

**Utilizing Incident
Command for Storm
Spotter Deployment
and all things weathery**

Over arching principles; NIMS

- Have a plan
- Have agreements
- Provide training (weather & ICS)
- Exercise

ICS principles

- Integration of facilities, personnel, procedures, and communications within an organizational structure.
 - Enables a coordinated response within a jurisdiction.
- Establishes common processes for managing resources.

ICS is to be implemented for:

Response from safety agencies

Response from public works

Coordination of volunteers (be they
spontaneous or planned)

For coordinating across jurisdictional
boundaries

ICS is flexible and can be used
for incidents of any type, scope,
and complexity.

Tornado watches

Flooding

Winter weather too

ICS is designed:

For the integration of

1. Facilities
2. Equipment
3. Personnel
4. Procedures
5. & Communication

ICS ensures that all components
of the situation are addressed

ICS must be interdisciplinary. a
variety of agencies must meld rapidly
into a common management
structure.

ICS Structure

- Command,
- Operations,
- Planning,
- Logistics,
- Finance/Administration

Unified or Area Command?

- You get to decide based on your local culture and politics.

Incident Commander

- ❖ RESOURCES
- ❖ COORDINATION
- ❖ PRIORITIES
- ❖ DEVELOPMENT
- ❖ SETS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
- ❖ LIAISON*
- ❖ PIO*
- ❖ SAFETY

Planner

- ❖ (WEATHER) DATA COLLECTION, EVALUATION
- ❖ ACTION PLAN
- ❖ DISSEMINATION
- ❖ DOCUMENTATION

Operations

- ❖ DIRECTS, COORDINATES –spotter activity--
- ❖ SAFETY
- ❖ ACTION PLAN
- ❖ DIRECTS, COORDINATES—shared liaison/PIO duties

Logistics

- ❖ FACILITY
- ❖ SERVICES
- ❖ MATERIALS

Liaison?/PIO?

(depending on the size of the jurisdiction and the number of agencies involved, this could easily need to be a separate command staff position and all *-ed elements above listed under the IC could be moved to this responsibility.

And here's why.....

- ❖ Better cooperation with the National Weather Service (they are now dealing with a single jurisdiction instead of multiple agencies).
- ❖ Better cooperation with neighboring jurisdictions. (they are also now dealing with a single jurisdiction instead of multiple agencies).
- ❖ Best deployment of spotter resources.
- ❖ Best utilization of spotter resources.
- ❖ Safety of spotter resources.
- ❖ The existence of a command structure prior to the onset of damage (not after).
- ❖ Initial coordination of response to injury and damage.
- ❖ Initial coordination of damage assessment.

Pondering Points

- ❖ Some liaison functions can be conducted using WebEOC, etc.
- ❖ Spotters should use locations in establishing radio contact instead of their call signs.
- ❖ YOU, are “weather command” or “weather operations”.
- ❖ The most knowledgeable weather person is probably the “Planner” (and not the IC).
- ❖ The IC probably needs to be the person with the most stars and bars on his shoulder, and the most clout in the community.
- ❖ Provides great, frequent experience for utilization of the “area” or “unified” command structure for when extremely rare events come along.