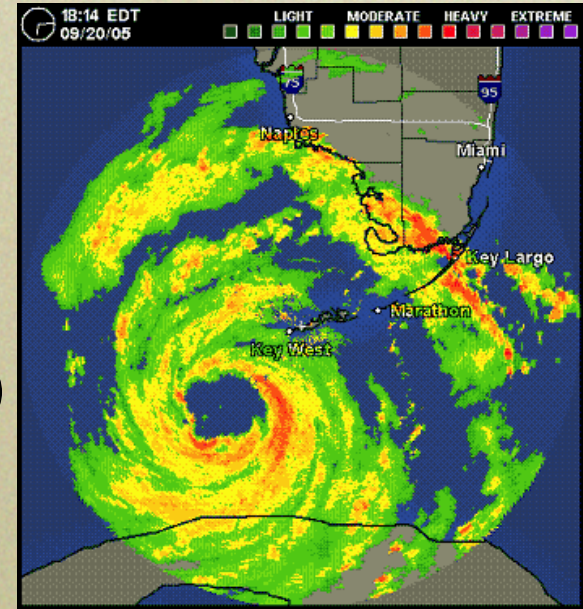
A satellite image of the Pacific Ocean showing a large hurricane with a dark eye and white clouds. The map is overlaid with a yellow grid. Latitude markers '28N' and '24N' are visible on the left and right sides. Longitude markers are also present but less legible. The text is centered over the hurricane.

# Rapid Reconnaissance and Information Flow in Disasters

Prepared by: Captain Brad Williams  
FWC Division of Law Enforcement, Public Safety Section  
Chief, Mutual Aid Operations, 850.259.6320

# Why RECON???

- Information is Power
- Anticipating needs decreases response time
- Provide Information
  - Up the Chain
    - State Government officials (State EOC)
    - Federal Government officials (FEMA)
  - Down the Chain
    - Back flow to strike area
      - County EOC's, Emergency Services, Municipal Authorities



# Why RECON???

- *Actionable Intelligence allows emergency management officials to make informed, timely decisions regarding follow-on response to better assist impacted areas with response, mitigation, and recovery.*



# The Mission

- Conduct initial ground/air reconnaissance movements associated with natural or manmade disasters.
- Rapid moving advanced team with internal fuel, self sustainment (food and water) and command/control support.
- Communicate conditions and situations by means appropriate to the disaster.



# The Mission

- Report back to State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)
  - Verbal
  - Transmitted text
  - Still image photography
  - Video photography.



# Guidance for Rapid Advanced RECON



- Generally, RECON will be considered as an autonomous operation in the initial 24 hours of a disaster
- Not engaged in normal “report to a location” type operations.
- That is, to function properly, the RECON element must *move* through the area providing reports and addressing immediate life hazard issues.

# Target Deployments

- Natural or man-made disasters
- Normal Comms are, or may be impacted
- Movement in theater may require specialized equipment
- Local assets may be restricted
- Follow on response is expected



# Who does it?

- FWC Special Operations Group
- Florida National Guard
- Civil Air Patrol



# FWC Special Operations Group

- 6 Teams Throughout the State
- Self-Sustaining
- All Terrain
- Adaptable
- Rapid Insertion
- Two Pronged Response
  - Advanced Recon Squad
  - Force Recon Squad



# FWCSOG Team RECON Package

- **FWC SOG RECON** (Total 16) Call sign designated by geographic AOO Example: East Coast RECON
  - (1) Forward Incident Commander
  - (1) Team Commander
  - (2) SOG Squad
    - **Advanced Recon Squad (ARS)**
      - SOG Squad Leader
      - (6) SOG Operators
    - **Force Recon Squad (FRS)**
      - SOG Squad Leader
      - (6) SOG Operators

