



Coordinating Fire Department Specialized Response Services
Across Northeastern Illinois and Southeastern Wisconsin



The MABAS Divisions 4 & 5 Specialized Response Teams (SRT) is an intergovernmental cooperative organization responsible for the coordination of specialized response services for the fire departments/districts that belong to Divisions 4 & 5 of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). SRT coordinates training, qualifications, equipment and resources for its teams, which include the following:

- Hazardous Materials Team
- Mechanics Team
- Technical Rescue Team
- Water Rescue and Recovery Team (Dive, Sonar & Swiftwater)
- Wildland Task Force



A Message from Administrative Coordinator Loomis

While a majority of 2016 was spent managing SRT’s organizational transition from the Lake & McHenry Counties Fire Department SRT to the MABAS Divisions 4 & 5 SRT, 2017 focused heavily on team operations. We started out the year by updating the format and content of all seven of the special team standard operating guidelines (SOGs) and the Administrative SOG. Hours of work went into standardizing language across all documents and updating or adding sections to address new and unwritten policies and practices.

Team leaders/coordinators, the operations chiefs and myself also implemented and refined procedures for End of Year Training Forms. Training spreadsheets used to track SRT training throughout the year together with these forms ensure that all team members meet their annual training requirements. Those that did not complete their required training were removed from team rosters for the following calendar year - a new policy included in the SOG updates.

Other notable accomplishments for the year include updating the SRT box card guides and templates for both MABAS divisions, working with the Mechanics Team to establish an extensive approved vendor list and formal asset management plan and developing a formal policy for the use of the I Am Responding communication tool for all team members and the MABAS dispatch agencies.

In addition to the regular operating budget expenditures, SRT oversaw the purchase of several capital budget items including a new sonar trailer, a swiftwater inflatable craft and surface supplied air equipment for divers. SRT’s operating expenditures also came in over \$45,000 under budget, allowing us to increase our contingency fund and reduce the 2018 member assessments/dues by almost \$22,000.

We made huge strides in 2017 on some important projects, while still managing the day to day operations that keep our special teams ready and able to respond to a wide range of emergencies. We look forward to continued success in 2018 as we constantly work to improve team operations and the administration of SRT.

Organizational Leadership

The Joint Administrative Council (JAC) is the governing body responsible for the oversight and management of the MABAS Divisions 4 & 5 SRT. It is comprised of three chiefs from each of the member MABAS Divisions. 2017 JAC members were:

Joint Administrative Council

- Rich Carani, Chairman
- Bill Hoover, Vice-Chairman
- Greg Formica, Secretary/Treasurer
- Scott Small
- Steve Spraker
- Jeff Steingart

Administrative Coordinator

Christina Loomis

Operations Chiefs

- Kevin Cronin, Division 4
- Al Schlick, Division 5

2017 Accomplishments

- Updated and Adopted Standard Operating Guidelines for Administration and Special Teams
- Developed and Implemented End of Year Training Form Procedures
- Updated & Disseminated SRT Box Card Guides & Templates
- Developed a Formal I Am Responding Policy for Team Members & Dispatch Centers (notification tool)
- Developed an Asset Maintenance Tracking System
- Purchased & Outfitted Replacement Sonar Trailer

