



S-420 Unit 14: Multi-Agency Coordination, Incident Support Organizations, and Partners

Summary:

Command and General Staff (C&G) members need to understand how the Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) system works and how MAC groups affect Incident Management Team (IMT) operations.

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Identify the purpose and function of MAC Groups and discuss how they influence the IMT's workload and operations.
- Identify the purpose and function of Incident Support Organizations (ISOs) and discuss how they influence the IMT's workload and operations.
- Identify the purpose and function of partners and discuss how they influence the IMT's workload and operations.

Unit at a Glance:

| Topics | Method | Duration |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Multi-Agency Coordination | Presentation | 15 Minutes |
| Incident Support Organizations | Presentation and Optional Video | 30 Minutes |
| Partners | Presentation | 15 Minutes |
| Total Unit Duration | | 1 Hour |

Materials:

- Handout:
 - HO_14_Influence_of_Organizations
- Ability to display images and video on large screen.

Slide 1



Slide 2

Objectives

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- Identify the purpose and function of MAC Groups and discuss how they influence the IMT's workload and operations.
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- Review unit objectives.

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Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC)

- Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) is intergovernmental coordination that provides wildland fire operations direction, prioritization, allocation and oversight.
- Multi-Agency Coordinating Groups (MAC Groups) include national, regional, or local management groups for interagency planning, coordination, and operations leadership for incidents.

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- MAC groups provide an essential management mechanism for strategic coordination to ensure incident resources are efficiently and appropriately managed in a cost effective manner.
- Handout HO_14_Influence_of_Organizations.

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Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC)

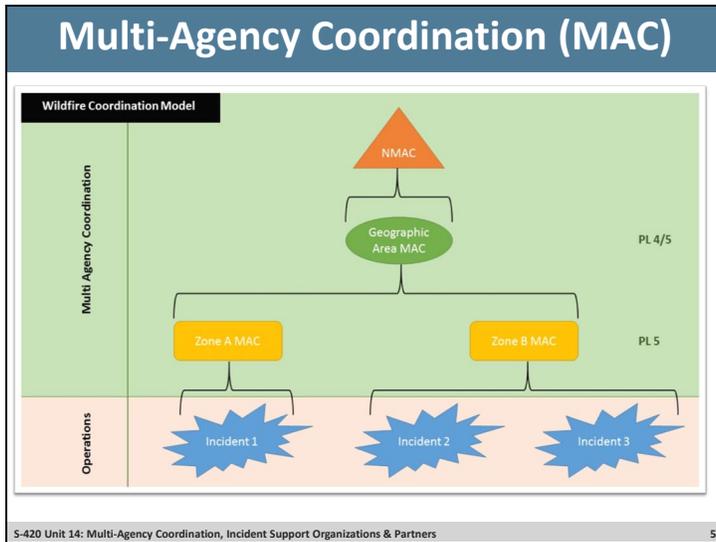
- The MAC organization is not a part of the on-scene ICS and is not involved in developing incident strategy or tactics.
- The MAC System's prioritization of incidents and resources affects IMTs.

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- If there is a critical resource shortage, the IMT may not get resources or the IMT may need to give up resources.
- Refer students to the National Interagency Mobilization Guide chapter for Objectives, Policy, and Scope of Operation for more on MAC responsibilities.

