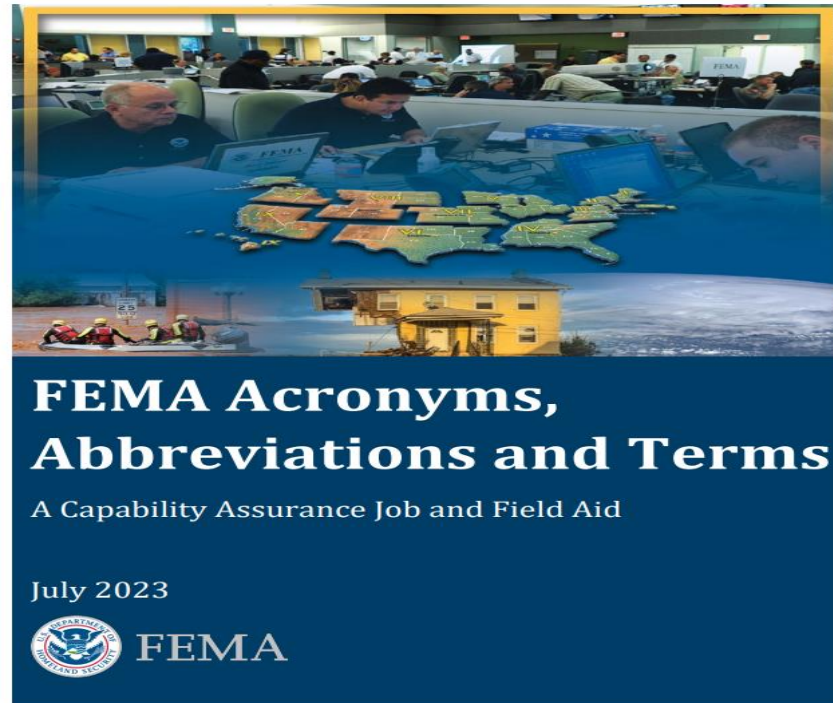

Demystifying the Incident Command System (ICS)

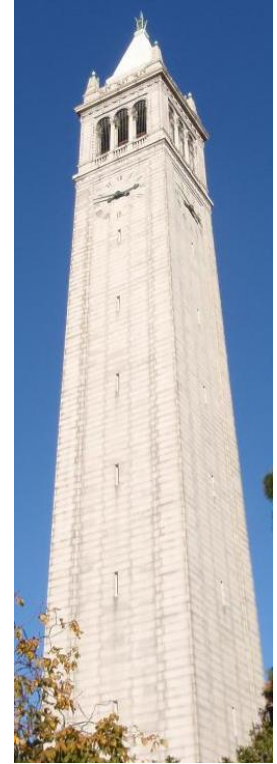
Disclaimer

I may speak in acronyms.



Objectives

- Remove some of the fear from ICS.
- Demystify the four NIMS command and coordination systems:
 - ICS, EOC, MAC Group, and JIS
- Demystify the ICS positions, roles and responsibilities.
- Demystify NIMS and the Management Characteristics.



Why does this matter to you, as a Volunteer?

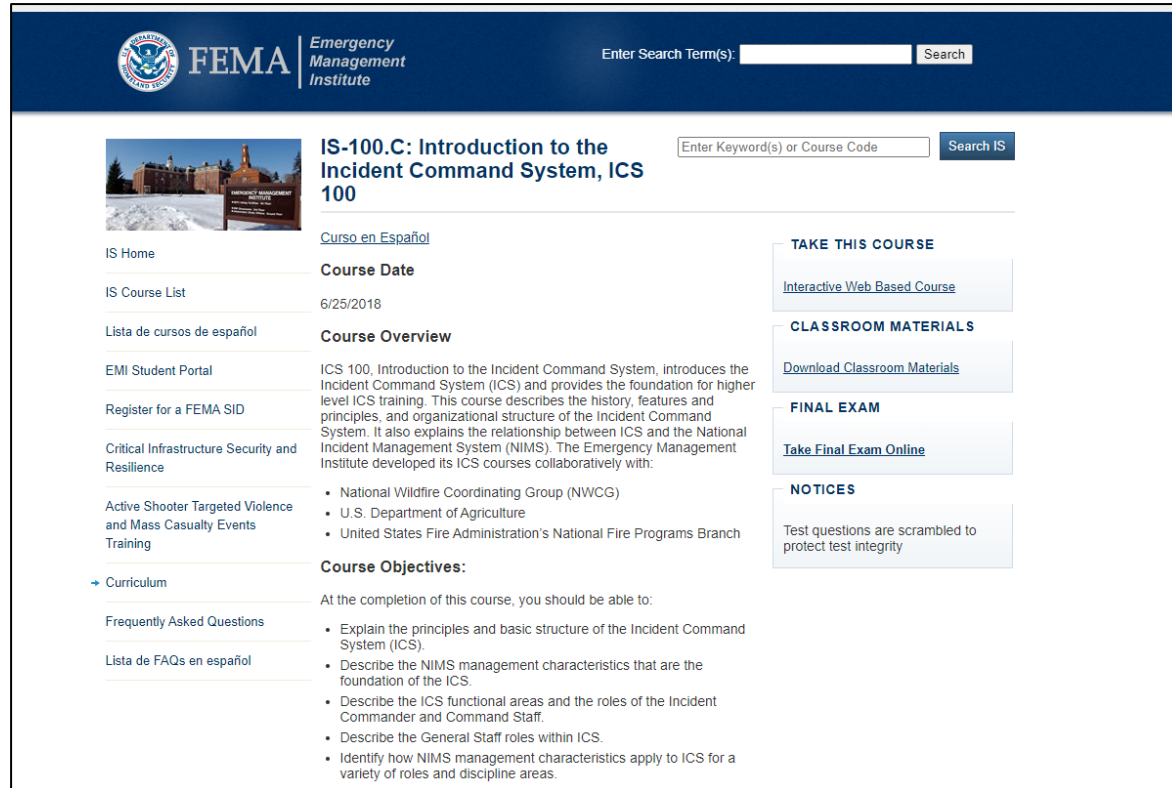
- The presumption of knowledge from other responders.
- Increase in effectiveness and efficiency.
- Accountability
- Safety