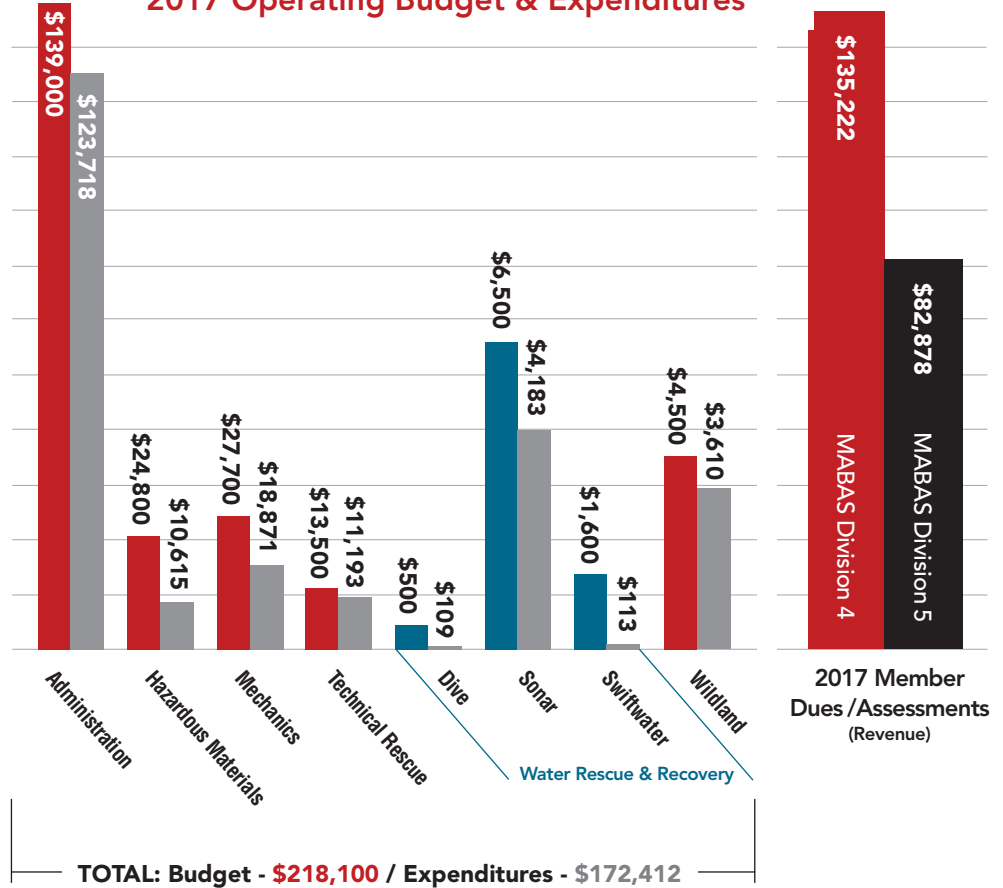


Team Responses

There were 12 SRT incidents in 2017 and a total of 16 team responses (some incidents required a response by multiple teams). Of those 12 incidents, three were interdivisional (outside of MABAS Divisions 4 & 5) and two were cancelled enroute.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Hazardous Materials | 5 |
| Mechanics | 1 |
| Technical Rescue | 1 |
| Water Rescue & Recovery | |
| Dive | 3 |
| Sonar | 5 |
| Swiftwater | 1 |
| Wildland | 0 |
| TOTAL | 16 |

2017 Operating Budget & Expenditures



Team Membership 12/31/17

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Hazardous Materials | 92 |
| Mechanics | 27 |
| Technical Rescue | 92 |
| Water Rescue & Recovery | |
| Dive | 116 |
| Sonar | 38 |
| Swiftwater | 53 |
| Wildland | 36 |
| TOTAL | 454 |

SRT Coordinated Trainings

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Hazardous Materials | 52 |
| Mechanics | 32 |
| Technical Rescue | 76 |
| Water Rescue & Recovery | |
| Dive | 45 |
| Sonar | 27 |
| Swiftwater | 26 |
| Wildland | 26 |
| TOTAL | 284 |

Team Member Training Hours (SRT)**

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Hazardous Materials | 2,313 |
| Mechanics | 384 |
| Technical Rescue | 2,016 |
| Water Rescue & Recovery | |
| Dive | 1,044 |
| Sonar | 447 |
| Swiftwater | 456 |
| Wildland | 596 |
| TOTAL | 7,256 |

** Please note that these figures only include SRT coordinated training. Team members also complete elective/departments training throughout the year within their specialty, which is not reflected here.



Hazardous Materials Team

Responsible for controlling and mitigating hazardous materials incidents, including identification, assessment, containment/confinement and decontamination.



2017 Statistics

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Team Members | 92 |
| SRT Coordinated Trainings | 52 |
| SRT Training Hours | 2,313 |



2017 Highlights

- Provided support to the Lake Forest Fire Department following a freight train derailment on March 15, 2017.
- Placed new chlorine meters, thermal imaging cameras and AreaRae monitor laptops into service.
- Participated in a joint decontamination training exercise with the FBI and the Waukegan Fire Department Bomb Squad.



Mechanics Team

Responsible for supporting all other teams during both training and incidents, by ensuring all assets (vehicles and equipment) are operating properly and reliably on a day to day basis.



2017 Statistics

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Team Members | 27 |
| SRT Coordinated Trainings | 32 |
| SRT Training Hours | 384 |

2017 Highlights

- Obtained a replacement air compressor through a government surplus program.
- Started developing a formal asset management plan.
- Coordinated the refurbishment of the Division 5 Trench Container.



Technical Rescue Team

Responsible for managing special rescue situations in the areas of rope rescue, confined space, structural collapse and trench rescue.



