

Who we are:

The 83rd Civil Support Team (WMD) is a 22-person team comprised of full-time Montana National Guard personnel. We are located on Fort Harrison near Helena. The team was established as a result of Presidential Directives in response to an ever-growing threat of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) terrorism within the United States.

What we DO:

We work for the incident commander and directly support incident goals and objectives

- Respond to an intentional weapon of mass destruction (WMD) incident
- Provide presumptive identification of chemical, biological, and radiological agents
- Provide recommendations on event mitigation, medical treatment, and follow-on state and federal resources
- On request can provide immediate response to save lives, prevent human suffering, and mitigate property damage under the authority of DoD Directive 3025.1

Additional Notes:

- We are not first responders.
- We work with regional HAZMAT teams not in competition with them
- We are not Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) or a Bomb Squad
- We are not equipped to perform mass casualty decontamination

How we are notified:

Requests for response are made through the State Disaster and Emergency Services or the Montana National Guard Joint Operations Center at 1-406-324-3170. When authorized to respond to an incident, our goal is to respond to the scene within approximately 4 hours.



For More Information:

The 83rd CST is organized under the State of Montana, Department of Military Affairs, Army National Guard Headquarters, Military Support Officer. Requests for Information may be directed to:

83rd CST (WMD)
Attn: Commander
PO Box 4789
Fort Harrison, MT 59636

Phone: (406) 324-3099

83rd

CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM

Weapons of Mass Destruction



Montana National Guard

Our Mission:

To support civil authorities at a domestic Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or Explosive (CBRNE) incident site by identifying chemical, biological or radiological agents/substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures, and assisting with appropriate requests for state support.

July 2008

TEAM ORGANIZATION:

COMMAND

Command and control the CST and coordinate with the local Incident Commander.

Advanced Liaison (ADVON) vehicle



OPERATIONS

Conduct hazard plume modeling and provide real-time meteorological data. Provide information for vulnerability analysis. Provide liaison with local officials and coordinate logistical and transportation concerns of the CST.

MEDICAL

Provide on-site analysis of unknown CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, NUCLEAR or RADIOLOGICAL agents. Conduct reach-back with subject matter experts. Provide medical advice to EMS, hospitals, and public health agencies.

Analytical Laboratory System (ALS)



Analytical Equipment:

- FTIR – Infrared spectroscopy used to aid in identification of powders
- Microscope – polarized light/fluorescent microscopy
- RAPID PCR – For detection of biological pathogens
- HAPSITE with headspace to identify multiple chemicals

SURVEY

Provide detection and initial identification of a suspected chemical, biological, nuclear or radiological agent in the “hot zone”. Collect and prepare samples of suspected agents for delivery to the mobile lab IAW chain of custody.



Detection & Analytical Equipment:

- Photo Ionization Detector/ AreaRae – Lower explosive limit and gas detection
- Chemical Agent Monitor
- Chemical Agent Alarm
- HAPSITE – Portable gas chromatograph/ mass spectrometer identifies over 110,000 chemicals
- Colormetric Tubes – Confirms or identifies presence of specific known chemicals
- RAD Detection/ limited field isotope identification - Detects and measures Alpha, Beta, Gamma radiation
- Sampling Kit – Liquid, solid, wipe samples
- Hazmat ID- Identifies solids and liquids using infrared light



DECONTAMINATION

Provide technical decontamination of CST members and other emergency responders.

COMMUNICATIONS

Set up and operate the Unified Command Suite (UCS).

Unified Command Suite (UCS)



Communications capabilities:

- KU Band Satellite Communication – Phone, secure data and voice
- INMARSAT-B – Portable data and voice communications
- Motorola Console – Intra-team communication
- UHF, VHF, HF, FM Radio capability
- Multi-band Scanner
- Deployable Local Area Networks (LAN) -up to 20 systems- up to 5 commercial telephone lines
- Hand-held Satellite Phones
- ACU-1000 Cross-banding capability

LOGISTICS / ADMIN

Provide logistical and administrative support to CST members.

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