

## **Bitterroot National Forest**

1801 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street Hamilton, MT 59840

Phone: (406) 363-7100



# **Emergency Medical Field Evacuation Plan**



# **2018**

# INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Bitterroot National Forest Emergency Medical Field Evacuation Plan is to establish procedures and informative documentation for use during a field medical emergency evacuation. The Emergency Field Evacuation Plan is to be used for Forest Service personnel and Forest Service Volunteers under a signed agreement while working on the Bitterroot National Forest. This plan is not intended to be used for private citizens injured on the Bitterroot National Forest. *Search and Rescue of injured private citizens on National Forest Lands is the responsibility of the Ravalli County Sheriff.*

**This Plan will consist of the following six sections:**

**SECTION 1 PROCEDURES**

**SECTION 2 COMMUNICATIONS**

**SECTION 3 PATIENT TRANSPORT**

**SECTION 4 RESPONSIBILITIES**

**SECTION 5 EMERGENCY CONTACTS & PHONE NUMBERS**

**SECTION 6 MEDICAL INCIDENT REPORT (9-LINE)**

The Bitterroot National Forest Supervisors Office, HAMILTON DISPATCH, will take the lead on **ALL** medivac operations associated with Forest Service personnel and Forest Service Volunteers under a signed agreements. Field going personnel must be made aware that the initial request for medical assistance should be made through HAMILTON DISPATCH via the Forest Radio Network. If for any reason the requesting party does not get a response from Hamilton Dispatch, the individual should immediately call the District Office associated with their current location. If the District Office is contacted, they need to call Hamilton Dispatch at (406) 363-7133 and notify them of the situation.

**IN THE EVENT OF A MEDICAL EMERGENCY PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO HAMILTON DISPATCH:**

- 1.) Declare the **NATURE of the EMERGENCY**
  - a. Medical injury / illness?
  - b. If injury / illness **IS IT LIFE THREATENING?**
- 2.) If life threatening then request that the designated **Frequency Be Cleared For Emergency Traffic Only.**
- 3.) Identify the on scene **Incident Commander** or **POC** by position and name.
- 4.) Identify **Nature Of Incident, Number Injured, Patient Assessment (9-Line) and Location.**
- 5.) Identify **On-Scene Medical Personnel** by position and name.
- 6.) Identify preferred method of **Patient(s) Transport** and **Access.**
- 7.) **Request Any Additional Resources** and/or equipment needs.
- 8.) **Document All Information** received and transmitted on the radio or phone
- 9.) **Identify Any Changes** in the on-scene Incident Commander or medical personnel as they occur.

The requesting unit should be prepared to provide the information included on the Bitterroot National Forest Incident Medical Report (commonly called the 9-Line). The responding office should immediately be prepared to copy the information on to their copy of the Incident Medical Report (9-Line). If the requesting field unit does not have a copy of the form, the responding office should be prepared to prompt the Medical IC for the necessary information.

Once the initial request for assistance has been made, all attempts should be made to maintain consistency throughout the process. Radio contacts on both ends should also remain the same. The office that initiates the Medivac process with EMS should continue until operations are completed.

If field going personnel are planning on spending the night in the field, or are going to be returning after normal business hours, they must notify Hamilton Dispatch and make arrangements to provide a way to allow these individuals to make contact and request medical assistance if needed.

Incident Management Teams (IMT) will use HAMILTON DISPATCH for all medical assistance requests (Ex. Ambulance & Life Flight) unless otherwise specified in the signed delegation of authority or leader's intent. Hamilton Dispatch will staff accordingly if the Forest is hosting an IMT.

<b>Bitterroot Dispatch Center Hours of Operation</b>	
<b><i>Off Season Hours</i></b>	<b><i>Fire Season Hours*</i></b>
Monday – Friday 0800-1630	7-Day Coverage 0800-1800 (may be later depending on activity)

\*Please confirm with Hamilton Dispatch on hours prior to going to the field.

## **SECTION 2**

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Radio communications across the Bitterroot National Forest requires knowledge of repeater locations. Please reference the Bitterroot National Forest Radio User's Guide for more information and repeater locations. Primary radio communications into Hamilton Dispatch should be made on BRF 1 (for the Sula and West Fork Ranger Districts) and BRF 2 (for the Stevensville and Darby Ranger Districts) or utilizing the appropriate repeater for your location.

