



Type 1

Incident Management Teams

US Department of Agriculture
Forest Service




Advantages of Pre-Established Teams

- Local “teams” and first responders often become “victims” of large disasters.
- Standing teams have the advantage of experience based effectiveness and efficiencies.
- Standing teams maintain a “core knowledge” by ensuring that no more than a 20% turnover of team members per year.
- Rapid mobilization through “one call”.

Advantages of Pre-Established Teams (cont.)

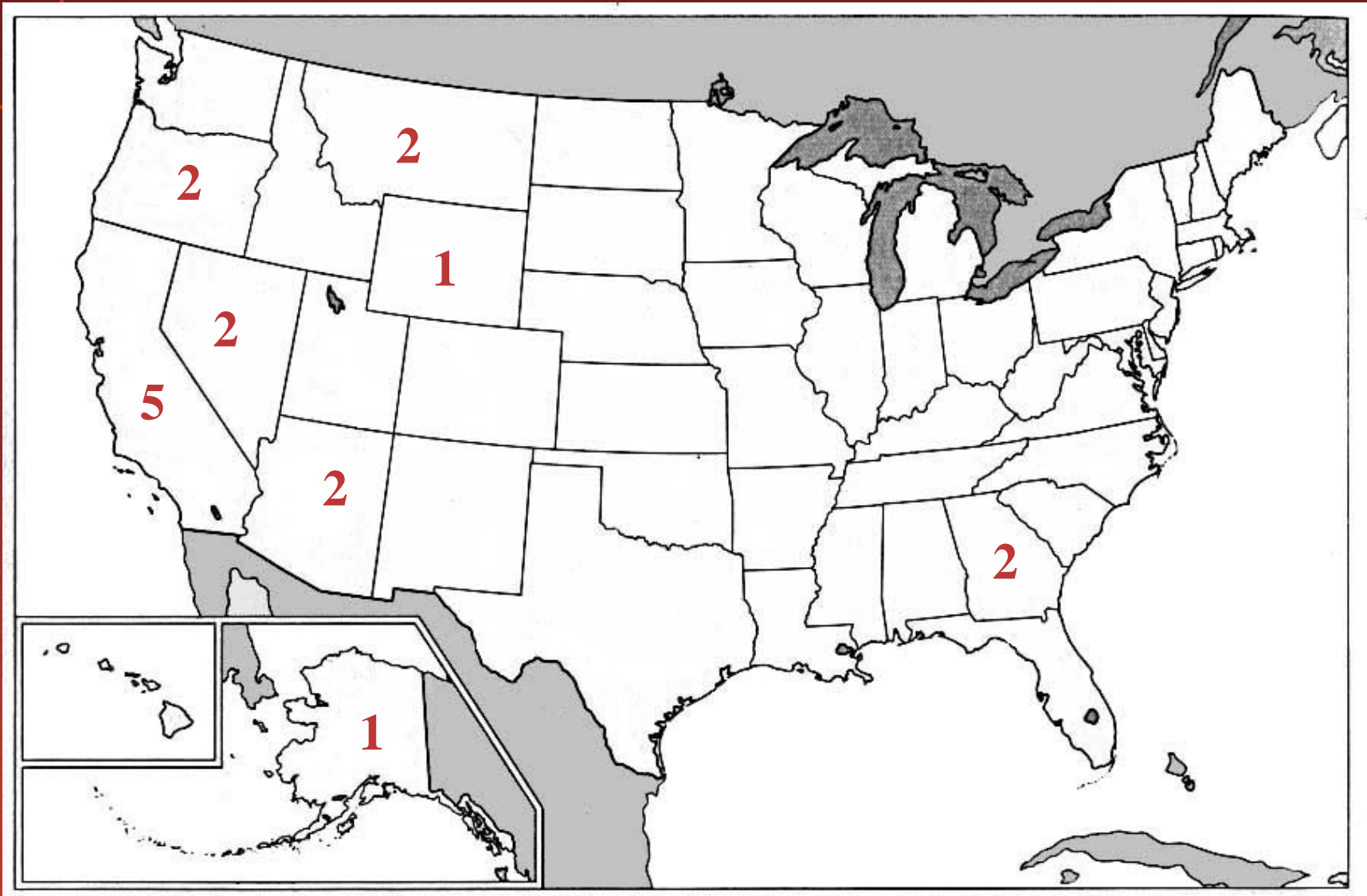
- Pre-established Teams ensures availability when the need exists.
- Background of diversity and experiences in incident management leads to knowledge – knowledge leads to wisdom – wisdom leads to the ability to anticipate and meet the needs of the Responsible Official, those affected, and the public.
- Ability to meet “Commander’s Intent”.
- Development of teamwork through years of experiences in working together on complex, challenging assignments.