**American
Red Cross**



How have you taken your ICS training

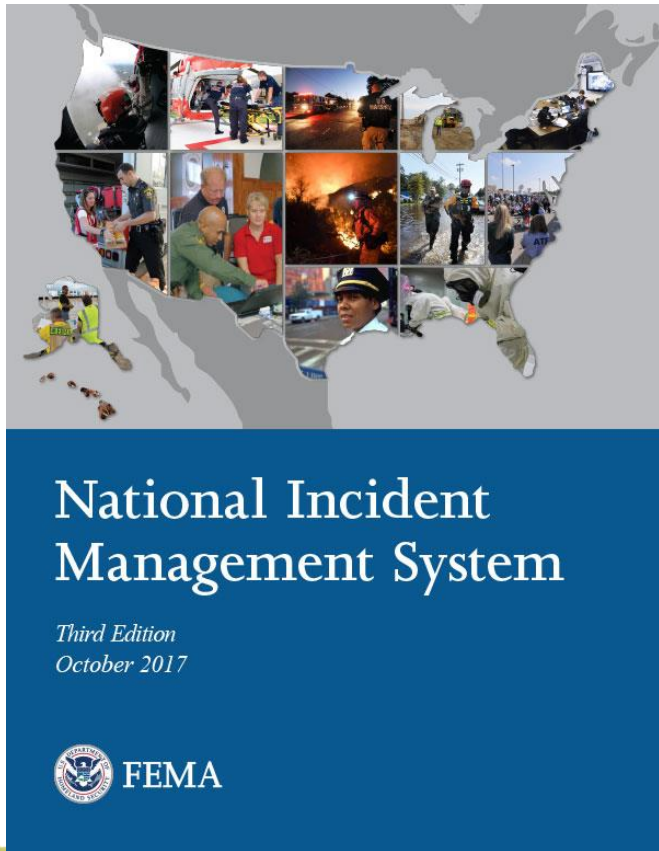


The screenshot shows the FEMA Emergency Management Institute website for the IS-100.C course. The header includes the FEMA logo and the text "Emergency Management Institute". A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area features a course title "IS-100.C: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS 100" with a search bar and a "Search IS" button. A sidebar on the left contains navigation links such as "IS Home", "IS Course List", "Lista de cursos de español", "EMI Student Portal", "Register for a FEMA SID", "Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience", "Active Shooter Targeted Violence and Mass Casualty Events Training", "Curriculum", "Frequently Asked Questions", and "Lista de FAQs en español". The main content area includes a "Curso en Español" link, a "Course Date" of 6/25/2018, and a "Course Overview" section. The overview text states: "ICS 100, Introduction to the Incident Command System, introduces the Incident Command System (ICS) and provides the foundation for higher level ICS training. This course describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System. It also explains the relationship between ICS and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The Emergency Management Institute developed its ICS courses collaboratively with:" followed by a bulleted list of partner organizations: National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG), U.S. Department of Agriculture, and United States Fire Administration's National Fire Programs Branch. Below the overview is a "Course Objectives" section with the text "At the completion of this course, you should be able to:" followed by a bulleted list of objectives: Explain the principles and basic structure of the Incident Command System (ICS); Describe the NIMS management characteristics that are the foundation of the ICS; Describe the ICS functional areas and the roles of the Incident Commander and Command Staff; Describe the General Staff roles within ICS; and Identify how NIMS management characteristics apply to ICS for a variety of roles and discipline areas. On the right side, there are three sections: "TAKE THIS COURSE" with a link to "Interactive Web Based Course"; "CLASSROOM MATERIALS" with a link to "Download Classroom Materials"; and "FINAL EXAM" with a link to "Take Final Exam Online". Below these is a "NOTICES" section with the text "Test questions are scrambled to protect test integrity".

