

Basic ERC Principles

- Bishops are responsible for everyone within their ward boundaries
- Stake Presidents provide leadership and support to Bishops
- WSRMs coordinate resources and work with church emergency response services

Read the bullets on the slide

Basic ERC Principles

- Church VOADs coordinate with other non-profit or faith-based organizations
- Area seventies provide leadership to coordinating councils and stakes
- General Authorities provide leadership to the Church
- Each level has unique responsibilities and challenges

Read the bullets on the slide

Current Emergency Communication Objectives

1. Develop a plan for two-way communication with stake presidents, WSRMs and area seventies.
2. Ensure reliable communication paths between WSRMs, area seventies and church headquarters
3. Provide assistance and training for stakes and coordinating councils as requested.

Under the direction of the area president, we have been charged with developing a plan to that allows stake presidents, welfare and self reliance managers and area seventies to communicate in disaster situations. These priesthood leaders also need to have reliable communication paths to church headquarters. This will allow them to share the welfare needs of those impacted by the disaster and coordinate relief efforts. Wards, stakes and coordinating councils have unique situations and different topography. As a result, their communication modes and practices may be vastly different to accommodate their needs. As they work to construct an emergency communication plan, it is important they have the ability request the assistance of experienced communication specialists to help ensure their plan is effective and will be reliable in a disaster. In addition, it is vital their operators are well trained and conduct regular radio nets and exercises to ensure their readiness.

Utah Area Emergency Communications Team

Comprised of communications specialists across the Utah Area

- Have an amateur radio license, general class or above
- Have knowledge, technical skills and equipment to operate with various modes, including voice and digital
- Ability to be flexible, resilient and operate portable
- Ability to act as net control operator in stressful situations
- Computer skills and expertise with FRS, GMRS and Starlink

In an effort to accomplish these objectives, we are assembling an Emergency Response Communications team for the Utah Area. We are looking for communication specialists who qualify or are willing to work to qualify in the following areas. We can provide the necessary training for those who have a desire to become part of this exciting project. Read the slide.

Utah Area Emergency Communications Team

Comprised of communications specialists across the Utah Area

- Ability to identify reliable communication modes for specific geographic areas and establish communication links with regional teams and shadow operators
- Ability to train regional teams, coordinating councils and stake and ward communication teams
- Ability to communicate with Church leadership in support role and not with a dictatorial attitude

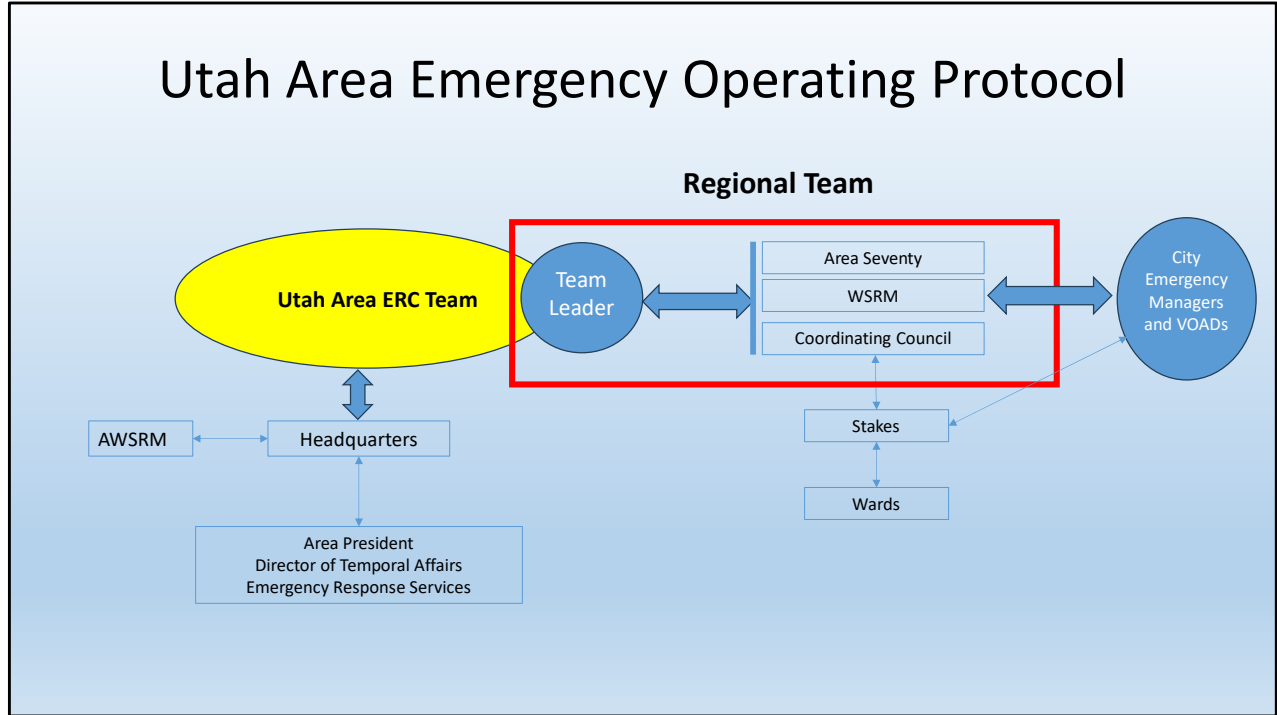
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Utah Area Regional ERC Team

