Washington National Guard
Domestic Response Operations

SR530 Landslide
&
Wildfires 2014

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Deputy J3, WA NG

Brief to:
Joint Committee on Military and Veteran’s Affairs
Washington State Legislature
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DOMESTIC OPERATIONS DEFINED

Support provided by U.S. Federal military forces, DoD civilians, DoD contract personnel, DoD Component assets, and National Guard in response to requests for assistance from civil authorities for domestic emergencies, law enforcement support, and other domestic activities, or from qualifying entities for special events. Also known as civil support.

Operational Reference: NGR 500-1 “Domestic Operations” Establishes Policy and Provides Guidance for the Oversight & Execution of DOMOPs
WA NG Domestic Support

DOMOPs & Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA)

A cornerstone of the National Guard value is its ability to respond quickly during domestic emergencies, providing key “Defense Support to Civil Authorities”. For this domestic mission, the National Guard is a source of ready, trained, mission-oriented manpower without peer.

Eleven core competencies, know as the “Essential 11”, are employed in support of civil authorities:

1. Command and Control
2. Engineering
3. Ground transportation
4. Medical Support
5. Logistics
6. Full-Scale CBRNE Operations
7. Communications
8. Aviation
9. Security
10. Maintenance
11. Cyber

“It is imperative that the Washington Military Department be trained and ready to serve and support the citizens who depend on us.” MG Daugherty TAG-WA
**WA NG DOMOPs Capabilities**

- Medical Support
- Base Camps
- Communications
- Search and Rescue
- Security
- Firefighting
- Engineering Support
- Construction
- Debris removal
- Transportation Support
- Drinking water
- Aerial Reconnaissance
- Consequence Management/planning
- Cyber Response

**Specialized Personnel**

Leadership and Liaison Teams

8000+ Ready, Trained, and Disciplined Citizen Soldiers and Airmen

**Specialized Response Teams**

- Civil Support Team (WMD)
- Enhanced Force Package
- Flood Support Operations
- Joint Incident Communications
- “Rapid Reaction Forces”
- Wildfire Support Operations
- Aviation Force Packages
- Cyber Teams

**Specialized Equipment**

- Command Centers
- Communications Packages
- Power Generation Assets
- 600+ Trucks and Trailers
- 20 Helicopters
- 2 Fixed Wing aircraft
- Decontamination equipment
EMPLOYMENT CONSIDERATIONS

• Military Response is always in support of civil authorities

• Initiated by a request for assistance from a “civil authority”

• Provides personnel, equipment, facilities, material, and information to civilian authorities at all levels of government – Federal, State, and local

• Provided prior, during, and in the aftermath of an incident or potential incident

• Governor commands State Active Duty Forces

• Secretary of Defense retains command of Federal military forces

• A Total Force Effort (National Guard, Reserve, and Active Duty)
RESPONSE PLANNING FACTORS

- Avoid competition with private enterprise
- **Cost reimbursable basis** – resource level is considerate of cost
- Title 32 (National Guard) may assist in law enforcement IAW applicable local laws and regulations.
- Title 10 may not generally perform law enforcement (Posse Comitatus Act).
- **Legal vetting required** - Rules for Use of Force and use of specialized equipment or intelligence capabilities
- **Pre-Identifying accurate Military Capabilities** in support of local agencies is an essential part of DSCA planning.
## Types of Response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command &amp; Control</th>
<th>SAD</th>
<th>T32</th>
<th>T10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Unit CDR or JTF</td>
<td>Governor/TAG</td>
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<td>DSC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Where</td>
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<td>Mission types</td>
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<td>Approved Mission Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support Law Enforcement</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Limited by Posse Comitatus</td>
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4 Methods for DOMOPS / DSCA Response

1. Governor’s Proclamation from Emergency Declaration ($ SAD)

2. Governor’s Letter of Authority to TAG for Use of National Guard ($ SAD)

3. Federal Mobilization of NG for DSCA ($ 502f Federal)

4. Immediate Response Authority ($ It depends...)
“ALWAYS READY, ALWAYS THERE” – GUARDIANS!

NIMS REQUEST FOR SUPPORT PROCESS

1. Incident Commander’s Request Capability
2. State EOC Processes Requests via ESF
3. DSCA Requests First Go To WANG
4. If WANG is unable to Support, then EMAC
5. If EMAC is not available, then Federal

“Normal” Request Process
SR 530 Landslide, Snohomish County (22MAR14 – 30APR14)
Washington Wildfires, Eastern Washington (15JUL14 – 14SEP14)