How have you taken your ICS training



National Incident Management System



- What? . . . NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template . . .
- Who? . . . to enable Federal, State, Territorial, tribal, and local governments, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together . . .
- How? . . . to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity . . .
- Why? . . . to reduce the loss of life and property, and harm to the environment.

What is Incident Command System (ICS)?

The Incident Command System:

- Is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazards incident management concept.
- Allows its users to adopt an integrated organizational structure to match the complexities and demands of single or multiple incidents without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries.



ICS Purposes

Using management best practices, ICS helps to ensure:

- The safety of responders and others.
- The achievement of tactical objectives.
- The efficient use of resources.



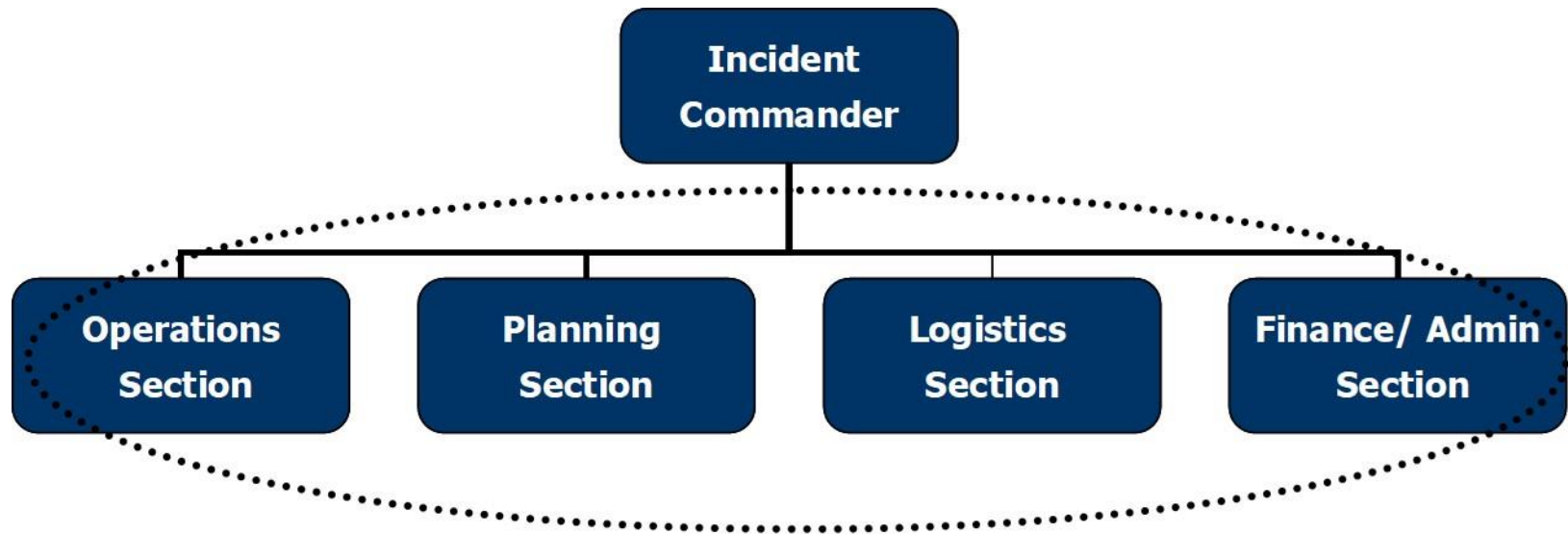
ICS Benefits



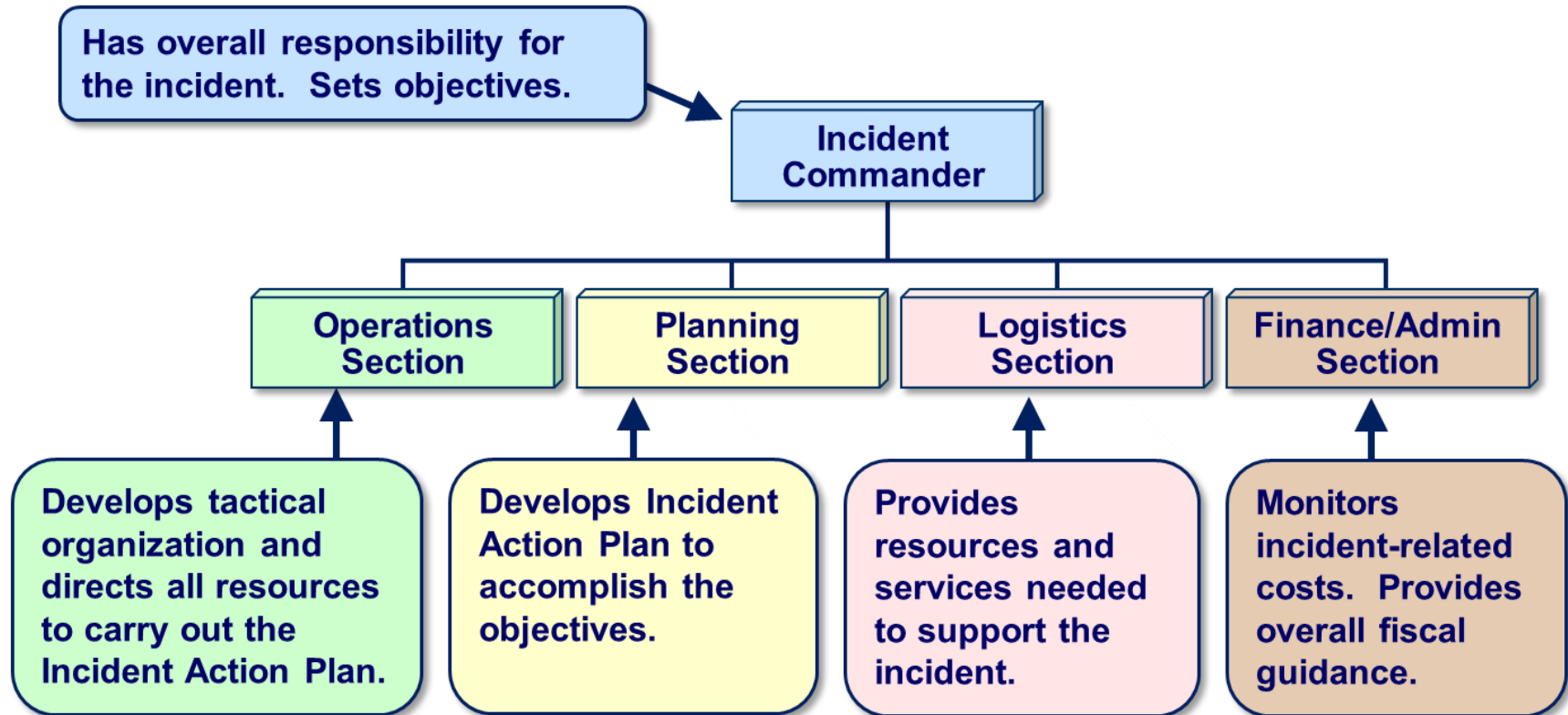
- Meets the needs of incidents of any kind, size, or complexity.
- Allows personnel from a variety of agencies to meld rapidly into a common management structure.
- Provides logistical and administrative support to operational staff.
- Is cost effective by avoiding duplication of efforts.

ICS Structure

C FLOP



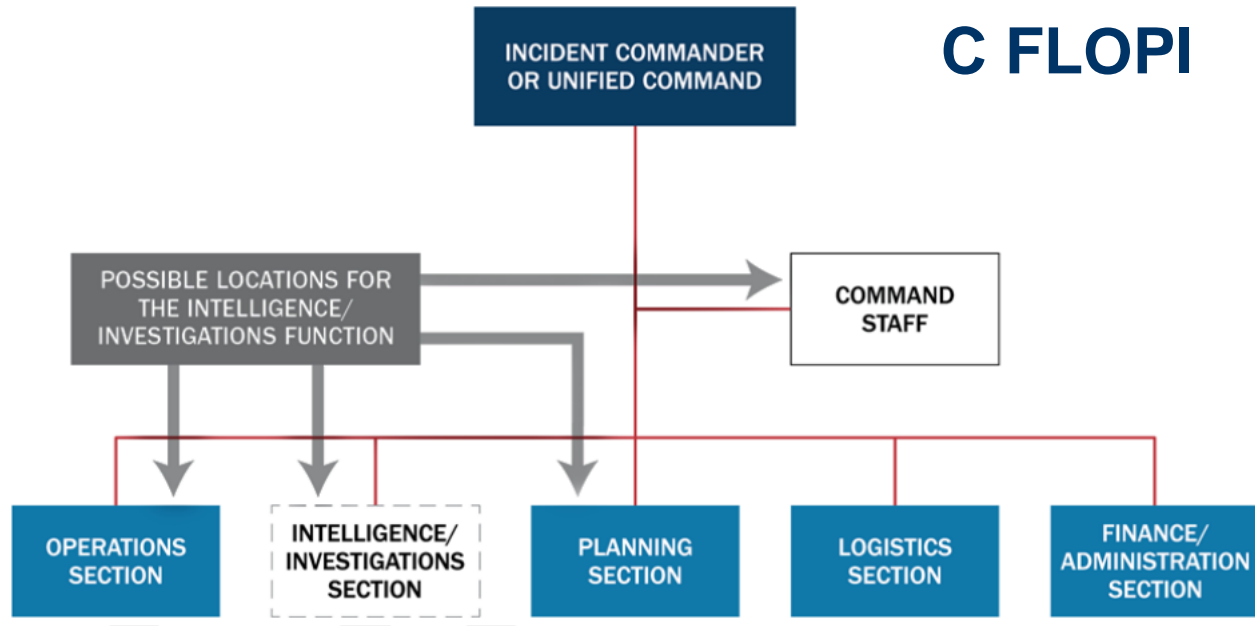
ICS - Who Does What?



