Section 5:
Planning and Response Teams

Section 5: Planning and Response Teams (PRTs)

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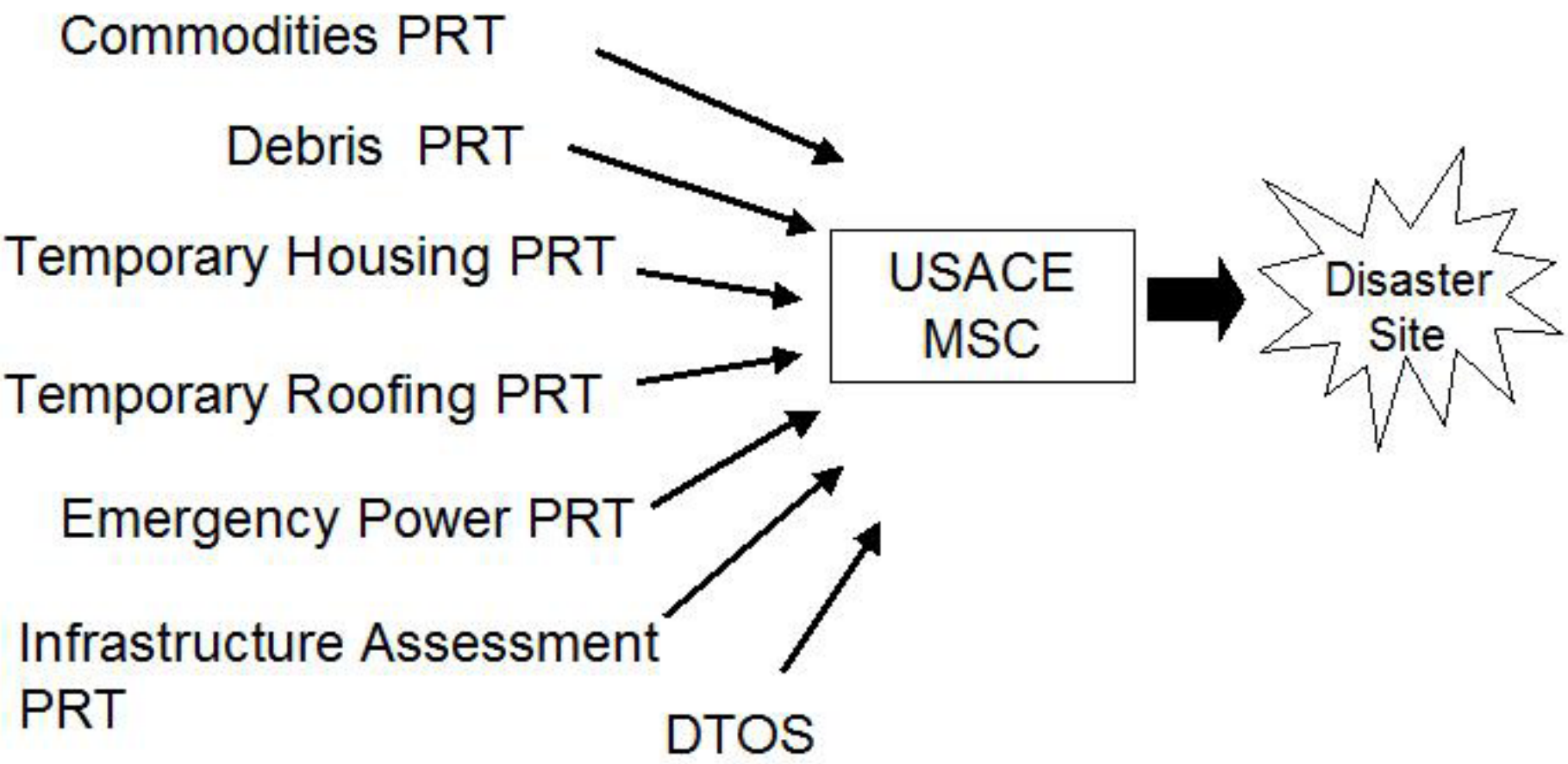
Mission Planning and Response Teams