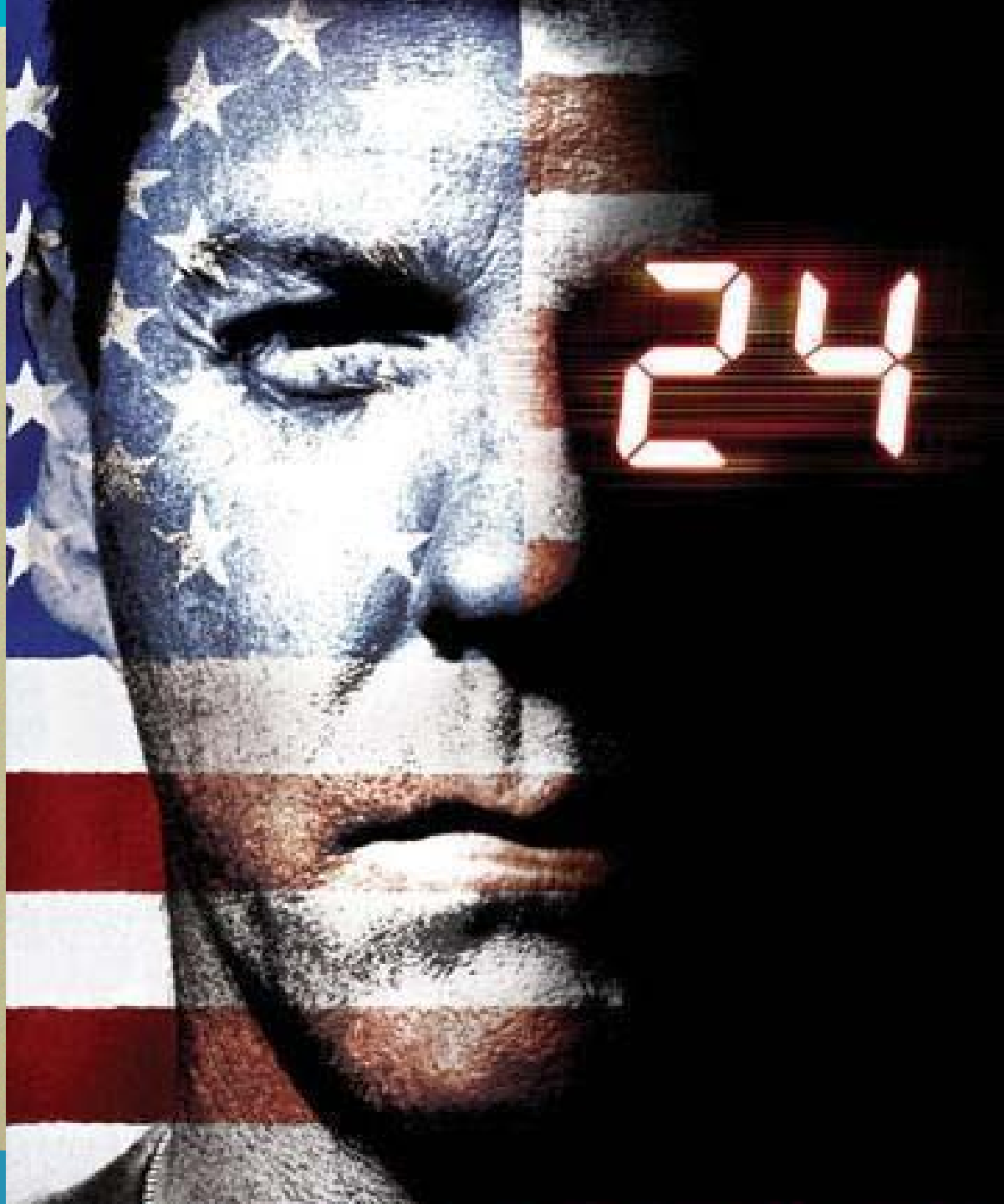


# ARS and FRS

- **ARS (Advanced RECON Squad)**
  - Forward Incident Command Vehicle
  - (7) 4x4 Trucks
- **FRS (Force RECON Squad)**
  - (8) 4x4 Trucks
  - (1) Coastal Patrol Boat (23'-29' Twin Engine)
  - (1) River Patrol Boat (16'-22')
  - (1) FWC 25' Landing Craft (if applicable)
  - (1) Shallow draft boat (Jon Boat, Go Devil, PWC, Airboat, or similar)
  - (2) ATV
  - (1) SOG Support Trailer
  - Fuel truck (10% Jet A / 20% Diesel / 70% Gasoline, Sleeper Cab, Dispenser and 50' Hose for jet fuel)
  - FWC Scout helicopter or other appropriate rotary wing air asset



- The first 24 hours is critical.....