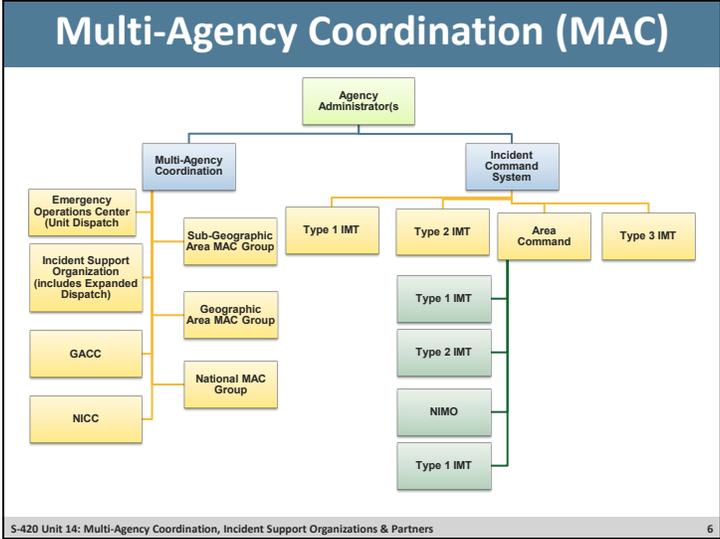
Slide 5



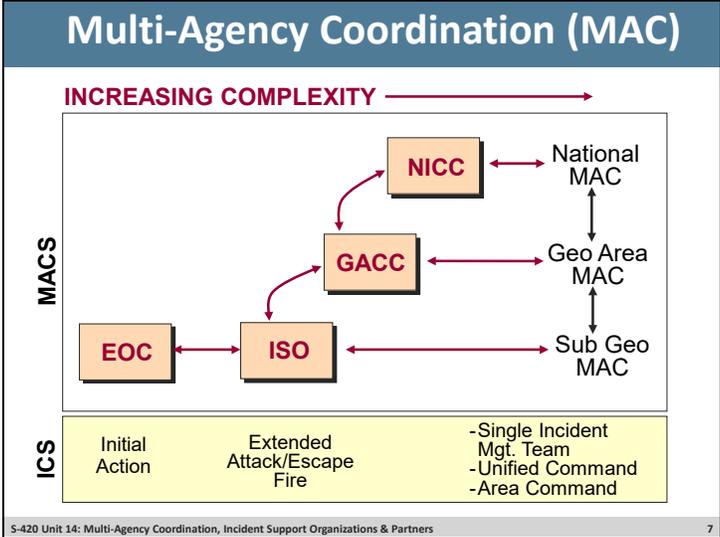
Discussion

- The IMT needs to understand how the MAC system works and how the MAC groups affect the IMT's workload and operations. For example, IMTs may need to produce more documents, participate in conference calls, coordinate activities, and so on.
- The IMT needs to establish and build relationships with the people who are representing the different MAC groups.
- The IMT needs to determine what IMT position(s) will take the lead in working with the MAC groups.
- ☐ Discuss how MAC may affect the IMT's planning processes. For example, discuss where in the planning process the IMT would be most affected by MAC decisions.
- If there are multiple jurisdictions involved in the incident, how would this affect coordination? What C&G positions need to be involved? (Examples include Incident Commander (IC), Liaison Officer, PIO).
- If the preparedness level is a 5, how would that affect the IMT compared to if the preparedness level is a 2?

Slide 6



Slide 7



Slide 8

Incident Support Organizations

- ISOs work to provide logistical support to the host agency and the incident(s).
- An ISO is implemented to address the increased business volume and to supplement established organizations.

Slide 9

ISO Functional Branches

ISOs report to the AA and include three functional branches:

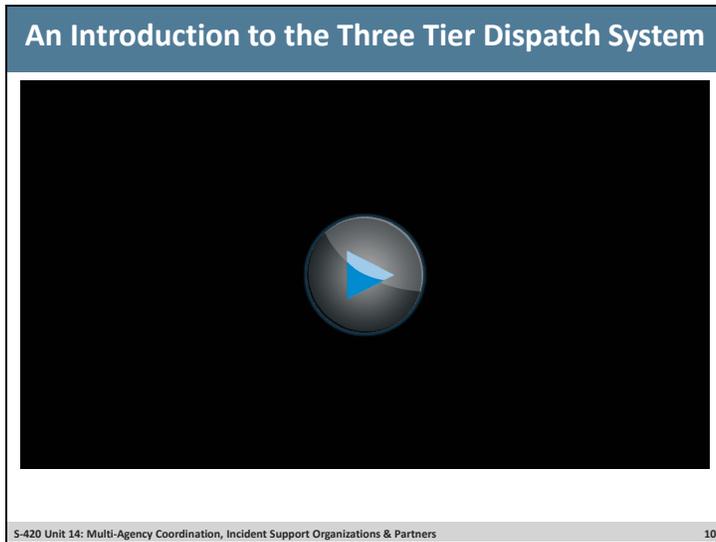
- Expanded Dispatch
- Technical Support
- Administrative Support