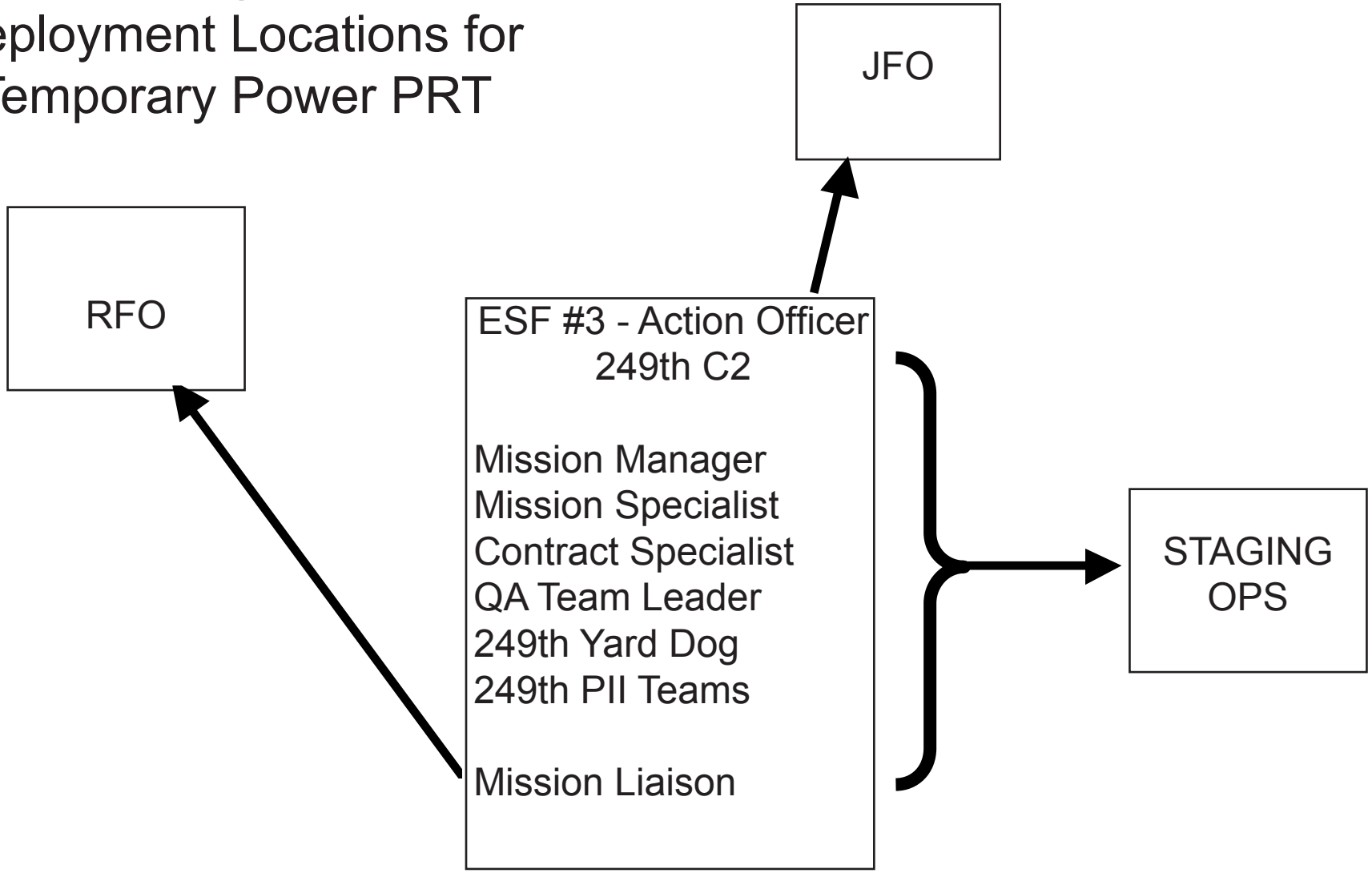
Mission PRT Overview

- There are 41 Mission Planning and Response Teams (PRTs) within the USACE.
- These teams are staffed and trained to respond to the pre-scripted missions assigned to the USACE as the primary agency for response and the coordination agency for response and recovery under the National Response Plan.
- PRTs are sourced and managed for recruitment, training, and readiness by USACE districts. MSCs have the option to deploy and use organic PRTs if not engaged or may request support from HQUSACE.
- PRTs are configured to provide trained personnel at every organizational level necessary for mission execution (e.g., District, RFO, JFO, Staging Operations, Emergency Field Office (EFO), NRCC, RRCC.
- PRTs are designated as either response (National Ice, National Water, Commodities, or Power) or recovery (Debris, Roofing, Housing, Infrastructure Assessment, or Structural Safety Specialist to Urban Search and Rescue).
- Each PRT is divided into two elements: management and support. The management element is the initial cell requested for deployment. The support element is requested as required.

