

**Minutes From Denali LEPC Meeting
March 2, 2011**

Meeting began at 7:00pm at the McKinley Volunteer Fire Department and Community Center.

Attendees:

John Williamson	Alaska State Troopers
Pete Armington	Head Ranger Denali National Park
Richard Moore	District Ranger Denali National Park
Lynn McAloon	Denali Emergency Rescue Team (CERT)
Mike Vos	Denali Emergency Rescue Team (CERT)
Steve Love	Denali LEPC
Rusty Lasell	Denali LEPC
Dave Talerico	Denali LEPC

The content of this meeting was centered around developing Search and Rescue protocols and procedures for Search and Rescue incidents both inside Denali National Park as well as outside of the Park boundaries in areas under the jurisdiction of the Alaska State Troopers.

Pete Armington wants to create the procedures necessary to request additional manpower from the Denali Emergency Rescue Team (CERT) as well as request mutual aid from the local emergency services. Mr. Armington also wants the Denali Park boundaries noted on all maps used by all emergency responders as well as the Alaska State Troopers to prevent an incident happening within Park boundaries in which the Park Rangers are not notified.

DNP Rangers stated that within their organization there is a well established command structure and that they would like to be able to request individual resources from the local emergency services or request assistance from DERT directly.

Trooper Williamson stated that since he and his other local Troopers are alone most of the time, they would request the assistance from the local emergency services first and leave it up to them to decide if they needed the assistance from DERT.

It was agreed that since AST has such limited manpower in the area, that one of the tasks of the local emergency services would be to establish and maintain the command structure throughout a Search and Rescue incident and that all incoming personnel and resources would fall under that command structure. AST also stated that in ALL incidents outside of the Park boundaries, they would maintain incident command and that no SAR response should be initiated without the request from AST. It was also agreed that the leader of the responding local emergency services would have a position in a Shared Command structure.

Communications were also discussed by the group in an effort to predetermine which frequencies would be used for initial contact with the requesting agency and which frequencies would be used for tactical operations in the field.

It was agreed that there needs to be further discussion and a formal Communications Plan created for dealing with SAR both inside and outside the Park boundaries. We will hold another meeting at a later date. It was agreed that all initial communications between the Alaska State Troopers, Denali National Park, Dispatch, and the requested emergency services units would occur using the Denali Borough paging frequency (TVVFD Repeater). From that point a tactical frequency would be assigned to the responding agencies.

Trooper Williamson reiterated that all requests for air resources from ERA Aviation MUST have prior approval from AST or there would be no payment for the aircraft. Also on SAR incidents involving air medevac, all responding medics will have attended the Air Medevac Escort Class.

Rusty stated that all responding organizations can only perform operations or procedures in accordance with their current certifications and department Scope of Practice. DERT has a number of Wilderness First Aid trained members that have had some training on advance procedures, but have no State certification to use them. This will not be allowed on SAR Incidents. DERT may NOT transport any patient or victim unless there is an immediate threat to life or limb and then only to the closest safe place.

All parties agreed to further meetings in the near future to formalize the SAR procedures that will ultimately be included in the Denali Borough All Hazards Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00pm