# Typical Mission Time Line

- RECON ASSIGNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES
- Example Mission Timeline and Tasking (approximate based on pre-warned natural disaster):
  - D-3 Days
    - Place Team on Alert
      - Develop Roster
      - Establish Equipment load out
      - Pack and make ready all equipment
  - D-2 Days
    - Activate team to appropriate forward staging area
  - D-1 Day
    - Move team to advanced operating base

Image Index

1:	2004SEP02/21: 00:
2:	2004SEP04/01: 30:
3:	2004SEP05/01: 45:
4:	2004SEP06/01: 45:
5:	2004SEP06/21: 15:
6:	2004SEP07/21: 15:
7:	2004SEP08/23: 45:
8:	2004SEP10/08: 15:
9:	2004SEP12/06: 45:
10:	2004SEP14/07: 45:
11:	2004SEP15/21: 15:

TROPICAL DEPR  
TROPICAL STDRM  
CATEGORY 1  
CATEGORY 2  
CATEGORY 3  
CATEGORY 4  
CATEGORY 5

# Typical Mission Time Line

- **D-Day**
- Team departs by land towards AOO, inserting as soon as disaster conditions allow with a general target of the center of the AOO (Example: Coastal location of hurricane landfall center).
- ARS departs first with FRS a maximum of 1 hour later (times vary based on weather and expected AOO conditions).
- During insertion, maintain constant reporting to SEOC

# Mission Responsibilities

An aerial photograph showing a residential area completely inundated with floodwater. Several houses are visible, some partially submerged. Debris, including what appears to be a boat and various household items, is scattered throughout the water. The sky is overcast and grey, suggesting a storm or recent heavy rain.

## – Provide detailed information

- **Locate critically injured or trapped victims**
  - Facilitate advanced rescue/care operations
- **Assess and muster uninjured/slightly injured**
  - Shelter in place and note location
  - Call for air evac and establish LZ
  - Call for land EVAC and establish central departure point
- **Contact Government/Emergency Services agencies within the strike area**
  - County/Local EOCs
  - Fire
  - Police
  - Hospitals

# Mission Responsibilities

- Observe/assess conditions and report via comms, photo and video
  - Locations of major damaged structures
  - Electric Power Grid physical condition
  - Major Infrastructure damage and security
    - » Bridges
    - » Roads
    - » Power plants
    - » EOC facilities
    - » Shelters
    - » Aviation facilities
    - » Police and fire stations
    - » Education facilities
    - » Health facilities
    - » Ground transportation equipment



# Insert RECON by Air

- 6 Operators, 1 Team Leader, 1 Aerial Command and Control
- Self Sustained 12 hours plus
- Self Contained Stand Alone
  - Carry it on your back
- Communications
- Transportation (ATV's Possible)
- LZ Support (Scouting)
- Victim/Refugee Muster and Evac
- Basic First Aid
- ALS during return to Air Ops Base



# Reporting methods

- Photography
- GPS Positioning
- Communications
  - Air Card
  - BGAN (Broadband Global Area Network)
  - SAT Phone
  - Cell Phone
  - Radio







## Unified RECON Reporting Tool

Please Login

Enter username

E-mail :

Enter your password

Password :

Click login

Login

Forgot Password?





## Unified RECON Reporting Tool



### RECON Team Home

Click 'Add RECON Report'

Add RECON Report



Search RECON Reports



View Team Info



New RECON Report  
Form Download



Choose a Format





### Unified RECON Reporting Tool



Select your Agency

Enter your team ID #

Report #

Choose Your Recon Team Team #

Image:  Browse...

Recon Report#:

Target Name:

Lat:  Long:

Time/Date:  5/17/2010

DD.dddd -DD.dddd

Name of target

HH:MM

USNG:

GPS Coordinates

Time observed

Select an Event

17R NL 1234 5678

County: Select A County

#### 1 - Debris

Event Name

Please Choose an Option

F - Utility Pole Debris:

Please Choose an Option

Comments:

#### 2 - Flooding

A - C Flooding:

Please Choose an Option

Water Depth

Comments:



# LAT/LON POSITIONING

- GPS Coordinates MUST be in Degrees.Decimal Degrees
  - ie.) 28.1234 -82.1234 (Longitude MUST have a Negative sign)

Lat:  Long:

DD.dddd -DD.dddd

USNG:

17R NL 1234 5678

County:

US National Grid (USNG) will auto populate based on Lat/Long.