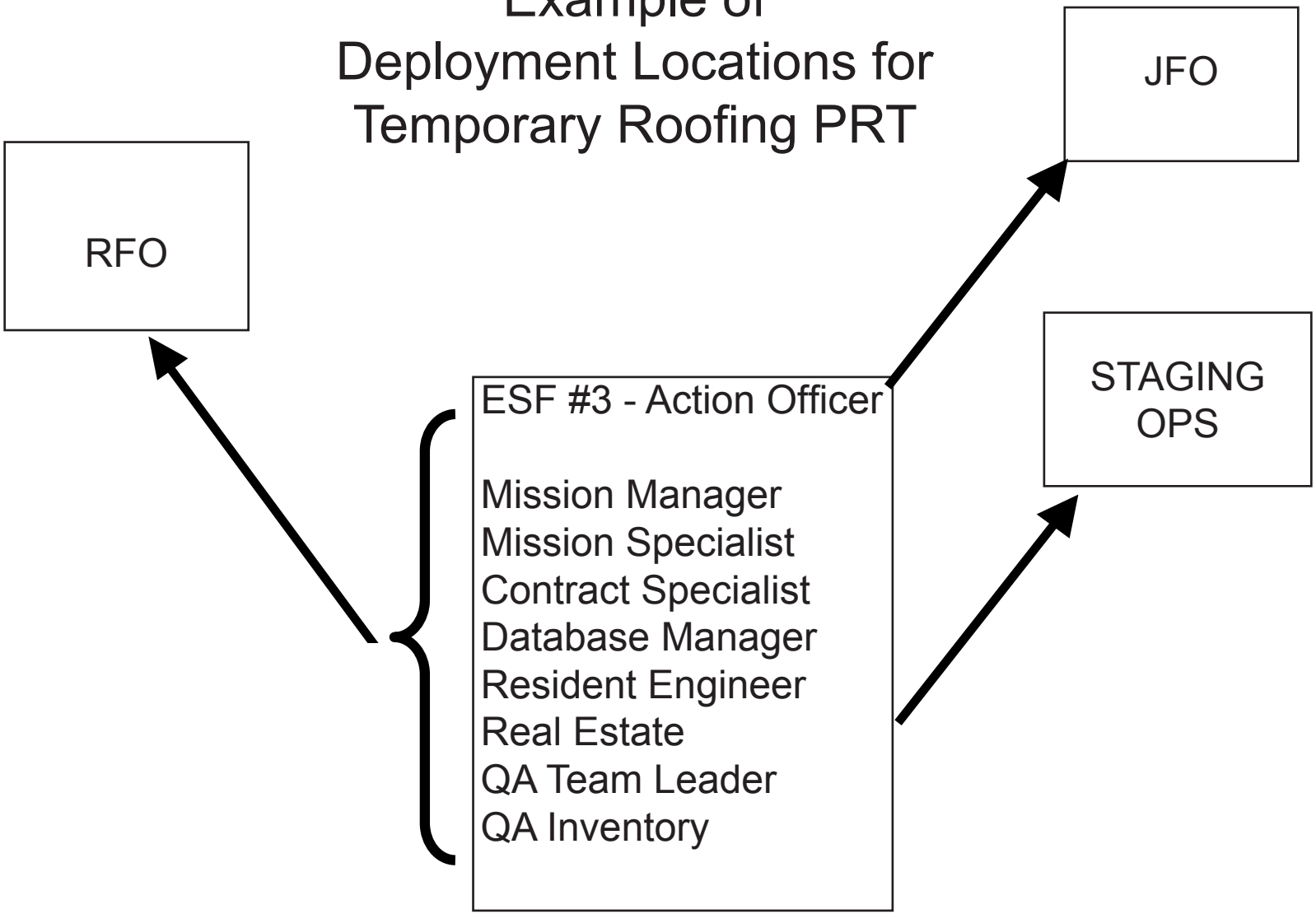
Mission Planning and Response Teams

Missions	PRT District(s)		Team Composition (Management Element in Bold)	
National Ice SAD - Load	• Charleston	• Albuquerque	**ESF #3 Action Officer** **Mission Manager** **Mission Specialist** **Contract Specialist**	**National Commodities Site Manager** **National Commodities Data Manager** **Commodity QA**
National Water NAD - Load	• New England	• Kansas City	**ESF #3 Action Officer** **Mission Manager** **Mission Specialist** **Contract Specialist**	**National Commodities Site Manager** **National Commodities Data Manager** **QA Supervisor** **Commodity QA**
Combined Commodities SWD - Load	• Detroit • Galveston • Rock Island • Seattle	• Norfolk • San Francisco • Wilmington	**ESF #3 Action Officer** **Mission Manager** **Mission Specialist** **Field Data Specialists** **Commodity Site Manager**	**Commodity QA Supervisor** **Mission Liaison** **Commodity QA**
Emergency Power LRD - Load	• Pittsburgh • Memphis • Walla Walla • Philadlephia	• Honolulu • Tulsa • Los Angeles • Savannah	**ESF #3 Action Officer** **Mission Manager** **Mission Specialist** **QA Supervisor** **Contract Specialist**	**Prime Power Liaison** **Mission Liaison** **QA (2)** *Mission Specialist (Night)* *QA (Night)*
Debris MVD - Load	• Louisville • New Orleans • Portland • Baltimore	• Fort Worth • Sacramento • Mobile (2)	**ESF #3 Action Officer** **Mission Manager** **Mission Specialist** *Resident Engineer (RE) (2)* *Office Engineer (2)*	*QA Team Leader (2)* *RE (2)* *NEPA Compliance Manager* *Environmental Engineer* *Database Manager*
Temporary Housing SAD - Load	• Huntington • Omaha • St. Paul	• New York • Savannah • Seattle	**ESF #3 Action Officer** **Mission Manager** **Mission Specialist** *Contract Specialist* *LM-Receiving QA* *Site Engineer - Design* *Electrical Engineer* *Environmental Engineer*	*Cost Estimator* *Resident Engineer (2)* *Data Base Manager* *QA Team Leader (2)* *RE (2)* *NEPA Compliance Manager* *LM (Night)*
