengthen US&R capabilities for mobilization, mission-specific deployment, search and extraction, and medical evacuation (medevac).

Rotary-Wing operations included the validation of the ability to move a full FEMA US&R Type I Task Force include all 80personnel, nearly 60,000 lbs. of cache, and some limited vehicles solely by air into the area of operations. OH-TF1 was used to validate this capability. Rotary-wing was also used to pick the Australian 60-person INSARAG medium US&R Team up at WPAFB where they landed in an Australian C-17 and were flown with cache to the exercise site in CH-47s. Additionally host operations of victims from water and structural collapse environments were conducted, and land and water-based search teams were inserted by rotary-wing to include boats and vehicles.

The Butler County, Ohio, Incident Management Team acted as the exercises overall command element but performed their work in a unified command relationship with the FEMA US&R Incident Support Team.





Summary statistics of air operations are as follows:





National US&R Response System



TASK FORCE	EMIS AL
	Exercise Overview
Exercise Name	Operation Unified Response – 2019 Urban Search and Rescue Joint Task Force Exercise
Exercise Dates	June 1-7, 2019
Scope	This Operational Readiness Exercise and Evaluation Program (OREEP) full-scale exercise (FSE) was scheduled for 7 continuous days of 24/7 US&R operations at the Muscatatuck Urban Training Center (MUTC), Forward Operating Base (FOB) Panther, and Atterbury Training Center. The FSE engaged tactical US&R and overhead management Command and Control (C2) elements. US&R teams used the field deployment to meet 3-year OREEP exercise requirement for mobilization, ground movement, base of operations (BoO) establishment, US&R operations, and demobilization. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) US&R Branch Office tested FEMA Incident Support Team (IST) mobilization and incident management activities. The Indiana State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was activated during June 3-4, 2019.
Threat or Hazard	Catastrophic earthquake
Scenario	A 6.6 Modified Mercalli (MM) scale earthquake along a previously unmapped fault within the Wabash Valley Seismic Zone occurred at 0900 on June 1, 2019. The earthquake caused damage in at least three states— Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky. The most significant damage was reported to have occurred in Jennings County, Indiana, and other adjacent counties. Significantly affected was the City of Muscatatuck, near the epicenter, with loss of power, architectural failures and structural damage, and injuries. Dozens of structures within the town of 10,000 collapsed. At least three aftershocks, one of which was magnitude 6.0, occurred following the initial quake.
Mission Area(s)	Response
Core Capabilities	 Mass Search and Rescue Operations Planning Operational Communications Operational Coordination Situation Assessment.
	 FEMA US&R System Units California Task Force-5 (CA-TF5) Colorado Task Force-1 (CO-TF1) Incident Support Team (IST) 2800 Old Springfield Road, Suite E Vandalia, Ohio 45377
	Vandalia, Ohio 45377 Ph: (937) 742-7244 Fx: (937) 264-8215





- o Indiana Task Force-1 (IN-TF1)
- Nebraska Task Force-1 (NE-TF1)
- Ohio Task Force-1 (OH-TF1)
- Tennessee Task Force-1 (TN-TF1)
- FEMA Partners
 - FEMA National Exercise Division (NED)
 - FEMA US&R Branch Office
 - FEMA Region 8 Incident Management Assistance Team
 - FEMA Region 8 Mobile Emergency Response Support (MERS)
- Other Federal Partners
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
 - North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD)/United States Northern Command (NORTHCOM)
 - U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate (S&T)
 - Civil Air Patrol (CAP)
- State Partners
 - Illinois Task Force-1 (IL-TF1)
 - Illinois Army National Guard (ILARNG)
 - o Indiana Army National Guard (INARNG)
 - Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS)
 - Muscatatuck Urban Training Center (MUTC)
 - New Jersey State Police Incident Management Team
 - Tennessee Air National Guard (TNANG)
 - Tennessee Army National Guard (TNARNG)
 - Virginia Department of Emergency Management Incident Management Team (VDEM IMT)
- Local Partners
 - o Butler County (Ohio) Incident Management Team
- International Partners
 - Australia Emergency Management Agency Urban Search and Rescue Task Force (AUS EMA US&RTF)
 - Canada Task Force-1 (CAN-TF1 [Vancouver])
 - Canada Task Force-2 (CAN-TF2 [Alberta])
 - Canada Task Force-3 (CAN-TF3 [Toronto])
 - o Canada Task Force-4 (CAN-TF4 [Manitoba])
 - Canada Task Force-5 (CAN-TF5 [Halifax])
 - Canada Task Force-6 (CAN-TF6 [Montreal])

2800 Old Springfield Road, Suite E Vandalia, Ohio 45377 Ph: (937) 742-7244 Fx: (937) 264-8215

Participating Organizations

Participating

(continued)

Organizations





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