



**Texas Emergency Medical Task Force**  
**Component Typing: Wildland Fire Support**

**RESOURCE: Wildland Fire Support**

**CATEGORY: Public Health & Medical (ESF #8)**

Minimum Capabilities:		Medical Unit Leader (MEDL)	Technical Specialist (Tech Spec)	Ambulance (AST Unit)	Wildland Paramedic Unit (WPU)	Rapid Extraction Module Support (REMS)
Component	Metric					
Overall Function	Primary Mission	Responsible for ensuring occupational health of all incident personnel, including planning for, and coordinating incident emergency response	Serve as Deputy MEDL, if qualified, while providing technical assistance, administrative, operational, and logistical support of TX EMTF WLFS Operations	Minimum of DSHS <sup>1</sup> licensed MICU Ambulance to triage, treat and transport at the direction of the MEDL.	Team of two (2) DSHS certified providers dedicated to responder care; located behind the Fire-Line, in close proximity to the working fire crews with the ability to provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) level care for an acute illness or injury.	Team of four (4) DSHS certified responders responsible for the safe, effective, and efficient method of extrication off the fire-line in difficult terrain in the event of injury or illness incurred during firefighting operations while providing ALS level care.
Mobilization	Mobilization		< Six (6) Hours			
	Operationally Capable		Upon arrival at the site			
Capacity	Number of Personnel per Asset	One (1)	One (1)		Two (2)	Four (4)
	Team Composition	One (1) MIST <sup>2</sup> S-359 (MEDL or MEDL-T) qualified	One (1) DSHS Certified EMT-Basic as a MIST and MEDL-T <sup>3</sup>	Two (2) DSHS certified EMS providers, staffed at a minimum with one (1) EMT-Paramedic credentialed by home agency Medical Director to provide care at Advanced Life Support level including pain	Two (2) DSHS certified EMS providers, staffed at a minimum with one (1) EMT-Paramedic credentialed by home agency Medical Director to provide care at Advanced Life Support level including pain management administration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[4] Rope Rescue Responders</li> <li>[2] Paramedics (from the above) credentialed by sponsoring agency to operate at ALS level including pain management administration.</li> <li>[1] REMS Team Lead (from the above) preferred as a</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> TX Department of State Health Services

<sup>2</sup> Medical Incident Support Team

<sup>3</sup> Preferred but not required



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				management administration <sup>4</sup>		Single Resource Boss
Staging / Operational Area	Parking and Support	200 ft <sup>2</sup> Operations Area (10' x 20')	200 ft <sup>2</sup> Operations Area (10' x 20')	200 ft <sup>2</sup> Operations Area (10' x 20')	480 ft <sup>2</sup> Operations Area (12' x 40')	400 ft <sup>2</sup> Operations Area (20' x 20')
Air Operations	Landing Zone		10,000 ft <sup>2</sup> Operations Area (100' x 100')			
General Deployment Criteria		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resources will be activated to maintain a manageable span of control of three to seven (3-7) resources per team with MEDL oversight</li> <li>Additional overhead positions can be added once an incident has three to seven (3-7) MEDL's assigned.</li> <li>Incident that has more three (3) or more Strike Teams assigned.</li> <li>Incident that has demonstrated or has the potential for extreme fire behavior.</li> <li>An incident involving extreme environmental conditions.</li> <li>At the request of the Incident Commander.</li> <li>At the Request of TAMFS</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Geographic area with high angle or low angle terrain that is inaccessible by vehicles.</li> <li>At the request of the Incident Commander.</li> </ul>

<sup>4</sup> When "Pain Management" is referenced, it is to include DEA scheduled analgesia and anticonvulsant therapy with agency protocols, policies and procedures to maintain proper security and chain of custody effective January 1, 2026.



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Component	Metric					
Training/Certifications		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of TX EMTF MIST course</li> <li>• Completion of S-359 (MEDL)</li> <li>• Meets qualifications for NWCG<sup>5</sup> Wildland Firefighter Type II</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of TX EMTF MIST course preferred but not required.</li> <li>• Completion of S-359 (MEDL) preferred but not required.</li> <li>• Meets qualifications for NWCG Wildland Firefighter Type II</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum [1] DSHS certified EMT-Intermediate or EMT-Paramedic [1] EMT-Basic</li> <li>• Meets qualifications for NWCG Wildland Firefighter Type II preferred but not required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meets qualifications for NWCG Wildland Firefighter Type II</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meets qualifications for NWCG Wildland Firefighter Type II</li> <li>• Two [2] Rope Rescue Operations level providers or agency equivalent<sup>6</sup></li> <li>• Minimum of two [2] Rope Rescue Technician level providers or agency equivalent<sup>7</sup></li> <li>• Agency approved annual competency training for Rope Rescue Tech</li> </ul>
Work Capacity Test		Annual Arduous Work Capacity Test preferred but not required. <sup>8</sup>				
Safety	PPE	Minimum, Full Wildland PPE to NFPA 1977 and Wildland Firefighting Hand Tool or as determined by the Safety Officer and/or the needs of the deployment <sup>9</sup>				
	Immunizations	Recommended all personnel should have current influenza/coronavirus, tetanus/diphtheria, and Hepatitis A & B series immunizations				
Travel		Appropriate lodging, food, and hygiene arrangements for deployed team are the responsibility of the home agency with support coordinated by the EMTF Coordinators and or SCO if needed				
Minimum Equipment Standards		Personal items comparable to TX EMTF Personal Packing List for 7–10-day deployment				

