

Humboldt County Emergency Medical Services, Technical Rescue, and Disaster Response Groups

Eel River Valley Technical Rescue Team

Team Commander: Will Salter

Squad Leaders:

Hollie Charez – Carlotta
Rick Nicholson – Ferndale
Phil Mullins – Fortuna

Jennifer Renner – Loleta
Ben Heyda – Rio Dell
Vacant – Scotia
Vacant – Bridgeville

The Eel River Valley Technical Resource Team (ERVTRT) was formed in the Fall of 2010 and consists of members from the fire departments of Scotia, Rio Dell, Ferndale, Loleta, Fortuna, Carlotta, and Bridgeville. The team covers emergency response for the Eel River Valley and the Highway 36 corridor to the Dinsmore area. The ERVTRT functions under the guidance of the Eel River Valley Fire Chiefs and acts as a resource to assist fire jurisdictions in providing a higher level of rescue operations to our communities. These operations include: low and high angle rope rescue, confined space and trench rescue, collapse and water rescue, as well as providing additional manpower and equipment as needed during any emergency event. The ERVTRT has the ability to assist other rescue teams throughout the county, including the Southern Humboldt Technical Rescue Team and the Humboldt Bay Urban Search and Rescue Team. ERVTRT is trained and equipped to USAR Level 3. Operations and training are overseen by one team leader, while each department has a squad leader who oversees their individual squads, in turn. The ERVTRT is dispatched by the CAL FIRE Command Center.



Incident Responses			
Traffic Collision (MTX- Vehicle Accident with extrication required)	Water Rescue	Traffic Collision (MTC- Vehicle Accident or incident involving moving equipment)	Medical Aid (Technical rescue, rope, over the bank, etc.)
3	2	0	4
			Total Responses
			9
Volunteer Hours		Personnel	
Incidents	Training	Volunteer	Auxiliary
77	800	16	0

Southern Humboldt Technical Rescue Team

Chief: Kai Ostrow
Captains: Genairo Gray & Shawn Studebaker

P.O. Box 458
 Redway, CA 95560

707-223-0042
SoHumTechRescue@gmail.com



Challenges & Needs:

It is common in Humboldt County for a fire department to be entirely community-funded, without a tax base of any kind to draw on. For the Rescue Team, this challenge is compounded by the fact that all of our members have a primary responsibility to their fire department. Between the two commitments, our members dedicate 12 to 20 hours every month to fire and rescue activities, and that's before they take part in fundraising efforts. We are immensely grateful to our community for approving the Measure Z sales tax, and we are hopeful that our Regional Rescue Station request will be approved in 2017.

The Southern Humboldt County Technical Rescue Team (SHCTRT) provides rescue services to an area of roughly 1000 square miles that includes the King's Range, 35 miles of the Lost Coast, 35 miles of Highway 101, portions of both the South and Main Fork of the Eel River, and the entire length of the Mattole River. The Team is responsible for operations on all High and Low Angle Rope Rescue and Swift Water & Flood Rescue emergencies, and supports the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department on Wilderness Search and Rescue. Our crew is made up of volunteer firefighters from various Southern Humboldt fire departments. Members of the SHCTRT are highly dedicated men and women with specialized training who respond to rescues in addition to the normal duties of their respective fire departments. Our governing board is the Southern Humboldt Fire Chiefs' Association, and we are funded by their annual donations, as well as fundraising by team members.

Apparatus used include two 4x4 Light Rescue Trucks and one Rescue Trailer with Swift-Water equipment and inflatable boat. Apparatus is housed at the Garberville VFD and the HCSO substation.

Incident Responses					
Rope Rescue	Swift Water/Flood	Search and Rescue	Extrication	Aircraft	Others
8	4	0	2	0	3
Total Responses					16
Volunteer Hours				Personnel	
Incidents	Training	Maintenance	Fund Raising	Volunteer	Auxiliary
475	750	200	300	12	6

Humboldt Urban Search and Rescue

Humboldt Bay Fire: 707-441-4000

Contact: Humboldt Bay Fire Chief Bill Gillespie
Humboldt Bay Fire Battalion Chief Kent Hulbert

Dispatch: 707-441-4044

bgillespie@hbfire.org
khulbert@hbfire.org



The Humboldt Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR) Team is a group available by request for emergencies related to building collapse, shoring, concrete breaking and breaching, lifting and rope rescue. HUSAR was formed when Cal-OES provided a medium cache of rescue equipment to Humboldt Bay Fire as well as 17 other locations with the goal that no California location would be more than two to three hours away from a US&R Rescue Unit. A HUSAR crew is available locally or able to respond anywhere in the state with the medium cache trailer RT-32. For a state response, the trailer will meet with other regional teams and combine forces and equipment. Training requirements for the HUSAR team include: Rescue Systems 1 and 2, Low Angle Rope Rescue, Trench Rescue, and Confined Space. Humboldt Bay Fire trains on the core components of the requirements with monthly training topics as well as participating in local drills both with on-duty personnel and callbacks. Beside Humboldt Bay Personnel, HUSAR has one member from Fieldbrook Volunteer Fire Department.

