



2026 TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM WORK GROUP MEETING

JANUARY 5, 2026

- 6) Joint Training opportunities among TRTs
 - a) Teams are sending open trainings dates for state distribution
- 7) 2025 Hurricane Season -No TRTs Deployed
- 8) ORE for 2025
 - a) Submitted to Work Group Leader for documentation (30 received 65%)
 - i) Region 1, 3, and 6 all active teams submitted
 - b) Need a score of 90% or better to remain active
 - i) 7 teams below 90% (23%)
 - ii) Active for local response and mutual aid, not state deployment
 - iii) Will get with Region Representatives in this month with scores and follow-ups
 - iv) If temporary below 90% (vehicle maintenance) score as if in-service, but make a note on ORE or email to Work Group Leader
- 9) Training (Zielonka)
 - a) Statewide Exercise
 - i) Week of April 27, 2026
 - ii) Orange County Fire is host
 - iii) All disciplines will be utilized-no advance notice
 - iv) No funds for participants to attend/backfill, travel or lodging; cost on department
 - v) Exercise will provide lunch/water for participants
 - vi) "Few" TRTs will be able to participate; will most likely be local teams for 1 day exercise and return home-will update when receive more information
 - b) State will be offering USAR Specialist Classes (tuition only-no expenses)
 - i) Offering to Task Force first, then offered to TRT
- 10) 2026 SUSAR Conference
 - a) November 16-18, 2026, in Orlando
 - b) Pre-Conference Courses-November 11-15
- 11) Water Rescue capabilities and deployments (Strickland)
 - a) The Current FEMA 508 description:
 - i) Type 1: 16 persons/4 boats
 - ii) Type 2: 12 persons/2 boats
 - iii) Type 3: 6 persons/1 boat
 - b) Best practice is for Type 3 with 2 boats-looking as using that model
 - c) Request Evaluation from Longview (Scott Chappell is contact) if want your Swiftwater Team assessed
- 12) Longview Assessments (Chappell)
 - a) Evaluations are Task Force and specialty teams (Swiftwater, Hazmat)
 - b) TRT will not be assessed unless specialty team is part of the team



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13) ERC/SERP Update (De La Rosa)

- a) TJ retired as ERC/SERP Coordinator, but still OPS with State Fire Marshal Office and working with ReadyOp
- b) Chief Marcos De La Rosa is new ERC/SERP Coordinator
- c) SERP meeting held on January 6th; notes are below-
 - i) DEM announced that SERTRAC is going away and new on-line classes will be offered; not sure what new name will be...stay tuned
 - ii) SERP Plan revision to be distributed soon

14) State Fire Marshal Update (Rice)

- a) Marketing video with Task Force and TRTs
- b) February 18 is Day at Capital
- c) New EOC open in March 2026
- d) EOC Training in April 2026
- e) John Kohnke to retire in June 2026

15) Logistics (Zielonka/Abreu)

- a) TRTs need to make sure are registered in DEMES to expedite reimbursement process
<https://www.floridadisaster.org/DEMES>
- b) Task Forces reference <https://www.responsesystem.org/> for equipment cache
 - i) Doesn't need to be specific brand
- c) Refer to <https://rtilt.preptoolkit.fema.gov/Public> for team typing and baseline requirements Longview Assessment Team is referencing
- d) If deployed and equipment is damaged, take a photo for documentation and submit damage report in real time, do not wait to submit complete DEMES report.
- e) Check equipment before demobilization, not days after returning to home

16) FASAR Positions Update (Effective in July)

- a) Voting took place FASAR Chair, Secretary, and Representatives
- b) Allen Willis will remain as Chair
- c) Andy Cappelletti will remain as Secretary
- d) Nicole Clark is new Region 3 Representative
- e) Timothy Collier is new Region 4 Representative
- f) Other Executive Positions/Representatives stayed the same

Next Meeting at Executive Leadership Conference in Punta Gorda in July 10-14, 2026.