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- **Expanded Dispatch** : The Expanded Dispatch function of the ISO relieves the host agency's dispatch unit by focusing exclusively on large or complex incident(s).
- **Technical Support**: Common technical support functions are telecommunications, caching of supplies, transportation services, equipment inspection, aviation ramp services, mobilization/demobilization centers, and security.
- **Administrative Support**: Common administrative support functions are equipment and personnel timekeeping, procurement services such as a Buying Team, hiring of local Administratively Determined (AD) or casual employees, follow-up on local compensation and claims actions, providing fiscal advice, and vendor payments.
- Staff positions in an ISO are based on need and organizational charts will vary. Refer to the *National Interagency Mobilization Guide* , the Objectives, Policy, and Scope of Operation chapter for ISO chart examples.

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Play Optional Video

Title An Introduction to the Three Tier Dispatch System

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4JdNkmm1cgl>).

Summary To summarize the dispatch system and also covers how MAC groups impact ordering of resources for incident.

Time (12:00)

Audio

Discussion

Ask the following questions:

- What members of the IMT will interact with the different functional branches of the ISO?
- How can the workload of the ISO impact your IMT?

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Partners

The IMT needs to establish and build relationships with several organizations and partners such as state, county, local governments, utility companies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and interest groups.

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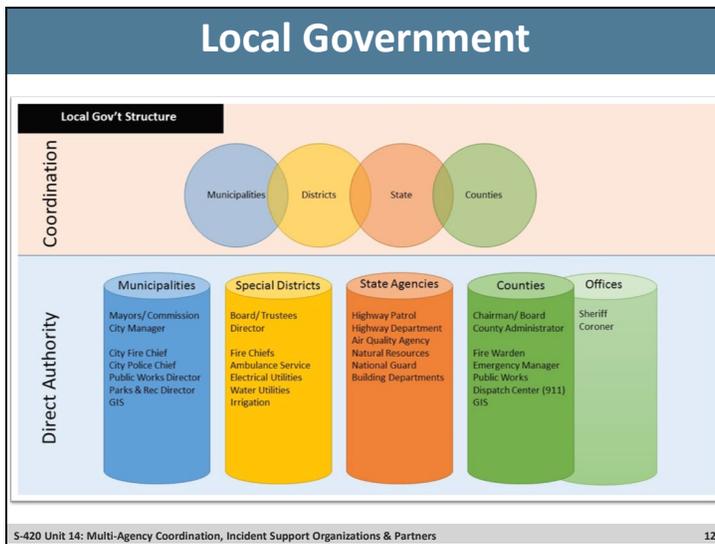
- The IMT needs to understand how these partners work and how they affect the IMT's workload and operations. Other organizations all work differently so the IMT needs to be very engaged.
- The IMT needs to determine what IMT position(s) will take the lead in working with partners and organizations and the appropriate level of involvement.

Discussion

Ask students:

- What are examples of other partners that an IMT may need to develop relationships with and coordinate activities with?
- How might these partners and organizations influence the IMT's workload and operations?
- What C&G position would be the lead for coordinating with these partners?

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Discussion

Ask students:

- How could local government influence the IMT’s workload and operations?
- What C&G position(s) would be the lead for coordinating with local government?

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Objectives

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- Identify the purpose and function of partners and discuss how they influence the IMT's workload and operations.

- Review unit objectives.