You may have to scan multiple frequencies to be able to make contact with responding EMS resources. Typically, Air Ambulance from Montana will be on the TAN Frequency in Group 5, Bitterroot Public Safety. Air Ambulances coming from Idaho may not be using the TAN Frequency. Ground Ambulances from Montana typically will be using VFDFIRE1 or VFDFIRE2 Frequencies on Group 5 Bitterroot Public Safety.

***Confirm with Hamilton Dispatch (or the appropriate Ranger District if Hamilton Dispatch cannot be reached) as to what radio frequencies responding EMS resources will be utilizing for the medical incidents they are responding to.***

## Group 1 Administrative and Fire

Ch	Label	Receive	Rx Tone	Transmit	Tx Tone
1	BRF 1	168.7500	None	168.7500	131.8
2	BRF 2	169.6250	None	169.6250	146.2
3	Tac South	166.5500	None	166.5500	None
4	Tac North	166.9875	None	166.9875	None
5	Hells ½	169.1750	None	169.9750	136.5
6	Teepee	169.6250	None	168.1500	136.5
7	Lookout	168.7500	None	168.1500	146.2
8	Common 1	163.7125	None	163.7125	None
9	Spot	168.7500	None	168.1500	156.7
10	Ward	169.6250	None	168.1500	167.9
11	R1 Tac	167.1125	None	167.1125	None
12	Common 2	168.6125	None	168.6125	None
13	MSO Wx	162.4000	None	0.0000	None
14	A/G 52-Primary	168.3875	None	168.3875	None
15	A/G 53-Primary	168.4875	None	168.4875	None
16	Air Guard	168.6250	None	168.6250	110.9

## Group 5 Bitterroot Public Safety

Ch	Label	Receive	Rx Tone	Transmit	Tx Tone
1	BRF 1	168.7500	None	168.7500	131.8
2	BRF 2	169.6250	None	169.6250	146.2
3	Tac South	166.5500	None	166.5500	None
4	Tac North	166.9875	None	166.9875	None
5	Purp/S+R	155.2200	None	155.2200	156.7
6	Teepee RPTR	169.6250	None	168.1500	136.5
7	Lookout RPTR	168.7500	None	168.1500	146.2
8	RCSO DIR	156.2250	67.0	156.2250	67.0
9	RCSO EFK	156.2250	67.0	158.9100	141.3
10	RCSO WFK	156.2250	None	158.9100	131.8
11	White	155.2800	None	155.2800	156.7
12	VFD FIRE1	154.8600	203.5	151.1525	103.5
13	VFD FIRE2	154.4450	71.9	154.4450	71.9
14	A/G 52 Primary	168.3875	None	168.3875	None
15	TAN-EMS	155.3400	None	155.3400	156.7
16	Air Guard	168.6250	None	168.625	110.9

## SECTION 3

## PATIENT TRANSPORT

If an air ambulance is requested, ground ambulance should also be requested as a backup plan. The ground ambulance should be given a rendezvous location. If a hoist or short haul helicopter is requested, these aircraft may not be able to land at hospitals, an air ambulance or ground ambulance should also be ordered to rendezvous so the patient(s) can be transported to the hospital. ***ALWAYS ENSURE THERE IS A BACK-UP PLAN FOR EXTRACTING THE PATIENT(S)!***

The Bitterroot Forest contract helicopter is capable of being configured to transport a patient in a litter. However it will take 5-10 minutes to configure the helicopter for this type of mission. The Forest helicopter has a specific litter designed for multiple types of backboards. There may or may not be an EMT on the Forest helicopter, depending on the staffing for the day. It is preferred the Forest helicopter would be for transport of ambulatory, non-critical patient(s). However, if there are no other options the Forest Helicopter may be used for medivac. ***Life Flight Network will be the primary responder for all helicopter medivacs.*** During a medivac via helicopter, personnel assisting with the transport should be reminded to maintain all helicopter safety procedures. A qualified Helicopter Manager and/or a qualified Helicopter Crewmember will accompany the Forest Helicopter in all cases and will take the lead in maintaining safety and the loading of the patient(s).

When working with the Life Flight Network, all personnel should follow the direction of the Life Flight Network flight crew. All personnel should be aware that Forest Service safety procedures for working around helicopters should be strictly followed. Upon landing, allow Life Flight personnel to depart the helicopter and meet at a safe distance from the helicopter to discuss the situation and process for loading the patient(s). If possible the patient(s) should be positioned away from the landing zone for the helicopter to avoid rotor wash and communication problems that occur when located near a helicopter.

