

EMERGENCY GIS RESPONSE TEAM

www.TexasEGRT.org

Purpose

- Organize into a deployable resource that can be called up in an emergency
- Train GIS professionals to perform emergency response mapping
- Enhance the mapping capabilities of emergency responders across our region

Training Includes:

- Compiled GIS Datasets
- Pre-set Response Templates
- Four Online training classes, including three FEMA ICS Training
- An On-site training classes
 - How to respond to an event
 - How to use the Tx EGRT Templates
 - How to work with EMC's to provide critical mapping

Training Guide:

The training guide was developed after consultation with specialty response teams

Wilderness Search & Rescue—Flatlands

A person has been reported missing in a wilderness area. This technique is for flat, open area. If the area is rough terrain or if there are prevalent trails, see Wilderness Search & Rescue—Mountain for details

1. Open the Wilderness Search Rescue template. It contains the following items:

- · Rescue Locations feature class
 - Rescue Location Points
 - Search Grid
- · Incident Facilities (see COP symbology)
- · COP Actions (see COP symbology)
- COP Zones (see COP symbology)
- 2. Add the LOCATION of the subject's last known location to the map.

3. Add the location of the Rescue Team(s)

4. Create a 1,500 foot buffer around the last known location and label. (other distance may be specified)

5. Draw a 1500' x 1500' grid square over the ringed area parallel to trails, roads, or parking lots. This will be four grids and represent the initial search area or 'Hasty Search'. (other distance may be specified)

6. If reports of any found items are reported, add them to the map and label.

7. When mittial search is over, they will begin a grid search. Copy/paste the grid polygon and move outward from the initial site. If they are numbering the search grids, you can add the number to the table and label them. Lay out the grid using the symbol "Not Searched" and change color if search is completed.

 Note the starting point for labeling the grids over the 'Hasty Search' area (shown below). This allows the alpha portion of the grid ID to remain sequential with even grids going North and odd grids going South.

9. Rescuers may want to label each grid with the assigned search team.









The sample map shows the location of a person lost in a flatlands area. The 'Hasty Search' area is searched first, then the grid. Any items found are marked as clues, and any hazards are noted.



Responses

■ As Tx EGRT

- Red Oak Full-scale Exercise
- Hood County Full-scale Exercise
- Dallas Ebola response Disaster District 4 Garland EOC
- Multiple Flood Events DDC 4 Garland / DDC 4 Hurst
- Visit of Pope to Juarez, Mexico
- Rowlett / Garland Tornadoes Rowlett EOC / DDC 4 Garland
- East Texas Flooding (remote assistance)
- Big X regional exercise



EGRT Response

Texas EGRT responds to any government agency that requests GIS support

Call the toll free number
1-844-Tex-EGRT or 1-844-839-3478

EGRT Response

■ The job will be to provide the three basic maps:

- Common Operational Picture
- Incident Action Plan
- Initial Damage Assessment / Detailed Damage Assessment
- □ In addition, there may be specialty maps required:
 - Bomb Evacuation Plan
 - Chemical Spill / Plume Model
 - Swift Water Rescue
 - Search and Rescue
 - Etc...
- We carry all the data necessary for this type of mapping without the Internet
- AND ... we're adding web based map applications





Web Apps

- Uses Tx EGRT's AGOL account
- Collector for ArcGIS
- Users fill in a simple form and add data and photos
- FREE for ANY government agency (or affiliate) to use with our account
 - Initial Damage Assessment
 - Detailed Damage Assessment
 - Search and Rescue (Wilderness)
 - Hazards / Action Points / Road Closures

Operations Center

■ The Disaster District 4 Garland EOC



Deployable Mapping Stations

Salvation Army Communication Truck



Deployable Mapping Stations

City of Lewisville Portable EOC



The North Central Texas Council of Governments Office of Emergency Preparedness organizes a regional disaster exercise about every 3 years. The goal is to focus on the needs of the region and design response scenarios to test our strengths and discover our weaknesses.

This year's scenarios focused mainly on interagency cooperation for hostage and SWAT response.

Dashboard Overview Web Application

- During the planning stages of the event, we were given an Excel spread sheet of the sites and information about each site. This was used to create a web map that each participant could use to locate the sites, move between them, and have contact info about each site.
- We also verified drive times between sites for planning purposes.
- Teams went to a site, performed a 30 to 45 minute scenario, then travelled to the next site.







- Texas EGRT deployed with the EOC Support Team (EST)
- Our goals were:
 - Practice a call-up deployment
 - Unload and set up equipment from the EST Trailer
 - Establish mapping capabilities
 - Test new EST equipment
 - Demonstrate capabilities

- Although we pre-arranged who would participate, they did not know the deployment location.
- We use the Tx EGRT hotline to request a response, then called and deployed participants from their current location.
 - Friday Location: TCC Northwest Campus Public Safety Training Facility
 - Saturday Location: City of Ft. Worth Fire Training Academy

• We arrived with the EST Trailer and unpacked







Nick Turner, Gini Connolly, Kasey Cox



Tom Konzel, David Allen, Oleysa Powers





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During the exercise, we also demo'd the Damage Assessment Collector App



The app is available for any agency to use on the Texas EGRT account.

Texas EGRT in the Future

- We are working with ESRI to develop more phone apps and a new Emergency Response data schema
- We are looking at funding for more Deployable Mapping Stations
- We are actively training members in Austin, San Antonio, and Houston. Watch the website for training locations – we need all the people we can get!

Texas EGRT in the Future

Next training class for D/FW Area:

Tuesday, December 20th
Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity
2800 N Hampton Road
Dallas, TX 75212



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