2017 Statistics

Team Members 92
SRT Coordinated Trainings . 76
SRT Training Hours 2,016

2017 Highlights

- Participated in a multi-agency trench drill at the Lake County Public Works facility.
- Began developing a formal inventory process for team equipment.



Dive Team

Responsible for the rescue and/or recovery of drowning victims (often also assists with evidence recovery).

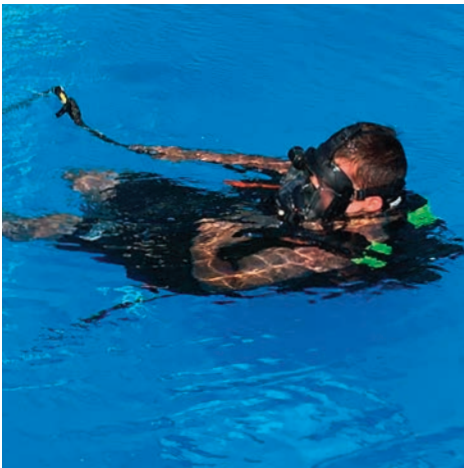


2017 Statistics

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Team Members | 116 |
| SRT Coordinated Trainings | 45 |
| SRT Training Hours | 1,044 |

2017 Highlights

- Purchased and placed into service surface supplied air (SSA) equipment including control box, air supply lines and communications unit.
- Provided team member training on the use of SSA equipment.



Sonar Team

Responsible for searching bodies of water for victims and/or evidence using both side and sector scan equipment.

2017 Statistics

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Team Members | 38 |
| SRT Coordinated Trainings | 27 |
| SRT Training Hours | 447 |

2017 Highlights

- Placed into service a new power reel on the Sonar Boat to operate side scan sonar equipment as well as a replacement trailer.
- Expanded the team roster and provided training to 12 new members.
- Participated in eight joint trainings with the SRT Dive Team.



Swiftwater Team

Responsible for incidents involving swift moving or flood water.



2017 Statistics

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Team Members | 53 |
| SRT Coordinated Trainings .. | 26 |
| SRT Training Hours | 456 |

2017 Highlights

- Purchased and placed into service a self-baffling rescue craft, designed primarily for flood waters.
- Hosted several joint trainings with the SRT Technical Rescue Team focusing on high lines.
- Responded to Burlington, WI along the Fox River in anticipation of potential flooding.



Wildland Task Force

Responsible for mitigating fires in areas challenging for firefighters equipped with standard gear, especially heavily wooded areas or open spaces.

2017 Statistics

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Team Members | 36 |
| SRT Coordinated Trainings | 26 |
| SRT Training Hours | 596 |

2017 Highlights

- Placed new forestry hose, appliances and hose bags into service.
- Performed "standby" duties at the Waukegan Air Show.
- Participated in several multi-agency prescribed burns with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Lake County Forest Preserve.



Member Agencies



MABAS Division 4

- Abbott Fire Department
- AbbVie Industrial Fire Department
- Antioch Fire Department
- Barrington Fire Department
- Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District
- Beach Park Fire Protection District
- Buffalo Grove Fire Department
- Countryside Fire Protection District
- Deerfield-Bannockburn Fire Protection District
- Fox Lake Fire Protection District
- Grayslake Fire Protection District
- Great Lakes Naval Fire Department
- Greater Round Lake Fire Protection District
- Gurnee Fire Department
- Knollwood Fire Department
- Lake Bluff Fire Department
- Lake Forest Fire Department
- Lake Villa Fire Protection District
- Lake Zurich Fire/Rescue Department
- Libertyville Fire Department
- Lincolnshire-Riverwoods Fire Protection District
- Long Grove Fire Department
- Mundelein Fire Department
- Newport Township Fire Protection District
- North Chicago Fire Department
- Pleasant Prairie Fire & Rescue Department
- Wauconda Fire Protection District
- Waukegan Fire Department
- Wheeling Fire Department
- Winthrop Harbor Fire Department
- Zion Fire & Rescue Department

MABAS Division 5

- Algonquin-Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District
- Cary Fire Protection District
- Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department
- Fox River Grove Fire Protection District
- Harvard Fire Protection District
- Hebron-Alden-Greenwood Fire Protection District
- Huntley Fire Protection District
- Marengo Fire Protection District
- McHenry Township Fire Protection District
- Nunda Rural Fire Protection District
- Richmond Township Fire Protection District
- Spring Grove Fire Protection District
- Union Fire Protection District
- Wonder Lake Fire Protection District
- Woodstock Fire/Rescue District

MABAS Divisions 4 & 5 SRT

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