### **For Ground Transport, the following is required:**

- 1.) Location and Best Route of Travel.
- 2.) Safety concerns pertinent to ground transport, i.e. Logging Traffic, Public Traffic, Road Conditions, specific vehicle needs (chains or 4X4, high clearance) and turn around.

### **For Air Ambulance, the following information is required:**

- 1.) Latitude and Longitude (in Degrees Decimal Minutes).
- 2.) Landing Zone Information, especially aerial hazards such as power lines, tress, etc.
- 3.) Wind Direction.
- 4.) Number of Patients and their weights.

## **Hamilton Dispatch (or District Office if Dispatch cannot be reached) EMS Coordination:**

With either ground or air ambulance transport EMS providers will desire information pertinent to the patient(s), which will include:

- 1.) Age, gender and any known pertinent health history of patient(s) ***DO NOT BROADCAST PATIENT(S) NAME VIA THE RADIO.***
- 2.) Assessment of the patient(s) utilizing the Bitterroot National Forest Medical Incident Response form (9-Line).
- 3.) Mechanism of Injury.

## **SECTION 4**

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Medivac Incident Commander Responsibilities:**

The responsibilities of the Medivac IC are listed in order of priority:

- 1.) Secure scene and determine if it is safe to begin first-aid.
- 2.) Administer first-aid; make assessment to determine if additional assistance is needed.
- 3.) Report incident to Hamilton Dispatch, if they cannot be reached then report to the District Office that incident is on.
- 4.) Determine if Medivac via ground or life flight is needed.
- 5.) Begin Bitterroot Medivac Incident Report (9-Line Report).
- 6.) If needed determine ground rendezvous location or helicopter landing zone.
- 7.) Initiate documentation of incident.
- 8.) Provide Hamilton Dispatch with patient(s) updates and any changes of status at the scene.
- 9.) Assist EMS; be prepared to help with patient(s) assessment and providing background information to responding EMS personnel.

### **Hamilton Dispatch (or District Office if Dispatch cannot be reached) Responsibilities:**

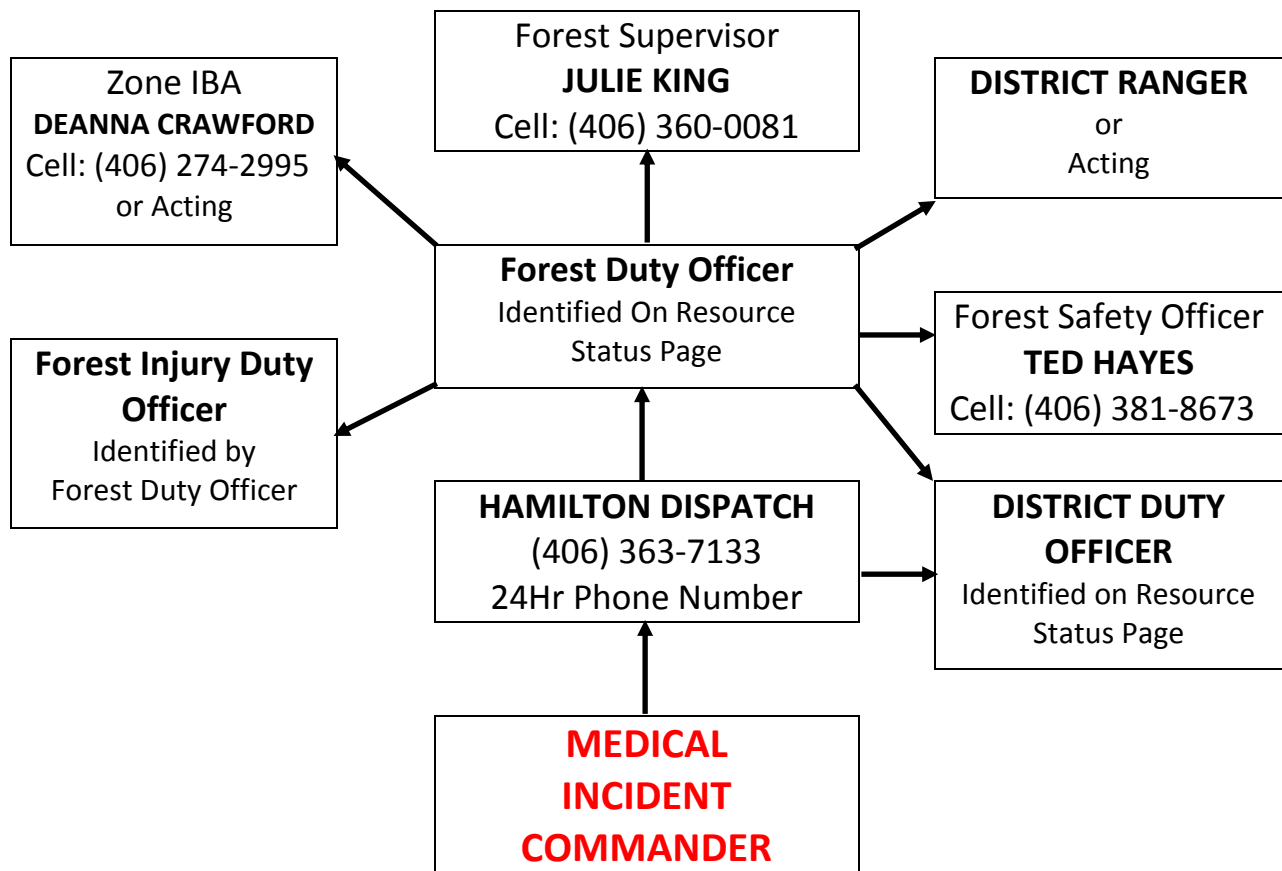
- 1.) Take report of medical incident from Medical IC.
- 2.) Communicate with Medical IC to help determine best method of transport for patient.
- 3.) Prompt IC to provide information needed to complete the Bitterroot National Forest Medical Incident Report (9-Line).
- 4.) Order ground and/or air ambulance as requested.
- 5.) Maintain communications log.

