Homeland Response Force (HRF)

**Highlights**

- Operates under the control of the Governor
- Deploys and conducts command and control; works alongside first responders in: casualty assistance; search and extraction; decontamination; and medical triage and stabilization
- HRF’s are validated by the Adjutant General of each State
- Can operate both in a regional and national level
- HAZMAT Awareness or Operations level certified
- Total of 10 HRF’s; one per FEMA Region
- 6-12 hour response posture
- Directs and deploys the overall activity of the HRF while improving Common Operating Picture (COP) of deployed NG Consequence Management forces
- Capable of managing a catastrophic event involving additional Consequence Management units in the area
- Bridges a gap between initial NG response and Title 10 capabilities
- Casualty assistance and Support Element (CASE) - Multi faceted section - General site security - Litter bearers

**Mission:** When directed by proper authority and upon consent of the Governor(s), the Homeland Response Force (HRF) alerts and assembles within 6-12 hours; on order, deploys and conducts command and control; casualty assistance; search and extraction; decontamination; medical triage and stabilization, Fatality Search and Recovery to save lives and mitigate human suffering. On order, transitions operations to civil authorities and redeploys.

**Overview:** The Adjutant General may employ the HRF to support the state response under the direction of the governor or to support another state’s response under a supported governor. A dual-status commander (DSC) is an officer of the Army (ARNG) or AirNational Guard (ANG) or a commissioned officer of the Regular Army or Regular Air Force (who has completed specialized training and certification and are jointly managed by the Commander, U.S. Northern Command, and the Chief, National Guard Bureau) who may, by law, serve in two statuses (Federal and State) simultaneously.

- There are 10 National Guard-sourced HRFs. Regionally oriented, eight of the ten HRFs will be hosted by one state in each of the FEMA regions. HRF’s are hosted in WA, CA, UT, TX, MO, GA, OH, and PA. In the remaining two, HRF assets are distributed across multiple states. In Region I, HRF units are stationed in VT, MA, and CT. Region II elements are shared between NY and NJ.
- Each HRF is comprised of around 570 National Guard personnel. The core of each HRF is Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) response capability similar to that found in the existing 17 CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFPs), however HRFs will also have substantial command and control and security capability.
- The HRFs operate alongside other National Guard-sourced CBRNE Consequence Management forces like Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams (WMD-CSTs) and CERFPs, as well as federal-controlled elements of the enterprise, including Defense CBRN Response Force Command and Control CBRNE Response Elements, and follow-on forces, when necessary.
- Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) remains the mechanism for interstate employment – under State control.