



Resource Typing Definition for Response  
On-Scene Security, Protection, and Law Enforcement

## PUBLIC SAFETY DIVE TEAM

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	The Public Safety Dive Team is a group of divers who perform underwater functions, including search and recovery for evidence and remains
<b>RESOURCE CATEGORY</b>	Public Safety and Security
<b>RESOURCE KIND</b>	Team
<b>OVERALL FUNCTION</b>	<p>The Public Safety Dive Team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Searches for, locates, identifies, and retrieves objects, including remains and evidence, from under the surface of the water</li> <li>2. Helps locate and recover drowning victims, abandoned vehicles, and (if properly trained) evidence in criminal cases</li> <li>3. Provides safety divers for special events</li> <li>4. Assists the Waterborne Search and Rescue Team</li> </ol>
<b>COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss logistics for deploying this team, such as security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment</li> <li>2. This team typically works 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours, and is deployable for up to 14 days</li> <li>3. Requestor specifies the nature of the mission, as not all dive teams that meet a typing requirement are equipped to dive in certain climates or environments (for example, ice diving)</li> <li>4. The number of dives each diver can make in a given period depends on environmental and physiological conditions, including depth, dive conditions, altitude, and other factors, based on the Dive Team Leader's assessment; typically, the maximum is two dives in a two-hour period</li> <li>5. Requestor orders two or more teams, based on area to be covered, time and energy spent on dives, complexity of operation, and environmental and physiological conditions</li> <li>6. Requestor and provider discuss replenishment and replacement of equipment during the operational period, including air cylinders</li> <li>7. Requestor specifies specialties necessary when requesting a Type 1 team</li> <li>8. This team is not deployable in a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear (CBRN) event</li> </ol>

Each type of resource builds on the qualifications of the type below it. For example, Type 1 qualifications include the qualifications in Type 2, plus an increase in capability. Type 1 is the highest qualification level.

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	TYPE 4	NOTES
<b>MINIMUM PERSONNEL PER TEAM</b>	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	9	6	Not Specified



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COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	TYPE 4	NOTES
<b>MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT PERSONNEL PER TEAM</b>	1 – National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 1 Dive Team Leader	Same as Type 3	Same as Type 4	1 – NIMS Type 2 Dive Team Leader	Not Specified
<b>SUPPORT PERSONNEL PER TEAM</b>	4 – NIMS Type 1 Diver 2 – NIMS Type 1 Tender 1 – Dive Team Medical Officer 1 – Assistant Safety Officer – Dive Team	4 – NIMS Type 2 Diver 2 – NIMS Type 2 Tender 1 – Dive Team Medical Officer 1 – Assistant Safety Officer – Dive Team	4 – NIMS Type 3 Diver 2 – NIMS Type 2 Tender 1 – Dive Team Medical Officer 1 – Assistant Safety Officer – Dive Team	2 – NIMS Type 4 Diver 1 – NIMS Type 2 Tender 1 – Dive Team Medical Officer 1 – Assistant Safety Officer – Dive Team	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Dive Team Medical Officer is an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or Paramedic familiar with dive team operations. This is not a NIMS typed position.</li> <li>The Assistant Safety Officer – Dive Team knows safety measures for dive team operations and reports to the incident Safety Officer. This is not a NIMS typed position.</li> </ol>
<b>DIVE DEPTH CAPABILITY PER TEAM</b>	Capable of diving in depth greater than 130 feet	Capable of diving in depth up to 130 feet	Capable of diving in depth up to 100 feet	Capable of diving in depth up to 60 feet	Not Specified
<b>TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES PER TEAM</b>	Same as Type 2, PLUS: Can perform specialty dives, such as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confined space/cave search dives</li> <li>Hazardous materials (hazmat) and contaminated water dives</li> <li>Ice dives</li> </ol>	Same as Type 3, PLUS: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has a total lifting bag capacity of 4,000 lbs. (including large vehicles)</li> <li>Can use underwater metal detectors</li> <li>Can perform grid searches</li> <li>Can use side-scan sonar equipment</li> <li>Can perform boat-based search patterns</li> </ol>	Same as Type 4, PLUS: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can perform evidence marking and recovery</li> <li>Has a total lifting bag capacity of 2,000 lbs. (including small vehicles and heavy objects, such as safes)</li> <li>Can map floor of water body</li> <li>Can record underwater scene</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can perform basic search patterns</li> <li>Can operate with a tethered diver</li> <li>Can perform victim rescue and body recovery</li> <li>Can operate in black water conditions</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The list of Type 1 team specialists is not comprehensive; other specialties may exist.</li> <li>Requestor specifies necessary Type 1 team specialties.</li> </ol>
<b>VEHICLES PER TEAM</b>	Same as Type 2, PLUS: 1 – Support vehicle	Same as Type 3, PLUS: 1 – Support vehicle 1 – Boat for boat-based search patterns and transportation	Same as Type 4	1 – Support vehicle	Boats are capable of communicating on marine frequencies.