- 6.) Prompt the Medical IC for periodic patient(s) updates and any changes in status at the scene.
- 7.) Provide overall coordination of the medical incident.
- 8.) Coordinate with responding EMS personnel.
- 9.) Notify and coordinate with the Forest Duty Officer for making all necessary notifications.

**Forest Injury Duty Officer:**

- 1.) Meet the injured/ill person at the hospital; identify yourself as the Forest Hospital Liaison to hospital staff and injured/ill employee.
- 2.) Coordinate with the employee’s home unit supervisor to ensure the timely completion of the CA-1 or CA-2 or their Agency’s required form(s). This would include timely submission of CA1/CA2 in eSafety for FS employees.
- 3.) May require initial coordination with ASC for issuance of CA-16 (for FS employees).
- 4.) Provide support to the injured/ill employee including coordination with Dispatch and others to provide meals, lodging and transportation if needed.
- 5.) May need to coordination or assist in the coordination of the employee’s travel home (if from off forest).

**Notification Phone Tree:**





**SECTION 5****EMERGENCY CONTACTS & PHONE NUMBERS****MEDIVAC EMS PROVIDERS**

Medical Provider	Location	Phone Number	*Contact Freq.	Remarks
Ground Ambulance Marcus Daily	Hamilton, MT	406-363-3033 Or 911	VFD FIRE1 or VFD FIRE2	
Ground Ambulance Missoula Emergency Services, Inc.	Missoula, MT	406-549-2325 Or 911	VFD FIRE1 or VFD FIRE2	
Air Ambulance Life Flight Network	Missoula, MT	1-800-991-SEND Or 911	TAN	Flight Nurse on board Night capable
Two Bear Air Rescue	Whitefish, MT	Order through Hamilton Dispatch	TAN	Night capable Hoist capable w/ Paramedic on board
Ravalli County Search & Rescue	Hamilton, MT	911 or 406-363-4421 (only answered during Missions)	Confirm with Hamilton Dispatch	Reports to the Ravalli County Sheriff

\* Confirm with Hamilton Dispatch as to what radio frequencies responding EMS resources will be utilizing for the medical incidents they are responding to.

