FEMA National Urban Search & Rescue Response System



Informational Bulletin

Number: IB-2024-002 Date: January 9, 2024 Topic: Training

Issued By: Michael Davis, Chief (Acting), US&R Branch Operations Section

Subject: USACE StS Central Division Regional Training Course, AZ-TF1 – April 6-7, 2024

Sponsored Course SP2024-007

On behalf of the National Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) Response System (the System), in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), a Structures Specialist (StS) Regional Training (RT) Course will be held at Arizona Task Force One (AZ-TF1) on April 6-7, 2024. This will be the first delivery of the Version 8 curriculum.

This training course is offered to System StS personnel who need refresher training. This training focuses on Damaged Building Assessment, Crane Chart use, Shoring Size-up/Design, Survey 123, Task Force interactions during an US&R response and Advanced Total Station Monitoring. Students who completed StS1 training and any previous RT training are highly encouraged to attend this RT skills enhancement session. This training will sharpen and add to knowledge that will enhance System capabilities and readiness.

Applications should be submitted by March 15, 2024. To register for the course, fill out the online application at www.DisasterEngineer.org (select "Training Applications" from the top menu and click on the desired training course). After March 15th, students will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis according to the waiting list. The training is provided at no charge to the student; however, travel, hotel, and per diem costs will be the responsibility of the student and/or their task force. Students will be responsible for transportation from their hotel to the training location. This updated curriculum is based on feedback from StS within, and in support of, the System. Under ESF #9, and by Interagency Agreement, the USACE is directed to provide and facilitate training for StS. System StS are required to bring one task force Total Station and a tripod for each one or two StS a task force sends to the RT training class.

Any questions related to this training can be directed to Jeff Qunell, USACE US&R Program Manager at: (415) 503-6616 or: Jeffrey.J.Qunell@usace.army.mil. Alternate information contact is Alan Fisher (MA-TF1) at (207) 415-7558 or: afisher@cianbro.com.

Attachments:

USACE StS Central Regional Training Logistics and Registration Letter

cc:

US&R Strategic Group
US&R Advisory Group
US&R Branch Staff
FEMA Regional/Federal/International ESF #9 Representatives
USACE, Jeff Qunell



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
Phillip Burton Federal Building
Post Office Box 36023
450 Golden Gate Avenue
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102



DATE: January 5, 2024

TO: National US&R Response System

Task Force Program Managers/Training Managers

FROM: Jeff Qunell, P.E. - USACE US&R Program Manager

SUBJECT: Regional Training for Structures Specialists, Central Division - Course Announcement

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Response System, in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), has scheduled a Structures Specialist (StS) "Regional Training" (RT) Course to be held April 6-7, 2024, at the Arizona Task Force 1 Training Site (AZ-TF1) in Phoenix. **This will be the FIRST delivery of the "Version 8" curriculum**. This training course is offered to Task Force StS who need initial or refresher training in Damaged Building Assessment, Crane Chart use, Shoring Size-up/Design, Survey 123, Task Force interactions during an US&R response and Advanced Total Station Monitoring. Students who completed StS1 training and any previous RT training are highly encouraged to attend this RT "skills enhancement" session. *Other non-engineer Task Force personnel are also encouraged to attend for awareness level training*. This training will sharpen and add to knowledge that will enhance the Task Force capabilities and readiness.

The Regional Training sessions are intended for Structures Specialists in the region to minimize or eliminate the impacts to one's daily job. The Central Regional Training doesn't preclude other StS from outside the region from attending. These weekend courses will consist of short review lectures, tabletops, and field exercises. The StS will be using the StS Forms for the tabletop and monitoring training portions of the class. The end result is for the StS to be as prepared as possible for a deployment.

Central Division Task Forces are encouraged to send as many of their StS as feasible due to the proximity of the training. West and East Division Task Forces will be allowed to send at least two StS and more students will be accepted if space permits.

