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Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 4:25 PM
To: !AFD-All Personnel
Subject: OPS 10-11 Special Ops and Rescue Responses.doc

**Municipality of Anchorage
Anchorage Fire Department
Memorandum**

DATE: February 17, 2010 **OPS 10-11**
TO: Operations
FROM: Doug Schrage, Deputy Chief Operations
SUBJECT: **Special Operations and Rescue Responses**

The following provisions will govern special operations and rescue responses affected by team reductions.

General Provisions

All apparatus, tools, supplies, and equipment shall be preserved and available regardless of team status. Team leaders may direct that equipment be placed in storage during the off-season so long as it can be mustered if necessary (as is currently done with boats, wildfire equipment, etc.). Certified personnel may be called back and teams assembled in the event of a disaster or catastrophic event.

Technical rescue operations not in accordance with currently applicable NFPA, industry, or other AFD standards in use as pertain to on-scene personnel, training, and equipment are prohibited. The use of specialized technical equipment by untrained personnel is strictly prohibited.

Technical rescue operations utilizing certified technician-level rescuers not on a team are prohibited without Duty Officer approval.

We will continue to provide non-technical operations-level activities without DO approval. Examples include, a) using rope throw bags; b) using motorized equipment on established trails not in wilderness areas; c) use of simple rope systems for self-rescue or low-angle rescues; and, d) basic ice rescues within the reach of on-shore implements.

Note: The Department is evaluating redeploying our off-road motorized equipment to a central location for better access to trails and areas within the AFSA.

Responding Outside the Anchorage Fire Service Area

AFD will continue to provide EMS within MOA boundaries.

For rescue calls, Dispatch will notify Alaska State Troopers and the DO in accordance with current procedure.

AFD may provide incident command and agency support, including the use of motorized equipment, with DO approval.

Water rescue operations in Cook Inlet are suspended for lack of sufficient seaworthy craft.