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<b>DIVE EQUIPMENT PER TEAM</b>	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3, PLUS: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Full face mask with dive communications</li> <li>2. Dredging equipment</li> <li>3. Mask-mounted lighting system</li> </ol>	Same as Type 4, PLUS: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gear for attaching lift bags to objects (chains, webbing, rope)</li> <li>2. Floor or sonar mapping equipment</li> <li>3. Recording cameras</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dive flag</li> <li>2. Assorted buoy markers</li> <li>3. Assorted ropes and throw bags</li> <li>4. Evidence containers</li> <li>5. GPS tracking/marketing device</li> <li>6. Air compressor</li> <li>7. Basic first aid kit</li> <li>8. Jackstays</li> <li>9. Body bags</li> <li>10. Mesh collection bags</li> <li>11. Underwater lighting system</li> <li>12. Personal flotation devices for all personnel</li> </ol>	Each response or mission may require additional specialized equipment.
<b>DIVE EQUIPMENT PER DIVER</b>	Same as Type 2, PLUS: Equipment for specialty dive conditions, such as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dry suit and full face mask for diving in a hazmat environment</li> <li>2. Detection and monitoring equipment for diving in a hazmat environment</li> <li>3. Rebreather</li> <li>4. Ice suit</li> </ol>	Same as Type 3, PLUS: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Full face mask</li> <li>2. Mask-mounted lighting</li> </ol>	Same as Type 4, PLUS: Dry suit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Wet suit</li> <li>2. Scuba gear</li> <li>3. Redundant air supply suitable for the underwater depth</li> <li>4. Buoyancy Compensator Device (BCD)</li> <li>5. Scuba regulator</li> <li>6. Weight with weight belt</li> <li>7. Mask</li> <li>8. Gloves suitable for dive conditions</li> <li>9. Fins</li> <li>10. Snorkel</li> <li>11. Dive boots</li> <li>12. Cuttings devices, such as dive knife, shears, or wire cutters</li> <li>13. Timing device</li> <li>14. Whistle or surface noisemaking device</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each response or mission requires its own specialized equipment.</li> <li>2. Weight belt is not required if BCD has an integrated weight system or if diver uses a harness system with weights.</li> <li>3. Diver needs at least two cutting devices.</li> <li>4. Diver needs adequate protection against hypo- or hyperthermia.</li> </ol>



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<b>PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) PER TEAM MEMBER</b>	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	Same as Type 4	PPE includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Dive equipment</li><li>2. Life preservers</li><li>3. Helmets</li><li>4. Protective gloves</li><li>5. Protective footwear</li></ol>	PPE is mission specific; additional PPE may be necessary depending on the mission or environment.
<b>COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM</b>	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	Same as Type 4, PLUS: Hardwire or radio-based diver-to-surface and diver-to-diver communications equipment	4 – Short-range, handheld two-way portable radio 4 – Cell phone or satellite phone	Not Specified



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## NOTES

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1. Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.
2. Divers may delay during the demobilization process to ensure adequate decompressions before travel. The Dive Team Leader has final say on demobilization timing.
3. Divers may limit their dives during the allotted deployment based on environmental and physiological conditions. The Dive Team Leader has final say on dive operations.

## REFERENCES

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1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Waterborne Search and Rescue Team, pending publication
2. FEMA, NIMS 509: Dive Team Leader, pending publication
3. FEMA, NIMS 509: Diver, pending publication
4. FEMA, NIMS 509: Tender, pending publication
5. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.410: Commercial Diving Operations, latest edition adopted