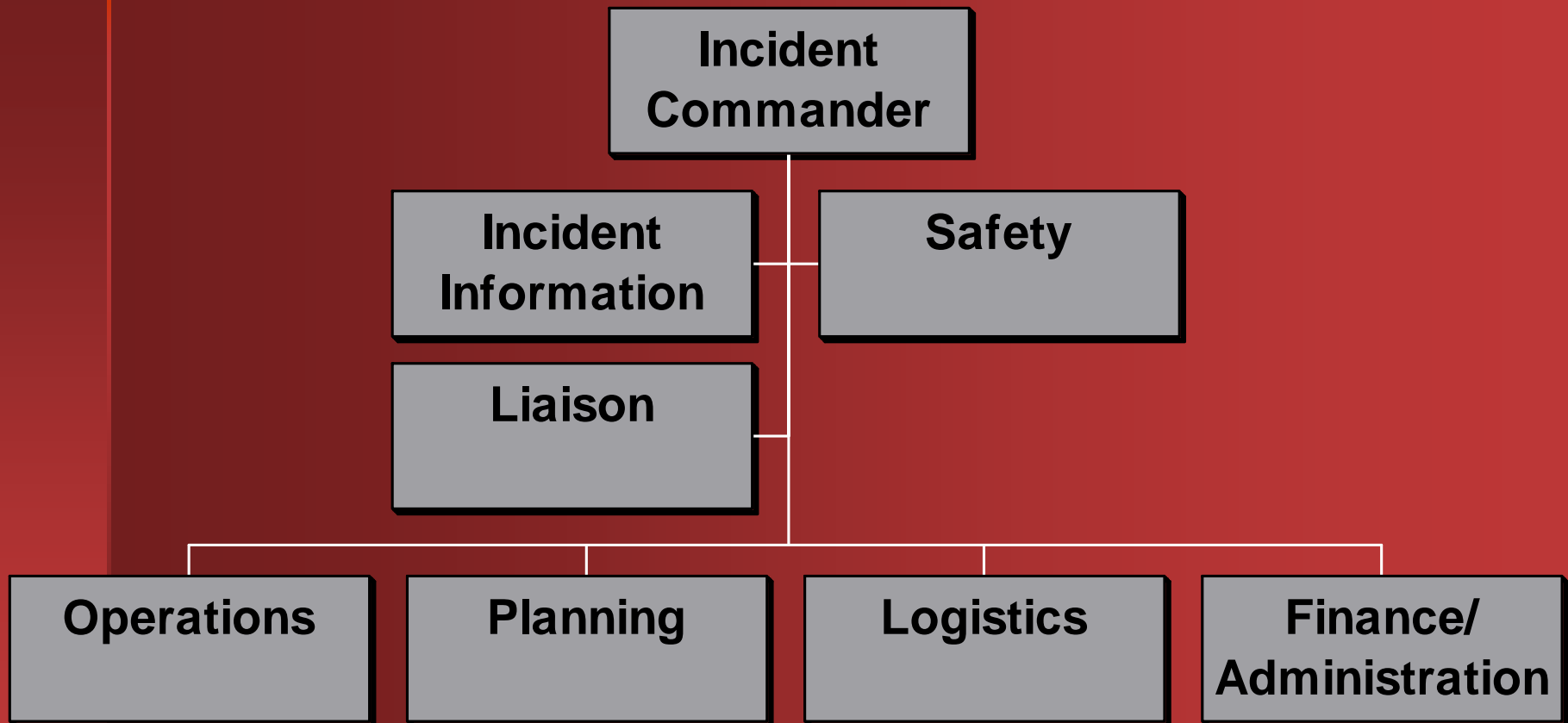
Type 1 Incident Teams in the US

- There are currently 17 Type 1 teams in the US.
- The teams are formed in Geographic Areas according to a number of factors:
 - Availability of team members.
 - Location to recurring disasters.
 - Ability of the Geographic Area to support Type 1 Teams.

US Map with Team Locations



Functional Positions of Type 1 Teams





Type 1 Incident Management Teams

- Selection
- Mobilization
- Rotation
- Meetings
- Commitment
- Training/Qualifications



Team Selection

- Incident Commanders are selected by Geographical Area Committees.
- Incident Commanders select the Command and General Staff.
- Command and General Staff, in consultation with the IC, select positions under their area of responsibility.



Team Rotation

- Type 1 Teams have established rotation schedules at both the Geographic and the National level.
- Geographic Area Rotation:
 - Teams are usually on 24/7 24 hr. standby for two week periods.
 - Geographic Area can assign up to two Type 1 Teams from their Area without using the National rotation.

Team Rotation

- National Rotation:
 - Each Team is on a 24/7 standby for a two hour mobilization one week out of every 16 weeks.
 - The Geographic Areas with more than one team will determine the “eligible” team that responds to a National call.
 - Goal is to provide a minimum of two assignments per team per year.



Team Mobilization

- The established timeframe for a Team to mobilize to an incident is 2 hours.
- It is the responsibility of the Command and General Staff to ensure that all of their staff is available and prepared to respond.
 - If a team member is unavailable:
 - The team member finds a qualified replacement, OR
 - A replacement is ordered



Team Meetings

- Once the teams have been selected they are *required* to have at least one Pre-incident meeting annually.