Temporary Roofing NWD - Load	• Jacksonville • St. Louis	• Nashville • Little Rock	**ESF #3 Action Officer** **Mission Manager** **Mission Specialist** *Contract Specialist* *LM-Receiving QA*	*Resident Engineer (2)* *Data Base Manager* *QA Team Leader (2)* *RE (2)* *LM (Night)*
Infrastructure Assessment SPD - Load	• Buffalo • Alaska	• Sacramento • Seattle	**ESF #3 Action Officer** **Mission Manager** **Mission Specialist**	**ACT - 20 Training Officer** *Inspection Team Leader* *Inspection Team Leader (4)*

Example of Deployment Locations for Temporary Power PRT



Example of Deployment Locations for Temporary Roofing PRT



PRT Rotation, Activation, and Deployment

Rotational Assignments: The rotation of PRTs is maintained on ENGLink Interactive. Rotational assignments are maintained until the PRT is deployed or removed from rotation at the request of the MSC Commander due to direct involvement in response to events within their own Area of Operation (AO). Current rotational assignments are maintained on ENGLINK Interactive at https://englink.usace.army.mil, and rotation assignments are set by the UOC in coordination with the proponent MSC of the mission.

Alert: PRTs will be placed on alert only when there is an imminent threat or when an event has occurred that could result in FEMA Mission Assignments. The number of PRTs alerted will vary depending on the specific event. For a major event, the top three-to-four PRTs will be alerted in each potential mission area. PRTs are always on alert for events within their Major Subordinate Command AO. Once on alert, the PRTs are required to be in transit within six hours of deployment notification.

Deployment: The impacted MSC has the option of using the PRTs from its own organic districts first, but should consider where they stand on the National level rotational list. External PRTs will be deployed only at the request of the supported MSC. Once deployed, PRTs are attached to the supported MSC.