<sup>5</sup> National Wildfire Coordinating Group

<sup>6</sup> Meets or exceeds NFPA 1670 and 1006 standards

<sup>7</sup> Meets or exceeds NFPA 1670 and 1006 standards

<sup>8</sup> Required effective May 15, 2025; Preferred but not required for ambulance personnel.

<sup>9</sup> Wildland PPE, fire shelter and hand tool preferred but not required for ambulance personnel.



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Component	Metric					
						MSAT Star Link
						TDEM iPhone w/ Asset Trak enabled and charger
						VHF capable Mobile and/or Portable Radio(s) with appropriate communications template and cloning cable if applicable
						TX EMTF Vehicle Placard displayed on front of vehicle and rear window
						Laptop, tablet, or rugged computer with internet connectivity capable of utilizing TX EMTF systems- WebEOC, Asset Trak
						Full Wildland PPE to NFPA 1977: Helmet with red blinking light attached, brush shirt, pants, boots, work gloves, fire shelter and Wildland Firefighting Hand Tool.
						Glow Sticks
						Head lamp(s)
						(1) case of water
						Tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, 48 hours of food, "jetboil" or equivalent cook system & long titanium spoon
						4WD vehicle with off road capabilities
						Utility trailer with UTV/ATV <sup>10</sup>
						Littered stokes basket if utilizing a UTV
						Appropriate patient movement device while utilizing a UTV
						Light extrication tools, preferred but not required
						Rope and equipment to package and preform a 150' vertical raise over an edge
<b>OPTIONAL</b>						

<sup>10</sup> Required as of January 1, 2025; Includes "Rescue Skid" capable of safely securing a stokes basket, backboard and/or scoop stretcher with patient onboard is required.



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Component	Metric									
		Batteries: 9 v, AA, AAA, C, D								
		Admin Kit- printer, paper, power stirp, extension cords, etc.								
		Vehicle Kit- tire kit, fuses, jumper cables, air compressor, etc.								
		First Aid kit								
		AED								
UTV Capabilities					Blood and appropriate storage based on agency protocols					
					Training		ATV/UTV operators will meet the training and certification requirements of their agency; employees certified by their agency will be considered qualified ATV/UTV operators regardless of incident jurisdiction. Common policy requirements for wildland fire operations are highlighted below: * A job hazard analysis (JHA)/risk assessment (RA) must be completed and approved by the supervisor prior to vehicle operation. * All personnel authorized to operate an ATV/UTV must first complete agency-specific or manufacturer-provided training in safe operating procedures and appropriate PPE.			
					Vehicle Specifications		Transmission		4 Wheel Drive Required * All axles must be driving axles	
							Tires		All terrain tires required * Spare tire and proper tools to change a tire are required for UTV and Trailer.	
							Seated Positions		Seat belts are required for all seated positions	
Lighting		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency lights, red in color, recommended</li> <li>• Scene lights recommended</li> <li>• Patient care compartment lights recommended</li> </ul>								



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Component	Metric					
	Radio					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VHF programable mobile radio preferred but not required</li> <li>Minimum of one (1) VHF programable portable radio is required per UTV</li> </ul>
	Patient Transport					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Rescue Skid" capable of safely securing a stokes basket, backboard and/or scoop stretcher with patient onboard is required.</li> <li>Patient attendant seat is preferred but not required</li> </ul>
	Medical Equipment				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ALS &amp; BLS equipment as specified by the sponsoring agency Medical Director</li> <li>12-Lead EKG monitor capable of wave form capnography monitoring and defibrillation required</li> </ul>	
	Maintenance Equipment				Recommended maintenance equipment to include: (1) Fix a flat, tire plug kit, spark plugs, portable air compressor, leaf blower, spare fuel filter, multiple air filters, spare tire, spare fuel can, maintenance tools, jumper cables, spare belts, and tools to change belts.	

<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Ambulance standards are referenced in approved TX EMTF Ambulance Typing