



**FEMA**

**US&R GENERAL MEMORANDUM – 2020-044**

May 28, 2020

**FOR:** National Urban Search & Rescue Response System  
Task Force Representatives

**FROM:** Dean Scott, Chief  
Operations Section  
Urban Search and Rescue Branch

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dean Scott".

**SUBJECT:** US&R General Memorandum 2020-044 – (Revised) USACE Central Division StS  
Regional Training, July 25, 2020

**COURSE #: SP2020-011**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on behalf of the National Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) Response System (the System) is presenting Structural Team Specialist (StS) Regional Training for the System's Central Division.

This new delivery format will be an online training course conducted on Saturday, July 25, 2020 from 8:00am to 3:35pm (Pacific Standard Time) utilizing Zoom meeting software. Students will be sent a link to the Zoom meeting after their registration is received. Although this training is focused on task force Structural Specialists, other non-engineer task force personnel are also encouraged to attend for awareness level training.

Please see the attached logistics information and registration form. For additional information, contact Mr. Jeff Qunell, USACE US&R Program Manager at: (415) 503-6616, or by email at: [Jeffrey.J.Qunell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Jeffrey.J.Qunell@usace.army.mil).

Task Force Representatives are asked to coordinate this information as appropriate with their Task Force Training Managers.

**Attachments:**

USACE WD RT Logistics and Registration Letter

**cc:**

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





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**TO:** National US&R Response System  
Task Force Program Managers/Training Managers

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

**DATE:** May 13, 2020

**SUBJECT:** VIRTUAL Training for Structures Specialists, Western 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 July 25, 2020. This RT was originally to be hosted in the western region by CA-TF4 at the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Training Center. However, due to ongoing restrictions and impacts of the current Coronavirus pandemic, the RT format has been modified to be delivered using a virtual "Zoom" meeting format. **This will be the second delivery of the "version 6" curriculum.** While the new curriculum introduces new field and classroom content, the virtual format will focus only on the primary RT classroom content. As such, the length of the training is planned for 7-hours with several breaks. This training course is offered to Task Force StS who need initial or refresher training in Damaged Building Assessment, Shoring Size-up/Design, Survey 123, Precast/Prestressed/Post-tensioned Concrete review, and Dam/Levee assessments during an US&R response. 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 the Task Force capabilities and readiness. The regional training curriculum is updated and revised every two years, and this will be the second opportunity to receive the unique topics presented for 2020-2021 Version 6.

The RT sessions are intended for Structures Specialists in the region to minimize or eliminate the impacts to one's daily job. Little or no on-duty time should be required. The weekend course will consist of short review lectures and collaborative tabletop exercises. Although this format will be delivered virtually, priority seats will still be given to StS in the Western Region in order to sustain appropriate attendance for the next Eastern RT planned for this November. This will not preclude other StS from outside the region from attending. Any Task Force will be allowed to send at least two students. If space is available, more students will be accepted. The Western Division Task Forces are encouraged to send as many of their StS as feasible.

Applications should be submitted by July 3<sup>rd</sup>. To register for the course, fill out the online application at **[www.DisasterEngineer.org](http://www.DisasterEngineer.org)** (select "Training Applications" from the top menu and click on the desired training course). After July 3<sup>rd</sup>, students will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis according to the waiting list. Due to virtual format limitations, a maximum of 20 students are targeted to participate. The training is provided at no charge to the student and 7 PDH will be earned upon completion of the training. This new 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.

## **TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT**

**TO:** National US&R Task Force Program Managers,  
National US&R Task Force Leaders

Course Logistical Information:

Time: Saturday 0800 thru 1535 with 1/2 hour lunch period

Training Source: Live Zoom Video Conferencing

Zoom meeting invitations will be sent to the email provided during student registration.

- The FEMA US&R StS Position Description recommends that Task Force StS complete this training every two years. This is continuing education, the 2<sup>nd</sup> scheduled training for this curriculum.
- Training focuses on assessing structural behavior of damaged buildings, crane chart review/field exercise, dam and levee assessment, pre-cast/pre-stressed and PT concrete review, wide area assessment (GPS “Iron sights” & Survey 123), use of StS forms, shoring tabletop exercise and other topics.
- Training mission is to provide 7-hours of intensive training.

### **Requirements for Attendance:**

- The course will be on-line using Zoom hosted by Michael Barker at the University of Wyoming.
- You will need a computer with the Zoom application, a webcam and audio (speakers & microphone) for class interactions and discussions.
- Several will be asked to volunteer and show Shoring Design results. So, a scanner to PDF or phone picture and uploading for the shoring discussion will be effective (as long as several have this capability).
- Download and install the esri Survey123 field app on your smart phone before the virtual training. You can search for the app on your device (e.g. Apple App Store, Google Play App Store, etc.) or download from this link -- <https://www.esri.com/en-us/arcgis/products/survey123/resources> under “Get Survey 123” and “Survey 123 field app.” Please contact us with any issues in the days prior to the training.
- A Zoom invitation link will be sent to you via Michael Barker’s email/meeting invitation.
  - When you log into Zoom, enter your full name and email for RT Certificate & discussion identification.
  - Log in a little early to work out any issues – Zoom meeting will open at 7:30 am PDT.
- Course Handout materials will be available to registered StS for download prior to the class.

### **To Register for Training:**

Complete the online application at [www.DisasterEngineer.org](http://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:**

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