Applications should be submitted by March 15th. To register for the course, fill out the online application at **www.DisasterEngineer.org** (*select "Training Applications" from the top menu and click on the desired training course*). The training is provided at no charge to the student. However, travel, hotel, and per diem costs will be the responsibility of the student and/or their Task Force. Students will be responsible for transportation from their hotel to the training location. This updated curriculum is based on the feedback from the Structures Specialists within and in support of the FEMA National US&R Response System. Under ESF#9, and by Interagency Agreement, the Corps is directed to provide and facilitate training for StS. *Task Force StS are required to bring one Task Force Total Station and a tripod for each one or two StS they send to the RT training class*.

TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

TO: National US&R Task Force Program Managers,

National US&R Task Force Leaders

Course Logistical Information:

Time: Saturday 0800 thru 1800 with 1/2 hour lunch period (box lunches with a drink will be available for no more than \$15) and Sunday 0730 thru 1330 (no lunch). Schedule established to permit late evening arrival Friday and late afternoon departure Sunday.)

Lodging Options: Primary: Courtyard Phoenix Airport

2621 South 47th Street, Phoenix, Arizona, 85034

480-966-4300

Room Block Reference: USACE (or US Army Corps of Engineers)

Reservation Link: https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1704435884868&key=GRP

Complimentary Parking
Cut-off Date: 13-Mar-2024

Alternate hotel: Home2 Suites by Hilton Phoenix Airport North

888 N 44th St, Phoenix, AZ 85008

602-914-3333

Room Block Reference: USACE (or US Army Corps of Engineers)

Reservation link: provided on training application at www.disasterengineer.org

Complimentary Parking & Breakfast Cut-off Date: 13-Mar-2024

These group reservations honor the Federal Government Rate for this area of \$157.00/night, tax excluded.

- The FEMA US&R StS Position Description recommends that Task Force StS complete this training every 2-years. This is continuing education, the **FIRST** scheduled training for this version 8 curriculum.
- Training focuses on assessing structural behavior of damaged buildings, crane chart review/field exercise, advanced Total Station monitoring, SARCOP/RST, use of StS forms, case studies on recent events (Turkey EQ and Maui Wildfires) and other topics.
- Training mission is to provide two days (15-hours) of individual intensive hands-on training.
- Space will be limited to maximize hands-on field training and ensure mission success.
- Class tuition is free (meals, lodging & travel must be covered by Task Force, Agency, or students).
- Travel/transport from Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport to the primary hotel is 2.4 miles.
- Travel from the aforementioned hotels to the training site is approximately 9 miles.

Training location: Phoenix Fire Department (PFD) / AZ-TF1 Training Site

2430 S. 22nd Avenue, Phoenix AZ 85009

POC: Frank Keller, 602-256-3435

Shipping location: *Same as above.*

(NOTE: PFD personnel will ensure your equipment is secured at the training location. Individuals are responsible for packing and shipping their equipment to and from the training site. Return shipping must be 100% ready, packed, and include your shipping form/account. Provide your own shipping material, supplies and tape please. Instructors are not responsible for packing/funding shipment of total stations or tripods.)

Required Equipment:

- Laptop computer, hand held calculator, notebook, tape measure, Crosby User's Guide, FOG booklet (NOTE: Each FEMA Task Force was issued 250 copies of the newest FOG Edition 9 back in June 2022).
- Nikon NPL-352, NIVO or Series N Total Station & tripod (1 per StS or team of two StS from each Task Force).
- One set minimum of the StS Forms from www.disasterengineer.org.
- Attire is official Task Force BDUs and/or Task Force t-shirt as well as standard PPE (helmet, boots, gloves, eye & ear protection, knee pads, sun block, rain gear, etc.).

To Register for Training:

Complete the online application at www.DisasterEngineer.org. On the top menu bar, select "Training Applications" then click on the desired training course to open the proper online application. After completing the application, click "SUBMIT." There is also Course Logistics Info available on this application page.

Additional Information contact:

Primary: Jeff Qunell, P.E., w: (415) 503-6616, c: (916) 502-4145, <u>Jeffrey.J.Qunell@usace.army.mil</u> Alternate: Alan Fisher. (MA-TF1), c: (207) 415-7558, afisher@cianbro.com