- 25-35 regional communication teams in Utah Area
- Regions align with multiple coordinating council boundaries
- The regional team lead is a member of the Utah Area team
- Regional teams work with coordinating councils, WSRMs and area seventies in their area
- They provide training to regional team operators, establish regional nets and link through the Utah Area team to church headquarters

The Utah Area will be divided into approximately 25-35 regions which will roughly align with each county. In highly populated counties there will be multiple regions. In less populated counties a region will include more than one county. Members of the Utah Area emergency communications team, living in the region, will organize a regional emergency communications team and assign a member of the Utah Area team as a team leader. This team will be comprised, of members of the Utah Area team, communications specialists in the coordinating councils and communication specialists who are assigned to shadow WSRMs and area seventies in an emergency. This team will establish reliable communication modes and paths with the team, coordinating councils, WSRMs and area seventies in the region and conduct regular practice and training nets. They will also assist wards and stakes to organize methods of collecting required information and communicating it to the coordinating council, when requested.

Utah Area Emergency Operating Protocol



This is an illustration of the emergency communication paths. The ward and stake communication specialists link with coordinating council operators, who then provide communication links for the WSRMs and Area Seventies. The WSRMs typically work with multiple Coordinating Councils, and the Area Seventies work with one or more coordinating councils. Each District Team coordinates with the Utah Area ERC Team, which links to Headquarters priesthood leaders and emergency response services. Again, in more populated counties such as Salt Lake, Utah and Cache counties there will be more than one district team and in less populated areas a district team may include coordinating Councils that span more than one county. Notice the wards and stakes are not part of the regional team and organize and train on their own unless they request assistance, but obviously some ward and stake communicators will be members of the regional team and the Utah Area ERC Team.

Utah Area Emergency Operating Protocol

- In a disaster situation, emergency communications teams in the impacted communities will be activated and local disaster assessment procedures followed, to gather and compile critical information
- Key points will be communicated to city emergency operations for immediate response
- The Utah Area emergency communications team will activate an emergency coordination net to connect with regional teams, linking coordinating councils, area seventies, WSRMs and Headquarters, as needed.

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Utah Area Emergency Operating Protocol

- Stake leadership will consolidate ward reports and communicate information to coordinating council which will be then shared with the Area Seventy and WSRM.
- WSRMs will work with the Utah Area Welfare Manager, Church VOAD reps and emergency response services at headquarters and in communities to organize distribution of requested resources.
- Priesthood leaders in adjacent coordinating councils, stakes and wards will respond to requests from the city and county leaders to provide volunteers as needed.

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Utah Area Emergency Operating Protocol

- Members of the Utah Area Emergency Communications team may be deployed to the disaster area to provide portable emergency communication links.
- Specific information will be communicated to Church headquarters as outlined in the emergency response guidelines
- Area seventies will communicate information to priesthood leadership at headquarters, as they deem appropriate, and coordinate with WSRMs and priesthood leaders to assist in response and relief efforts in their coordinating councils.

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Summary

- We are organizing a Utah Area ERC communication team
- The Utah Area team will organize and train regional teams
- Regional teams will provide training to wards and stakes when requested
- Stakes will consolidate reports from their wards and send the information to their coordinating council

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Summary

- Coordinating council communication specialists, who are members of the regional team, will consolidate reports from stakes and send the information to their WSRMs and Area Seventies.
- The Utah Area team will help coordinate traffic to/from regional teams and to/from Church headquarters as needed.

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Summary

- THIS IS A WORK IN PROCESS. We are still trying to work out the details and are happy receive suggestions. If you have an interest in serving as a Regional or Utah Area emergency communication specialist, we would love to have you join our team.

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Thanks for your interest and
attendance

QUESTIONS?