**MEDICAL FACILITIES**

Medical Facility	Location	Phone Number	Lat / Long	Comment
Marcus Daily Hospital	1200 Westwood Dr Hamilton, MT	406-363-2211	Lat: 46° 14.892 Long: 114° 10.310	
Convenient Care	1200 Westwood De Hamilton, MT	406-363-0567	Lat: 46° 14.892 Long: 114° 10.310	Staffed by ER Doctor
Stevensville Community Medical Center	3800 Eastside HWY Stevensville, MT	406-777-2775	Lat: 46° 30.042 Long: 114° 5.540	
Community Medical Center	2827 Ft. Missoula Rd Missoula, MT	406-728-4100	Lat: 46° 50.871 Long: 114° 02.811	Level III Trauma Center
St. Patrick Medical Center	500 W. Broadway Missoula, MT	406-543-7271	Lat: 46° 52.510 Long: 114° 0.006	Level II Trauma Center
Harborview Burn Center	325 9 <sup>th</sup> Ave Seattle, WA	206-520-5000	Lat: 47° 36.226 Long: 111° 50.198	90 Minute Jet time from Missoula
Intermountain Burn Center	50 N. Medical Dr Salt lake City, UT	801-581-2700	Lat: 40° 46.295 Long: 111° 50.198	90 Minute Jet time from Missoula

## BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST CONTACTS

Check with Hamilton Dispatch (406) 363-7133 for who the District, Forest and Injury Duty Officers are for any given day.

Name	Location	Phone Number	Remarks
<b>SUPERVISORS OFFICE</b>	<b>Hamilton</b>	<b>406-363-7100</b>	
Mark Wilson Forest Fire Mgt. Officer	Hamilton	406-375-2610 office 406-360-1154 cell	
Greg Jacobson Asst. Forest Fire Mgt. Officer	Hamilton	406-363-7163 office 406-240-4974 cell	
Hamilton Dispatch	Hamilton	406-363-7133	
Forest Injury Duty Officer	Hamilton		Check w/ Forest Duty Officer or Hamilton Dispatch for contact info
Ted Hayes Forest Safety Officer	Darby	406-821-4242	Cell: 406-381-8673
<b>STEVENSVILLE RANGER DISTRICT</b> Tami Sabol- District Ranger	Stevensville	406-777-5461	Tami Sabol Cell: 406-546-8704
Warren Appelhans FMO – Stevensville RD	Stevensville	406-777-7436	Cell: 406-890-1965
Rick Moreno AFMO – Stevensville RD	Stevensville	406-777-7431	Cell: 406-396-4323
<b>DARBY / SULA RANGER DISTRICT</b> Eric Winthers – District Ranger	Darby	406-821-3913	Eric Winthers Cell: 406-830-7527
Derek Davenport FMO – Darby / Sula	Darby	406-821-4258	Cell: 406-360-0806
Richard Griffin AFMO – Darby / Sula	Darby	406-821-4255	Cell: 406-925-1951
<b>WEST FORK RANGER DISTRICT</b> – District Ranger	<b>Darby</b>	<b>406-821-3269</b>	<b>Cell:</b>
Doug DeMoss FMO – West Fork RD	Darby, MT	406-821-1243	Cell: 406-360-0481
Bret Lewis AFMO – West Fork RD	Darby, MT	406-821-1247	Cell: 406-396-0407

## BITTERROOT FOREST HELICOPTER

The Bitterroot Forest Helicopter is on contract from July – September and is based out of Hamilton Dispatch located at the Hamilton airport. Availability should be confirmed through Hamilton Dispatch (406) 363-7133. The helitack crew may or may not have an EMT assigned to the flight crew depending on staffing.

Name	Position	Phone Number
Dean Bitterman	Forest Aviation Officer	406-363-7162 office 406-370-7024 cell
John McKee	Forest Helicopter Mgr.	406-361-3251 office 406-370-7028 cell
Corey Rennaker	Asst. Forest Helicopter Mgr.	406-361-3252 office 406-381-7303 cell
Jerrid Silva	Asst. Forest Helicopter Mgr.	406-361-3253 office 406-370-8390 cell

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

Name	Location	Phone Number	Remarks
Ravalli County Sheriff	Hamilton, MT	406-363-3033 Or 911	
Ravalli County Search & Rescue	Hamilton	406-363-3033 Or 911	406-363-4421 during missions
Beaverhead County Sheriff	Dillon, MT	406-683-3700 Or 911	
Lemhi County Sheriff	Salmon, ID	208-765-8980	
Missoula County Sheriff	Missoula, MT	406-258-4810	
Montana Highway Patrol	Missoula, MT	406-329-1500	
USFS LEO Josh Bidderman	Hamilton, MT	406-363-7161	Cell: 406-361-5084
USFS LEO Stephanie Zacha	Darby, MT	406-821-4251	Cell: 406-249-0082

**SECTION 6****MEDICAL INCIDENT REPORT (9-LINE)****MEDICAL INCIDENT REPORT**

Use items one through nine to communicate situation to communications / dispatch

**1. CONTACT COMMUNICATIONS / DISPATCH**

Ex. "Communications, Div. Alpha. Standby for priority Medical Incident Report."