ICS Experience



ICS Structure

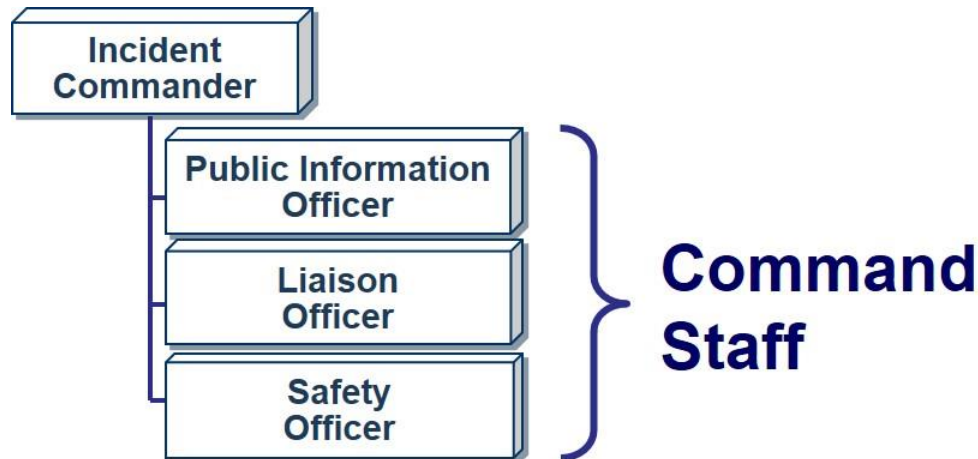


https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nims_intel_invest_function_guidance_draft_20240925.pdf

Command Staff

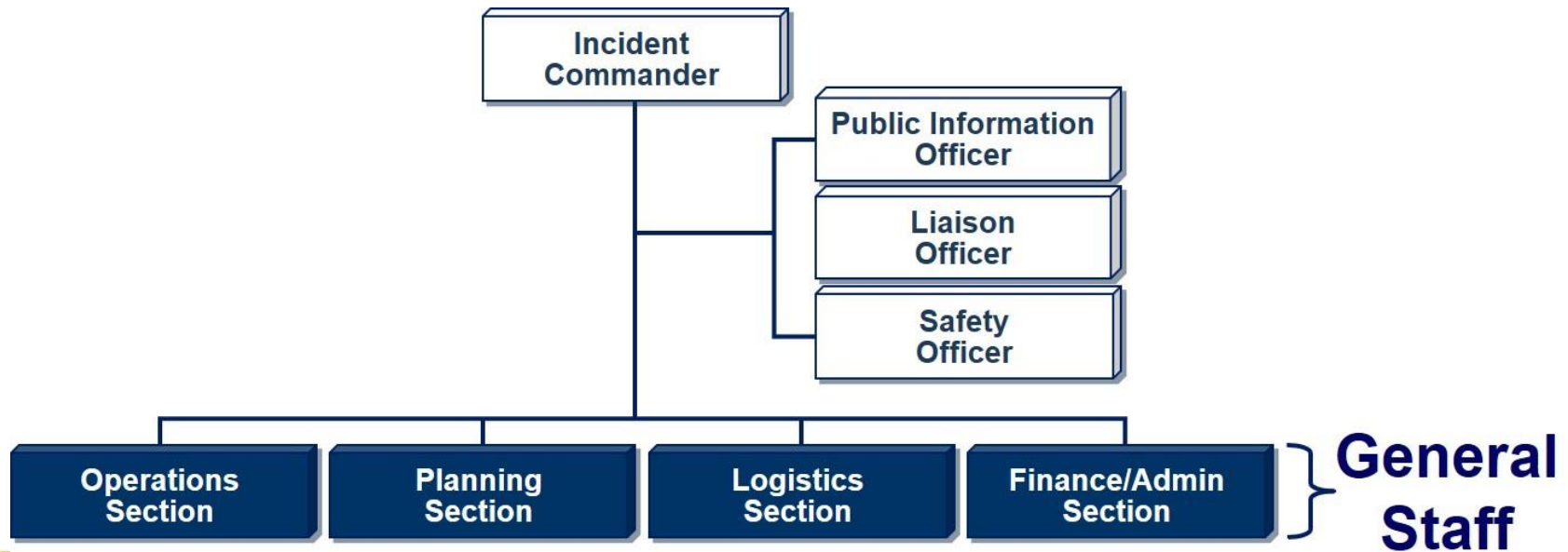
The incident may designate Command Staff members who will:

- Provide information, liaison, and safety services for the Incident Command.
- Report directly to the Incident Commander.



General Staff

As the incident expands in complexity, the Incident Commander may add General Staff Sections to maintain span of control.



Emergency Operations Centers

EOCs are physical or virtual locations where staff, stakeholders, and partners gather to provide support for an incident.



EOC Functions

- Collecting, analyzing, and sharing information.
- Supporting resource needs and requests, including allocation and tracking.
- Coordinating plans and determining current and future needs.
- Coordinating plans to support the Incident Command.
- In some cases, providing coordination and policy direction.