USNG MUST be in 17R LM 1234 1234 format



# INSERTING A PHOTO



FloridaDisaster.org

Florida Division of Emergency Management

User: Nick Simoncini User Level: Admin

Home | Administration | Recon Reports | Search - Query | Tools

Unified RECON Reporting Tool



## Add Sert Unified Recon Report

Recon Team:  Team #

Recon Report#:

Target Name:

Time/Date:  5/17/2010

HH:MM

Image:

Lat:

DD.dddd

-DD.dddd

USNG:

17R NL 1234 5678

Event:

County:

### 1 - Debris

D - E Tree Debris:

F - Utility Pole Debris:

Comments:

### 2 - Flooding

A - C Flooding:

Water Depth

Comments:



# Section 1 - Debris



## 1 - DEBRIS

SECTION NOT APPLICABLE						
	D	E	F			COMMENTS
	Trees Down < 1 Foot	Trees Down > 1 Foot	Utility Poles Down	All Directions	One Direction	
				Steel	Wood	Concrete
						Scattered aluminum from mobile homes



# Section 1 – Debris / NA



## 1 - DEBRIS

SECTION NOT APPLICABLE

					COMMENTS
D	Trees Down < 1 Foot	All Directions	One Direction		
E	Trees Down > 1 Foot	All Directions	One Direction		
F	Utility Poles Down	Steel	Wood	Concrete	



# Section 2 - Flooding



2 - FLOODING					
SECTION NOT APPLICABLE					
A	Street Flooding	<1 Foot	1-3 Feet	>3 feet	COMMENTS
B	Localized Flooding	<1 Foot	1-3 Feet	>3 feet	Maple St and 1 <sup>st</sup> Ave
C	Widespread Flooding	<1 Foot	1-3 Feet	>3 feet	



# Section 3 – Structure Damages



## 3 – STRUCTURE DAMAGE

SECTION NOT APPLICABLE			
			COMMENTS
A	None		
B	Wind - Light		Mobile home missing walls
C	Wind - Moderate		
D	Wind - Heavy		
E	Wind - Catastrophic		
F	Surge - Light		
G	Surge - Moderate		
H	Surge - Heavy		



# Section 4 – Infrastructure



4 - INFRASTRUCTURE				
SECTION NOT APPLICABLE				
				COMMENTS
A	Electrical Power	Operational	Out	
B	Water Supply	Operational	Out	Many wires down on Maple Street
C	Sewer System	Operational	Out	
D	Telephone System	Operational	Out	
E	Radio / Television Stations	Operational	Out	
F	Food / Grocery Stores	Operational	Out	
G	Gas Stations	Operational	Out	
H	Hardware Stores	Operational	Out	



# Section 5 – Transportation



## 5 - TRANSPORTATION

SECTION NOT APPLICABLE				
				COMMENTS
A	Major Road Blocked			
B	Minor Road Blocked			Nick Street at RECON way washed out
C	Bridge	Blocked	Destroyed	
D	Runway	Blocked	Destroyed	
E	Rail	Blocked	Destroyed	
F	Canal	Blocked	Destroyed	



# Section 6 – Emergency Services



	Call	Intact	Destroyed	
<b>6 - EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>				
SECTION NOT APPLICABLE				
A	EOC	Operational	Out	COMMENTS
B	Police	Operational	Out	
C	Fire	Operational	Out	
D	EMS	Operational	Out	
E	Hospitals	Operational	Out	Several windows damaged. Facility still operational
F	Shelters	Operational	Out	
G	DOT Facilities	Operational	Out	
H	Red Cross ERV'S	Operational	Out	



# Section 7 – Casualties

- Only indicate casualty information from a reliable source, Fire, EMS, Police.
- Notate the source and contact info in Comments.
- Exact location.

