

Yamhill Fire Protection District

District Policies, Procedures, & SOG's

MISSION

*Yamhill Fire Protection District is dedicated to
serve and protect our community*

District Procedure

OPERATIONS

OPS-GEN – 411.3

Risk Management

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RISK MANAGEMENT

The IC has the ultimate responsibility for the safety of all Fire Department personnel operating at an incident and for those persons whose safety is affected by Fire Department operations. The IC shall integrate risk management into the regular functions of incident command. Risk Management provides a basis for:

- Standard evaluation of the situation
- Strategic decision-making
- Tactical planning
- Plan evaluation and revision
- Operational command and control

The IC shall evaluate the risk to personnel with respect to the purpose and potential results of their actions in each situation. The concept of risk management shall be utilized on the basis of the following principles:

1. Activities that present a significant risk to the safety of personnel shall be limited to situations where there is a potential to save endangered lives.
2. Activities that are routinely employed to protect property shall be recognized as inherent risks to the safety of personnel, and actions shall be taken to reduce or avoid these risks.
3. No risk to the safety of personnel shall be acceptable where there is no possibility to save lives or property.
4. The IC shall evaluate the risk to personnel with respect to the purpose and potential results of their actions in each situation. In situations where risk to emergency response personnel is excessive, as defined above, activities shall be limited to defensive operations.

The risk to emergency response personnel is the most important factor considered by the IC in determining the strategy that will be employed in each situation. Management of the principles of risk involves the following factors:

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1. Routine evaluation of risk in all situations
2. Well-defined strategic options
3. Standard operating guidelines A
4. Effective training
5. Full protective clothing and equipment
6. Effective incident management and communications
7. Accounting for all emergency responders
8. Effective benchmarking of incident priorities
9. Safety procedures and safety officers
10. Back-up crews for rapid intervention
11. Adequate resources
12. Rest and rehabilitation
13. Regular re-evaluation
14. Pessimistic evaluation of changing conditions
15. Experience based on previous incidents and critiques

A risk/benefit analysis shall be conducted by the IC during the initial size up and as a part of incident action planning. When effective benchmarks are met (example – “Primary search complete, all clear”), and/or changes in tactical objectives are made, the IC must continually re-evaluate this process. The four (4) principles of risk management and the fifteen (15) risk factors shall be the basis for development of the risk/benefit analysis.