- PRTs are deployed for the duration of the mission. The supporting district is responsible for rotation of personnel in coordination with the supported district.
- **Pre-event:** PRT deployment will typically only include the management element of the PRT. The support element will deploy later, if required, except for the Power and Commodity Teams.
- **Post-event/Post-Declaration:** Includes deployment of the support elements of the PRTs.

Disengagement: The disengagement date is established by the Supported MSC.

Example PRT Rotation Table

Response PRT Distribution

U.S. Army
Corps of Engineers®

USACE DIVISION (PRT LEAD)	National Ice	National Water	Combined Commodities	Power	CST
Great Lakes & Ohio River Division (Power)			LRE	LRP	LRD
Mississippi Valley Division (Debris)			MVR	MVM	MVD
North Atlantic Division (National Water & Contingency Support)		NAE	NAO	NAP	NAD
Northwestern Division (Temporary Roofing)		NWK	NWS	NWW	NWD
Pacific Ocean Division				POH	PVD
South Atlantic Division (Temporary Housing & National Ice)	SAC		SAW	SAS	SAD
South Pacific Division (Infrastructure Assessment)	SPA		SPN	SPL	SPD
Southwestern Division (Combined Commodities)			SWG	SWT	SWD

Recovery PRT Distribution

U.S. Army
Corps of Engineers®

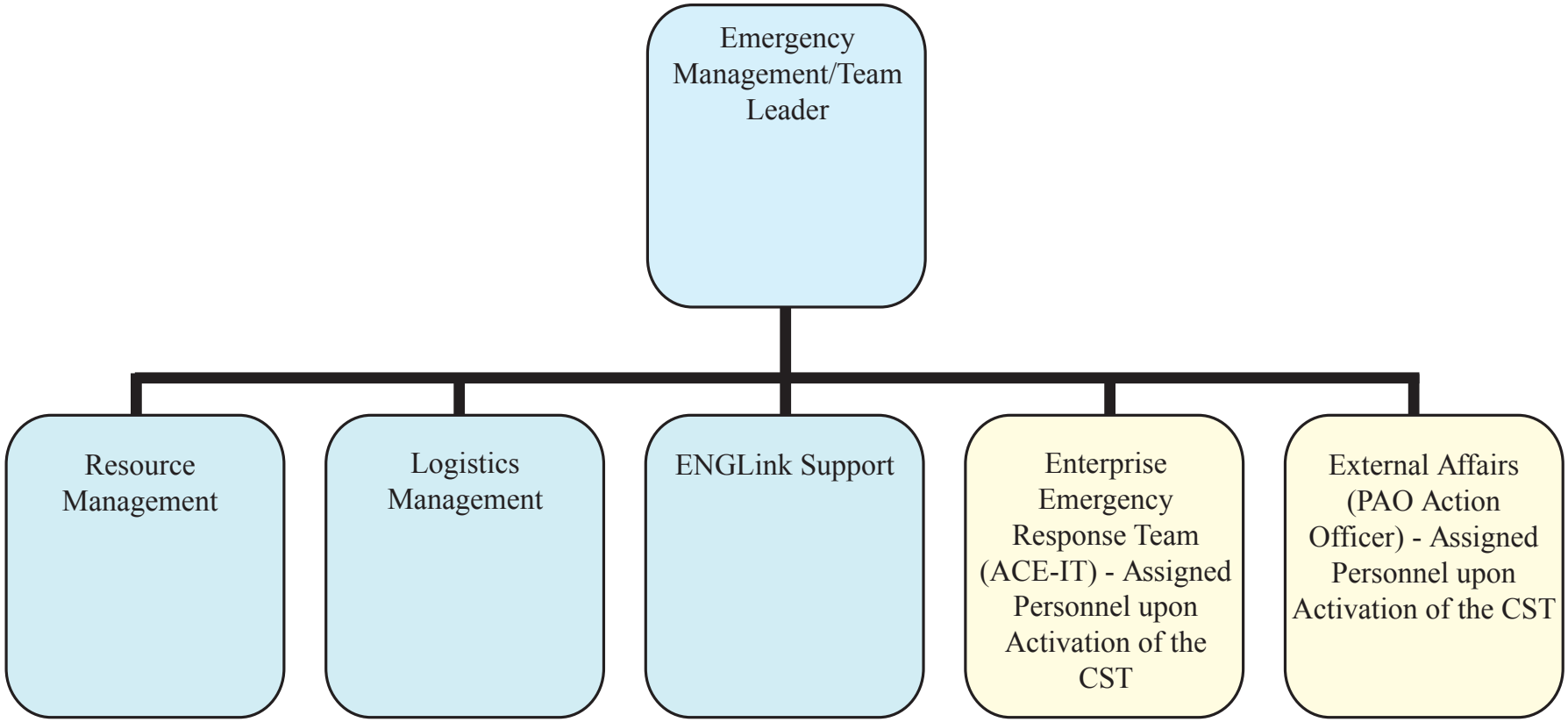
USACE DIVISION (PRT LEAD)	Debris Removal	Temp Roofing	Temp Housing	Infrastructure Assessment
Great Lakes & Ohio River Division (Power)	LRL	LRN	LRH	LRB
Mississippi Valley Division (Debris)	MVN	MVS	MVP	
North Atlantic Division (National Water & Contingency Support)	NAB		NAN	
Northwestern Division (Temporary Roofing)	NWP	NWO		NWS
Pacific Ocean Division			POD	POA
South Atlantic Division (Temporary Housing & National Ice)	SAM	SAJ	SAS	
South Pacific Division (Infrastructure Assessment)	SPK		SPL	SPK
Southwestern Division (Combined Commodities)	SWF	SWL		