## 7 – CASUALTIES

SECTION NOT APPLICABLE

		#	COMMENTS
A	Dead	#	
B	Missing	#	
C	Injured	#	



# Section 8 – Narrative

- Include a short narrative on report.
- Include any items that do NOT fit in the above sections.
- Initial Report
- Time Sent
- Method Sent



# Radio Based Reporting

<b>RECON AGENCY:</b>		<b>TEAM:</b>		<b>LAT:</b>		<b>LON:</b>	
<b>REPORT #:</b>				Lat / Lon format: Degrees, decimal Degrees (e.g.) 28.123 -81.456			
<b>TARGET NAME:</b>				<b>USNG:</b>			
<b>TIME:</b>		<b>DATE:</b>		<b>COUNTY:</b>			
<b>1 - DEBRIS</b>							
SECTION NOT APPLICABLE							
D	Trees Down < 1 Foot	All Directions	One Direction	COMMENTS			
E	Trees Down > 1 Foot	All Directions	One Direction				
F	Utility Poles Down	Steel	Wood	Concrete			
<b>2 - FLOODING</b>							
SECTION NOT APPLICABLE							
A	Street Flooding	<1 Foot	1-3 Feet	>3 feet	COMMENTS		
B	Localized Flooding	<1 Foot	1-3 Feet	>3 feet			
C	Widespread Flooding	<1 Foot	1-3 Feet	>3 feet			
<b>3 - STRUCTURE DAMAGE</b>							
SECTION NOT APPLICABLE							
A	None					COMMENTS	
B	Wind - Light						
C	Wind - Moderate						
D	Wind - Heavy						
E	Wind - Catastrophic						
F	Surge - Light						
G	Surge - Moderate						
H	Surge - Heavy						
<b>4 - INFRASTRUCTURE</b>							
SECTION NOT APPLICABLE							
A	Electrical Power	Operational	Out	COMMENTS			
B	Water Supply	Operational	Out				
C	Sewer System	Operational	Out				
D	Telephone System	Operational	Out				
E	Radio / Television Stations	Operational	Out				
F	Food / Grocery Stores	Operational	Out				
G	Gas Stations	Operational	Out				
H	Hardware Stores	Operational	Out				
<b>5 - TRANSPORTATION</b>							
SECTION NOT APPLICABLE							
A	Major Road Blocked					COMMENTS	
B	Minor Road Blocked						
C	Bridge	Blocked	Destroyed				
D	Runway	Blocked	Destroyed				
E	Trail	Blocked	Destroyed				



# SITE DEMONSTRATION

State Emergency Response Team RECON REPORTING SITE

"GATOR" Geo Assessments Tool for Operations Response



# Follow on Actions

- Main Elements
  - Urban Search and Rescue
  - Long Term Mission Support
  - Migration to ESF-16 LE Mission

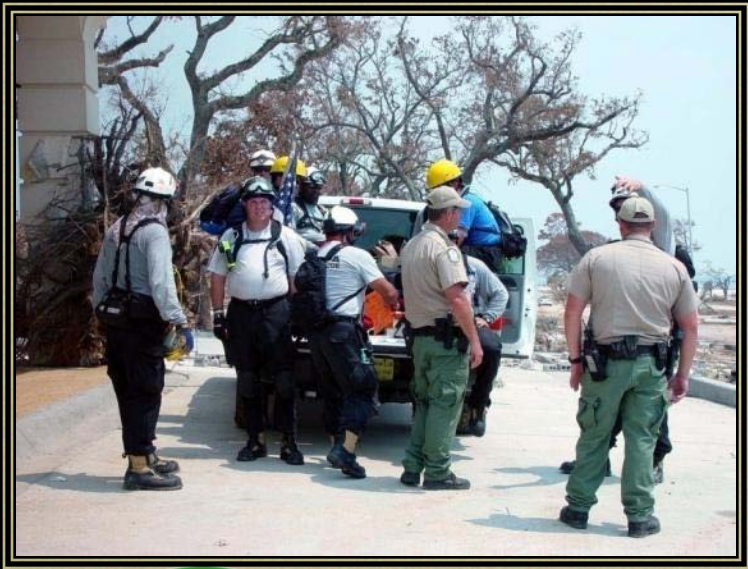


# Follow on Capabilities



# Team Integration

The Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Partnership



# USAR



USAR Familiarization FL State Fire College



ADSAR Familiarization



# Integration continued..

## Federal Partnerships





## **Captain Brad Williams**

FWC Division of Law Enforcement

Public Safety Section, Mutual Aid Operations Chief

850.259.6320