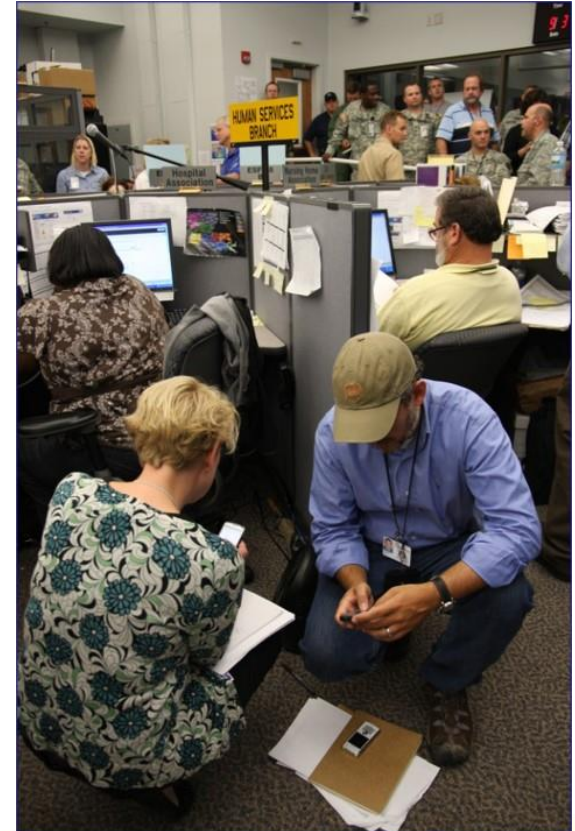


EOC Organizational Structure

- While EOCs have common functions, their structure will vary between jurisdictions.
- Three common EOC organizational models:
 - ICS or ICS-Like
 - Incident Support Model
 - Departmental.
- Jurisdictions or organizations may choose to use one of these structures, a combination of elements from different structures, or an entirely different structure.

EOC Benefits

- Helps establish a shared situational picture.
- Simplifies information verification.
- Facilitates long-term operations.
- Increases continuity.
- Provides ready access to all available information.
- Aids resource identification and use.



Multiagency Coordination Groups



During incidents, MAC Groups:

- Act as a policy-level body.
- Support resource prioritization and allocation.
- Make cooperative multi-agency decisions.
- Enable decision making among elected and appointed officials with those managing the incident (IC/UC)

The MAC Group

- Is often comprised of:
 - Elected officials
 - Senior decision-makers
 - Senior public safety officials
 - High-level, subject-matter experts



Operational Priorities

MAC Groups apply priorities at policy level:



- Save
- Prote
- Stabil
- Provic
- Restc
- Restc
- Coord
stake
- Represent Critical, Financial and Legal
Concerns.



Joint Information System

JIS activities

- Coordinate
- Develop pu
- Advise the
- Control run



strategies.

public affairs issues.

on.

Managing Public Information



The Public Information Officer (PIO):

- Manages media and public inquiries.
- May be separate PIOs for:
 - Incident Command
 - EOC
 - Senior Official / MAC Group



PIOs coordinate and disseminate incident information through the JIC:

- Critical emergency information
- Crisis communications
- Public affairs functions

NIMS Management Characteristics

14 foundational characteristics of incident Command and Coordination under NIMS:

Common Terminology

Management by Objectives

Manageable Span of Control

Comprehensive Resource Management

Establishment and Transfer of Command

Chain of Command and Unity of Command

Dispatch/Deployment

Modular Organization

Incident Action Planning

Incident Facilities and Locations

Integrated Communications

Unified Command

Accountability

Information and Intelligence Management

Common Terminology

ICS requires the use of common terminology to define:

- Organizational functions.
- Incident facilities.
- Resource descriptions.
- Position titles.

Use plain language and clear text, not codes.



Management by Objectives

- ICS is managed by objectives.
- Objectives are communicated throughout the entire ICS organization.
- Available resources must support incident objectives.
- Let's everyone know the goal and when you are done.



Incident Action Planning

IC creates an Incident Action Plan (IAP) that:

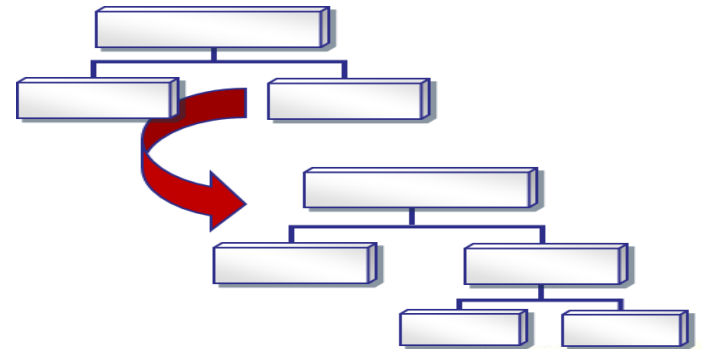
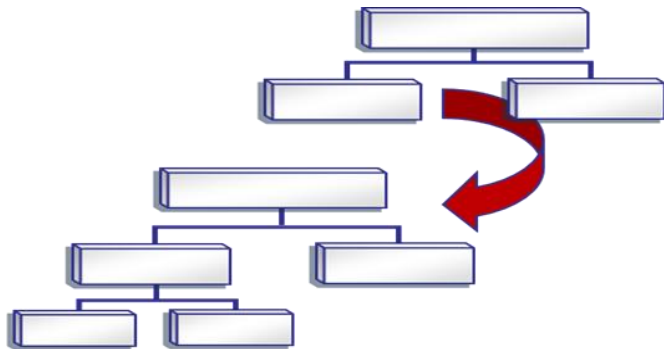
- Specifies the incident objectives.
- States the activities to be completed.
- Covers a specified timeframe, called an operational period
- May be oral or written—except for hazardous materials incidents, which require a written IAP.
- Takes into account legal and policy considerations and direction.