- Post-incident meetings occur after each assignment.
- The meetings are important for developing and improving team work, communication, and overall incident management.



Team Meeting Objectives

- Pre-Incident
 - Establish team expectations.
 - Develop relationships both within the functional group and with the rest of the team.
 - Develop/revise team handbooks.
 - Develop inter-functional working agreements.
 - Define mobilization procedures.
 - Gain knowledge of changes in policy or regulations that affect incident management.

Team Meeting Objectives (continued)

- Post-incident meetings
 - Improve team effectiveness.
 - Focus on lessons learned from the assignment - what “Went Well” and “Areas to Improve” performance.
 - Recognize and award outstanding performances.



Team Commitment

- Team members commit, with their supervisors approval, to a tenure of three-five years.
- Commitment to an Incident Management Team includes:
 - A commitment to being available 24/7 during periods when the team is on call in the GA and or Nationally.
 - Being prepared for a possible dispatch 24/7 365 days a year (tempered by the potential for a disaster to occur).



Training

- Training to standard qualifications for each functional position is required:
 - Requirements are rigorous for Command and General Staff (25-30 years to become a Type 1 IC).
- Geographic Areas provide class-room required functional training.
- Teams provide opportunities for On-The-Job training during incidents.



Team “Esprit de Corps”

- Type 1 teams are recognized as the *elite* for disaster management.
- Type 1 teams consist of the highest qualified and most experienced individuals available for disaster assignment.
- It is considered an *honor* to be selected for a Type 1 team.
- Membership assists in upward mobility for future placement.

QUESTIONS?