Challenges & Needs:

Humboldt Bay Fire is looking for funding to enhance our breaking and breaching of concrete structures by purchasing a hydraulic powered system of chipping hammers, jack hammers, diamond tipped chainsaws and circular saws. This purchase will allow for HUSAR personnel to access victims in a collapse situation.

Hazardous Materials Response Team

Battalion Chief, Humboldt Bay Fire: Ed Laidlaw | 707-441-4000 | elaidlaw@hbfire.org

Since inception in the early 1990's, the Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT) had been staffed exclusively by Eureka Fire Department personnel. The HMRT has evolved into a multi-agency personnel structured team. The multi-agency model allows individuals from public safety and private sector from different agencies to participate in HMRT activities including response, training and coordination. Currently, the HMRT has team members from Humboldt Bay Fire, Yurok Tribe, Humboldt Waste Management Authority, California Highway Patrol and Ferndale Volunteer Fire Department.



The goal is to geographically diversify the HMRT with available personnel located throughout Humboldt and Del Norte Counties to provide support and response in a timely manner.

The HMRT achieved CalEMA (now Cal-OES) Type II rating in April 2010. The Team Typing recognizes the HMRT as a state resource if mutual aid to an affected area is needed. The Team Typing project requires the HMRT to meet and maintain strict standards in equipment and training.



Throughout the year, HMRT members help local, State, and Federal agencies develop and implement training for Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. Bi-annual hazardous material response drills were conducted for the U.S. Post Office, Arcata/Eureka Airport, County of Humboldt, and area public safety agencies. The HMRT also assist Humboldt County Environmental Health with updates to the Humboldt County Hazmat Response Plan.

HMRT outreach instructors provide state-certified training for First Responder Awareness, First Responder Operations, First Responder Decontamination, and Weapons of Mass Destruction Awareness. In 2016, instruction was provided for over 80 agency personnel, not including ongoing skill maintenance for Hazardous Materials Technicians and Specialists. HMRT members attended specialized training to maintain skills in Emmitsburg Maryland, Anniston Alabama, San Luis Obispo California and Sacramento California. Please contact Ed Laidlaw for scheduling training, team participation and general questions.

Incident Responses	
HMRT provided assistance w/product identification and mitigation	Individual HMRT members provided assistance to agencies with mitigation and identification
3	8

The majority of assistance provided is phone consultations to determine if the incident requires response or clean up.

North Coast Emergency Medical Services

Executive Director: Larry Karsteadt	3340 Glenwood Street	707-445-2081
Associate Director: Louis Bruhnke	Eureka, CA 95501	northcoastems.com
Programs Manager: Wendy Chapman		



North Coast Emergency Medical Services (NCEMS) has provided local EMS agency services for the Counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, and Lake since 1976. Our overall responsibility is to provide coordinated medical oversight for all aspects of the three-county EMS system. NCEMS serves as the primary coordinating entity for this life saving EMS system, which is made up of hundreds of pre-hospital and hospital personnel. This system includes: dispatch providers, fire districts and departments, first responder agencies, public and private ambulance services, emergency departments and hospitals.

NCEMS responsibilities include, but are not limited to, such activities as:

- Development of policies, protocols and procedures for establishing and supervising the medical direction of EMS services;
- Authorization of First Responder and ALS providers;
- Monitoring and approval of numerous training programs (First Responder, EMT-I, Paramedic, Mobile Intensive Care Nurse, Field Training Officer);
- Certification, authorization and accreditation of hundreds of EMS personnel, including EMT-I, Paramedics and Mobile Intensive Care Nurses.
- Participation in the process to develop statewide EMS standards, particularly from the rural perspective; and
- Oversight of the Regional Trauma System.

Resources and Programs					
Certified EMT-I	Accredited Paramedics	Approved EMT Training Programs	Approved 1 st Responder Training Programs	Advanced Life Support Agencies	Paramedic Programs
378	62	2	10	7	1