Contingency Support Team Concept of Operations

The Contingency Support Team's (CST) purpose is to provide immediate and experienced assistance to a supported district in performing management and operation requirements resulting from one or more notice or no-notice events. The intent of the CST is to provide the local commander with trained personnel experienced in disaster response. The CST will augment leadership and technical staff; initially in RM, Logistics and EOC activities; and to return to home station within 30 days. Each MSC Commander is tasked to establish a CST composed of SMEs in the EM, RM, Logistics, and ENGLink functional areas. The MSC Commander must ensure the resources are available to support the CST missions. The responsibilities of the team within its region are to review and become familiar with each district's response plans, provide training guidance, and provide immediate assistance during the initial phase of the response operations. Upon activation of the CST, an Enterprise Emergency Response Team Member (EERT) and External Affairs (PAO Action Officer) will be assigned to the CST. The CST should be used in anticipation of establishing a Recovery Field Office (RFO).

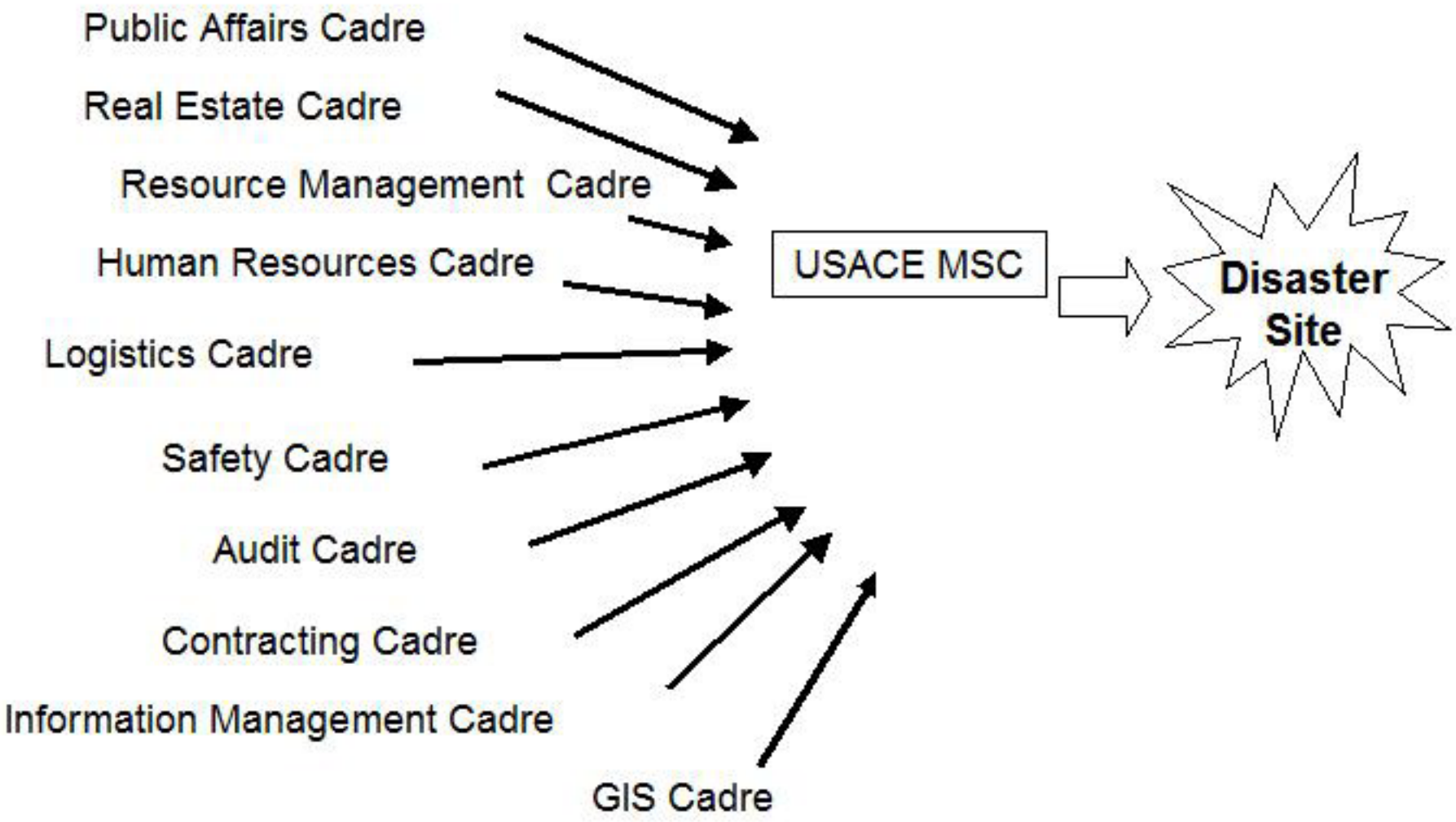
Contingency Support Team EOC Support Cell

The following outlines the composition of a CST:



Additional information on the team structure and duties can be found at: https://englink.usace.army.mil

Functional Cadres



Functional Cadre/PRT Overview

- Functional cadres are maintained to provide resources to the aforementioned CST and to augment supported district or division EOC staffing on a single resource personnel tasker request for functional support.