WA NG STATE ACTIVE DUTY

RESPONSES 2014
SR 530 Landslide

- Saturday 22Mar14, 1037L, a major landslide occurred 4 miles (6.4 km) east of Oso, Washington, (pop. 180) sending mud and debris across the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River and blocking State Road 530
- The slide covered an area of approximately 1 square mile (2.6 km²)
- An entire neighborhood was engulfed
- Lt Governor declared a state of emergency on 22 March
- Presidential Disaster Declaration (Limited) on 24 March
- 58 homes are impacted
- Commercial activity completely cut off to the nearby town of Darrington
The Guard in Action – SR530 Landslide

Status/Location of Forces 06APR14 (D+15)
By the end of the SR530 Landslide response about 700 Soldiers and Airmen had been ordered to State Active Duty.
Missions Conducted

Tasks conducted in Direct Support of the Incident Commanders:

- Conduct air movement of Human Remains
- Conduct technical and wide area search for survivors and Human Remains
- Process Human Remains
- Conduct technical decontamination of search personnel and animals
- Conduct ground transport of civilians
- Provide immediate medical aid to responders
- Conduct airspace management / coordination
- Conduct liaison operations
- Conduct public information operations

Additionally some Soldiers and Airmen were mobilized to support the Guard response effort. The tasks conducted by these Soldiers and Airmen were:

- Conduct command and control of military units
- Conduct religious support operations and grief counseling
- Provide logistics coordination
- Provide ground transportation
- Conduct vehicle and equipment maintenance
- Provide safety inspections and operational safety oversight

Guard Cost:
Total Guard cost: ~$1.8 Mil
Total State cost: ~$70 Mil

Guard Value:
6x weeks of response
2.5% of the total cost
The 2014 wildfires are the largest fires in Washington State’s recorded history.

The fire season began unusually early and with great intensity. By mid-July national resources available to Washington were already depleted, or were diminishing at such a rate that it raised concern.

15 July 2014 the Governor declared a State of Emergency and issued proclamation 14-04 employing the Guard in support of wildland firefighting operations. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requested helicopter support.

17 July 2014 the Carlton Complex Fire destroyed approximately 95 homes in vicinity of Pateros Washington. DNR requested ground support.

This was the first major mobilization of ground forces for wildland fires since 1994.
The Guard in Action – Wildfires 2014

**Washington Military Department**

“ALWAYS READY, ALWAYS THERE” – GUARDIANS!
WA Wildfire Situation Roll-up
313,000 Acres Burned
~150 Homes Destroyed
2,689 Homes Threatened
1 Civilian Deaths (Heart attack)
1 Civilians Injured

WA National Guard Response Roll-up
6 Total Number WA HELOs Involved (+2 Montana HELOs)
23/23 Total Number of Missions accepted/working
$2.4 Million Total Cost

By the end of the Wildfire response about 800 Soldiers and Airmen had been ordered to State Active Duty.

FUOPS
- Cost (Blade hours and Maintenance
- Expected Missions (+2-3)
- SAD #’s (Slight increase)
- Helo Missions (No change)
Missions Conducted

Tasks conducted in Direct Support of the Incident Commanders:

- **Aerial Waterbucket Operations** (2.5 Million Gallons of H2O dropped)
- **Ground Firefighting Line Operations** (100 pers x 2 weeks)
- **Liaison Officers** to all Type 2 or larger Incident Commands
- **Health and Wellness checks**
- **Presence patrols**
- **Traffic Control Points**
- **Donation Management**
- **Public Information Operations**
- **Joint Incident Site Communications Capability**
  - Supported 2x ICs, and 1x County EOC
- **Field Feeding Operations** (1x 1500 pax base camp)
- **Disaster Relief Bed Down System** (Environmentally controlled tents for 2x Base Camps)
- **Medical Assistance to Fireline**

Tasks conducted to enable the Guard response:

- **Conduct command and control of military units**
- **Provide logistics coordination**
- **Provide ground transportation**
- **Conduct vehicle and equipment maintenance**

**Preliminary Cost**

Guard cost: ~$8 Mil  
Total State cost: ~$170 Mil

**Guard Value:**  
8x Weeks of response  
4.7% of the total cost
How can we do better?

• Core Competency in planning
  – Planners could help us engage faster and in more instances
  – Build relationships with EOCs and ICs (Counties could ask for us more readily)
  – Helping county, city and tribal Emergency Managers conduct planning is somewhere we could really assist. *(State Active Duty funding required)*

• Pre-Training for more mission capability
  – For example – Fire training.
    • The Guard could conduct training to be more easily employed by firefighting Incident Commands
    • This has a cost in training *time and money*
    • There is a decision point in here for TAG and GOV
Questions / Discussion

Thank you for your time!

LTC Clay Braun, Deputy J3, WA NG