1. Incident Name MV BELLENDANG AYU	2. Operational Period to be covered by IAP (Date / Time) From: 02/07/2004 06:00 To: 03/02/05 08:00	IAP COVER SHEET
3. Approved by: FIDIC: CDR T. Heston SOSC/NA: B. Amodeo RPIC: Lt. Hbn. Howard/Ste	12-34-04 1757 1810 11/04/04	
INCIDENT ACTION PLAN The items checked below are included in this Incident Action Plan:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 202-OS (Response Objectives)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 203-OS (Organization List) - OR - ICS 207-OS (Organization Chart)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 204-OS (Assignment List) One Copy each of any ICS 204-OS attachments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Map <input type="checkbox"/> Weather Forecast <input type="checkbox"/> Tides <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Brief		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 205-OS (Communications List)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 206-OS (Medical Plan)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 220-OS (Air Operations Summary)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 232-OS (Resources at Risk Summary)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICS 208-OS (Incident Status Summary)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Client Welfare Protocol		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resource Policy/Case Recovery Protocol		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addendum to Site Safety Plan/Egress & Evaluation Plan		
4. Prepared by: Tim McPhee - Planning Section Chief	Date / Time 12/30/04 15:10	
IAP COVER SHEET	June 2000	D15

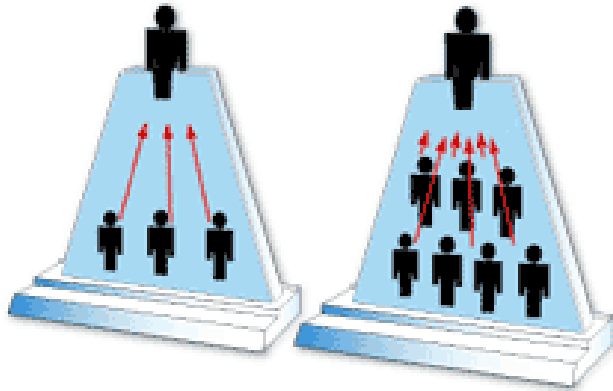
Revised when NOAA 1.0 June 1, 2001

Modular Organization

- Develops in a top-down, modular fashion.
- Is based on the hazard, size and complexity of the incident.
- Incident objectives determine the organizational size.
- Only functions/positions that are necessary will be filled.
- Each element must have a person in charge.



Manageable Span of Control



- Optimal span of control
Guideline is 1:5 but
actual ratio varies
- Incident personnel use
their best judgment to
determine effective
span of control

Comprehensive Resource Management

Resources include personnel, equipment, teams, supplies and facilities.

Resource management includes processes for:

- Maintaining accurate, updated resource inventories.
- Resource activities to prepare for and respond to an incident.
- Reimbursement for resources used.

ASSIGNMENT LIST (ICS 204)

1. Incident Name:		2. Operational Period: Date From: _____ Date To: _____ Time From: _____ Time To: _____		3. Branch: _____	
4. Operations Personnel: Name _____ Contact Number(s) _____ Operations Section Chief: _____ Branch Director: _____ Division/Group Supervisor: _____				Division: _____ Group: _____ Staging Area: _____	
5. Resources Assigned:		To of Persons	Contact (e.g., phone, pager, radio frequency, etc.)	Reporting Location, Special Equipment and Supplies, Remarks, Notes, Information	
Resource Identifier	Leader				
6. Work Assignments:					
7. Special Instructions:					
8. Communications (radio and/or phone contact numbers needed for this assignment): Name/Function _____ Primary Contact: indicate cell, pager, or radio (frequency/system/channel) _____ _____ _____ _____					
9. Prepared by: Name: _____		Position/Title: _____		Signature: _____	
ICS 204	IAP Page	Date/Time: _____			

Integrated Communications

Incident communications are facilitated through:

- Common communications plan.
- Interoperable communications processes and systems.
- Planning, to achieve integrated voice and data communications.

Before an incident, it is critical to develop an integrated voice and data communications system (equipment, systems, and protocols).



