

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

An aerial photograph of a wide river valley, likely the Colorado River, with rugged mountains in the background under a cloudy sky. The image is slightly faded to serve as a background for the text.

U.S.-Mexico Inland Joint Response Team Meeting

U.S.-Mexico Inland Joint Contingency Plan Summary of Proposed Revisions

February 15, 2006 • San Diego, California

U.S.-Mexico Joint Contingency Plan (JCP)

Background: Annex II for the La Paz Agreement provided for the establishment of a Joint Response Team (JRT). Annex II further required that the JRT develop a Joint Contingency Plan (JCP).

- This plan complements the Marine Plan for spills and releases that affect the shared inland boundary (land, waterways and air)
- Provides measures for dealing with accidental and unauthorized releases of pollutants that cause or may cause environmental damage along the border
- Provides assistance in the event that only one country is affected, but the incident is of sufficient magnitude to justify a request for assistance
- One of the Border-wide workgroup priorities was to revise and update the 1999 JCP

Purpose of Revision of the 1999 JCP

- Reorganizations occurred within both the U.S. and Mexico BWWG Co-Chairs agencies
- Include “all hazards”—radiological, biological, and oil releases
- Reflect changes in the U.S. National Response Plan
- Update the notification protocol of polluting incidents in the border area
- Address facilitation of emergency border crossing for equipment and personnel

General Revisions

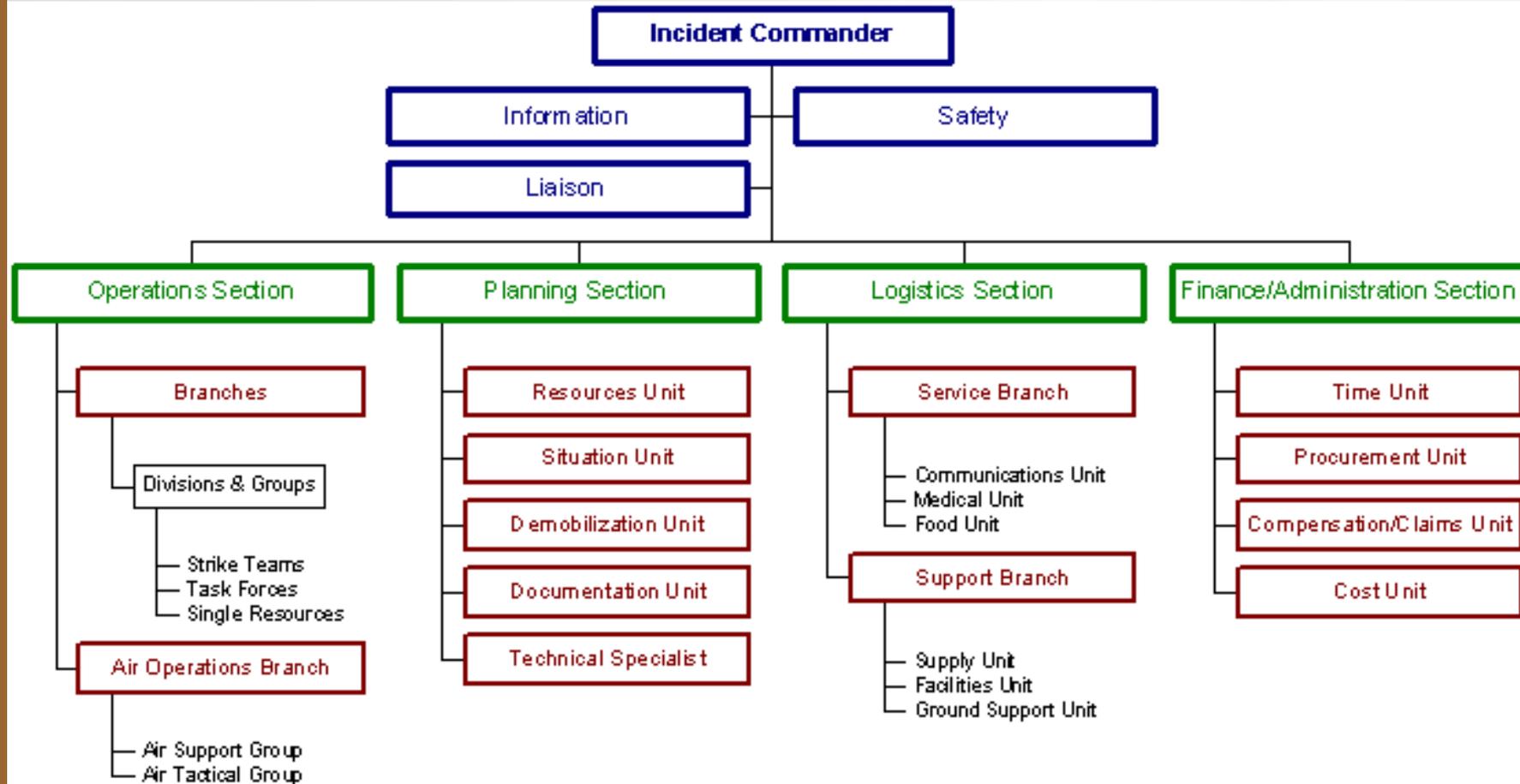
(January 2006 Draft)

- Related U.S. and Mexico plans added to reflect responses to all environmental incidents
- Revised to become National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant
- U.S. and Mexico acronym sections combined and moved to the front section of the JCP
- Definitions for “pollutant,” “release,” and “response action” updated to reflect the inclusion of all hazards
- Changes reflect reorganization within EPA - U.S. co-chair is now the EPA Office of Emergency Management
- Changes reflect establishment of U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Document Structure (January 2006 Draft)

- “Issue-Specific Joint Response Team” eliminated from section 200
- Title of section 300 changed from “Response Operations” to “Planning and Preparedness”
- Title of section 400 changed from “Preparedness” to “Response Operations”
- JRT deactivation procedures eliminated and JRT procedures combined into one subsection under section 400
- Added section 500 – “Plan Review, Update, and Revision”
- Added section 600 – “Supersession”

ICS Structure



Document Structure: Appendices

(January 2006 Draft)

- JRT deactivation form in Appendix C removed
- Appendix G “Roles and Responsibilities” updated with information on U.S. and Mexican agency restructuring
- CENACOM (Mexican National Communications Center) added as an agency supporting Mexico in Appendices A and G
- Appendix A “Notification Procedures” is being updated

Completed Revisions - January 2006

- Mexico will be reviewing the final U.S. draft of the JCP
- After review by Mexican agencies, JCP will be reviewed by U.S. agencies, such as the State Department
- A proposed Spring 2006 publication is planned