(If life threatening, request that designated frequency be cleared for emergency traffic)

**2. INCIDENT STATUS: Provide incident summary and command structure**

<b>NATURE OF:</b>		<i>Describe the Injury (Ex. Broken leg w/ Bleeding)</i>
<b>INCIDENT NAME:</b>		<i>Geographic Name (“Medical (Ex. Trout Meadow Medical)</i>
<b>INCIDENT COMMANDER</b>		<i>Incident Commander of The Medical Incident</i>
<b>PATIENT CARE:</b>		<i>Name of Care Provider (Ex. EMT Smith)</i>

**3. INITIAL PATIENT ASSESSMENT:** Complete this section for each patient. This is only a brief, initial assessment. Provide additional patient info after completing this 9 line report. See page 100 of IRPG for detailed patient report.

<b>NUMBER OF PATIENTS:</b>	<b>MALE/FEMALE:</b>	<b>WEIGHT:</b>
<b>CONSCIOUS?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<b>NO = MEDIVAC!</b>
<b>BREATHING?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<b>NO = MEDIVAC!</b>
<b>MECHANISM of INJURY:</b>		
<b>LAT/LONG</b> (In Degree Decimal Minutes) (Datum WGS84)		

**4. SEVERITY OF EMERGENCY, TRANSPORT PRIORITY**

<b>SEVERITY</b>	<b>TRANSPORT PRIORITY</b>
<b>URGENT = RED</b> Life threatening injury or illness. Ex. Unconscious, difficulty breathing, bleeding severely, 2"-3"burns more than 4 palm sizes, heat stroke, disorientation.	<b>AMBULANCE</b> or <b>MEDIVAC</b> Helicopter. Evacuation need is <b>IMMEDIATE</b> .
<b>PRIORITY = YELLOW</b> Serious Injury or illness. Ex. Significant trauma, not able to walk, 2"-3" burns not more than 1-2 palm sizes.	Ambulance or consider air transport if at a remote location. Evacuation may be <b>DELAYED</b> .
<b>ROUTINE = GREEN</b> Non-Life Threatening injury or illness. Ex. Sprains, strains, minor heat-related illness.	Non-emergency. Evacuation considered <b>ROUTINE of CONVENIENCE</b> .

**5. TRANSPORT PLAN:**

<b>AIR TRANSPORT:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Helispot	<input type="checkbox"/> Short-Haul /Hoist	<input type="checkbox"/> Life Flight	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<b>GROUND TRANSPORT:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Self-Extract	<input type="checkbox"/> Carry-Out	<input type="checkbox"/> Ambulance	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

**6. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES / EQUIPMENT NEEDS:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Paramedic / EMT	<input type="checkbox"/> Crew(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> SKED / Backboard / C-Collar
<input type="checkbox"/> Burn Sheet(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxygen	<input type="checkbox"/> Trauma Bag
<input type="checkbox"/> Medication(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> IV / Fluids	<input type="checkbox"/> Cardiac Monitor / AED
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (e.g., splints, rope rescue, wheeled litter)		

**7. COMMUNICATIONS:**

Function	Channel	Receive (Rx)	Tone	Transmit (Tx)	Tone
<i>Ex. Forest Primary</i>	<i>BRF 1</i>	<i>168.7500</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>168.7500</i>	<i>131.9</i>
<b>COMMAND</b>					
<b>AIR-TO-GROUND</b>					
<b>TACTICAL</b>					

**8. EVACUATION LOCATION:**

<b>Lat / Long</b> (in Degree Decimal Minutes)	
<b>Patient's ETA to Evacuation</b>	
<b>Helispot/Extraction Size</b>	

**9. CONTINGENCY:**

*Considerations: If primary options fail, what actions can be implemented in conjunction with the primary evacuation method? BE THINKING AHEAD!*