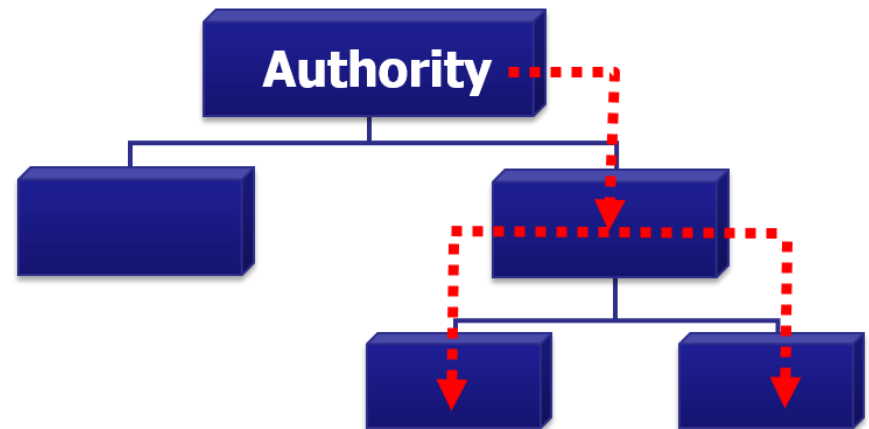
Establishment and Transfer of Command



The jurisdiction or organization with primary responsibility for the incident designates the individual at the scene responsible for establishing command and protocol for transferring command.

Chain of Command & Unity of Command

- Chain of command is an orderly line of authority within the ranks of the incident management organization.
- Unity of command means that every individual has a designated supervisor to whom he or she reports at the scene of the incident.



Unified Command

- Established when no one jurisdiction, agency, or organization has primary authority and/or the resources to manage an incident on its own.
- Manages the incident by jointly approved objectives.

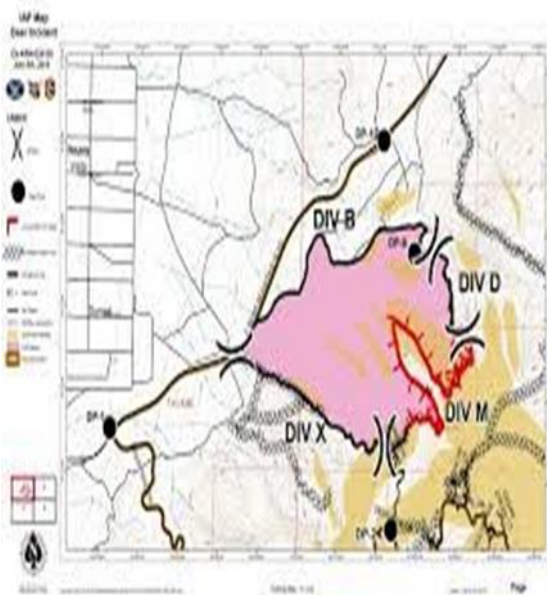
Dispatch/Deployment & Accountability

At any incident, resources should:

- Deploy only when appropriate authorities request.
- Dispatch through established resource management systems.
- DO NOT spontaneous deploy if not requested by authorities.
- Be accountable, check in and out, use tracking systems.



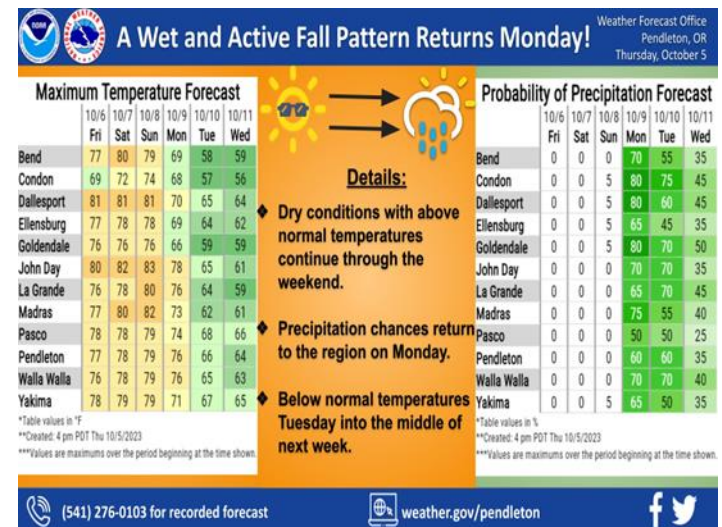
Incident Facilities and Locations



- Depending on the incident size and complexity, Command establishes support facilities for a variety of purposes and directs their identification and location based on the incident.
- Typical facilities include the Incident Command Post (ICP), incident base, staging areas, camps, mass casualty triage areas, points-of-distribution, and emergency shelters.

Information and Intelligence Management

- The incident management organization establishes a process for gathering, analyzing, assessing, sharing, and managing incident-related information and intelligence.
- Process includes identifying EEI to ensure personnel gather the most accurate and appropriate data, translate it into useful information, and communicate it with appropriate personnel.



Additional Resources

- NIMS Doctrine and Supporting Guides and Tools
<https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/nims/components>
- ICS Resource Center -
<https://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/icsresource/>
- Additional NIMS Training –
<https://training.fema.gov>
https://prd.blogs.nh.gov/dos/hsem/?page_id=1055

Thank You



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Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery

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References

Some of the slide and concept are used, are from FEMA's G191 and G402.