- These functional cadres can also provide SMEs to serve as advisors.
- They provide resource augmentation to supported commands with expertise in their separate functional areas.
- These resources are trained to complement the supported command capabilities as they accomplish the additional workload associated with responding to natural disasters and national emergencies.

Public Affairs Cadre

HQUSACE, MSC, and district Public Affairs (PA) resources are not adequate to the demands of most disasters or special operations in which they are engaged. PA assistance and augmentation is simultaneously needed at Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), JFOs, RFOs, the USACE Operations Center (UOC), and the FEMA Headquarters.

Failure to manage information with aggressive PA campaigns will damage the USACE's reputation, perpetuate misconceptions, and fail to communicate to America the USACE's key role during natural disasters and contingency operations.

Concept: The USACE has established trained, deployable Public Affairs Cadres to augment existing MSC and USACE Public Affairs (CEPA) resources, as well as established aggressive, coordinated information and media relations campaigns.

Public Affair Cadre Objectives:

- Tell the USACE story (locally, regionally, nationally, and online).
- Provide early PA presence in the disaster area and key FEMA offices.
- Provide focused augmentation.
- Provide valuable information to the public and restore public confidence.
- Ensure "One Voice" at all levels and with FEMA.
- Coordinate news briefings and media tours of USACE operations.
- Capture lessons learned and historical information.

USACE Logistics Activity (ULA) Cadre

USACE Logistics Activity Provides:

- A central point for current logistics operations
- Deployed logistics services for civil and contingency operations
- A single point of contact (24/7) for local, regional, and strategic logistics planning and operations

ULA Phone Number: 901-874-5832

Services provided to USACE supported organizations and responders:

- Reception, Staging, Onward movement, and Integration (RSO&I)
- Transportation services, such as travel, fleet vehicle management, and freight shipping
- Logistics element of CSTs
- Supply and property management/accountability
- Five standing teams currently (all volunteer)
- Five trained and certified logisticians per team
- Additional 60+ ULA members and retired annuitants available as augmentation

Process for requesting support:

- First 24-36 hours, local support is provided by LDP
- Request for ULA augmentation (LPRT/LST/SME) submitted from district/MSC to UOC
- ULA receives/fills tasker
- Teams/SMEs begin movement within six hours and arrives on the site by 24-36 hours

Safety Cadre Concept of Operations

The Chief, Safety and Occupational Health (SOH), HQUSACE, delegated to the Chief, SOH, Jacksonville District (SAJ) to function as the SOH primary support designee for natural and technological disaster preparedness and response. As such, the Chief, SOH, SAJ, is delegated to function as the National Program Manager with the authority for overall responsibility for the SOH.

The Chief, SOH, SAJ, will identify several highly qualified SOH professionals from MSC or district personnel. The primary function of these personnel will be to provide "up front" recommendations to the MSC Commander regarding the impact of a disaster on the affected area's population and infrastructure. These selections will be made during the pre-disaster phase of the life-cycle management. At the request of the impacted MSC Commander and based on a tasker from the UOC, a SOH Cadre manager will deploy to the location identified by the MSC Commander. In most cases, deployment will commence immediately after the event. Deployment to accomplish this mission will typically last seven to 14 days for the SOH Cadre manager. The role of the SOH Cadre manager is to provide an on-site assessment of SOH resources needed, provide on-the-job training to the support district/RFO SOH manager on disaster response SOH issues, and establish the basic structure of the on-site SOH Office.

Based on the determination made by the MSC Commander, a SOH Cadre may be placed on alert for possible deployment. The basic SOH Cadre is comprised of three SOH professionals. The mix of SOH professionals can and will be changed to support the specific mission most effectively.

Information Management Cadre Concept of Operations

The Enterprise Emergency Response Team (EERT) is an 11-member team that, together with partner, Lockheed Martin, is capable of providing all information technology needs for emergency events.

EERT consists of members who have experience in:

- Providing communications within just a few hours as a first responder
- Deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan
- Working with or on the DTOS team and know this function well
- Working in an RFO situation as team leaders and help desk touch labor
- Working as System Administrators supporting deployed personnel
- Working in Emergency Management offices
- Records management for emergency response

Information Management - Cadre Activation Process

- Notification will be through the local RIO/CECI/CRM to ACE-IT Enterprise Service Desk (ESD).
- Upon notification from ESD and approval from CECI, EERT and Lockheed Martin are deployable within 12 hours.
- Equipment caches are stored and ready for deployment to meet the EERT on-site.
- EERT will assess and determine the quickest method of establishing communications (VSAT/DTOS/TSP).
- During operations, additional requests for EERT support will require approval from the CECI Mission Manager.
- EERT will work with Mission Managers to plan, order, and deploy all incremental units of equipment and service needs.
- The unit equipment menu will provide standardized equipment lists and quantities, services, and support staffing with associated costs.
- ACE-IT partner Lockheed Martin will provide “Touch Labor” support, and ESD will provide 24/7 support coverage as required.
- EERT will work with Mission Managers to identify additional facilities (RFO/EFO).

Resource Management Cadre

The Resource Management (RM) Cadre is comprised of qualified volunteers who have the permission of their supervisor/ commander. Individuals of the RM Cadre have skills in budgeting or accounting, with a strong background in the USACE Financial Management System (CEFMS). Cadre members will deploy immediately after notification by their EOC. Deployment normally will not exceed 30 days.

RM Cadre's responsibilities are to:

- Assist the supported MSC/District Commander, through the resource manager, during an emergency operation.
- Assist with the timely execution of Mission Assignments by providing budget and accounting support until the emergency is physically and financially complete.
- Maintain competency by experience, on-the-job training, and formal classroom training (e.g., Financial Management of Emergency Management Program and Resource Management Functional Support cadre training).
- Be ready to deploy within six hours of notification.
- Participate in after-action critiques at the request of the MSC/District Commander.