

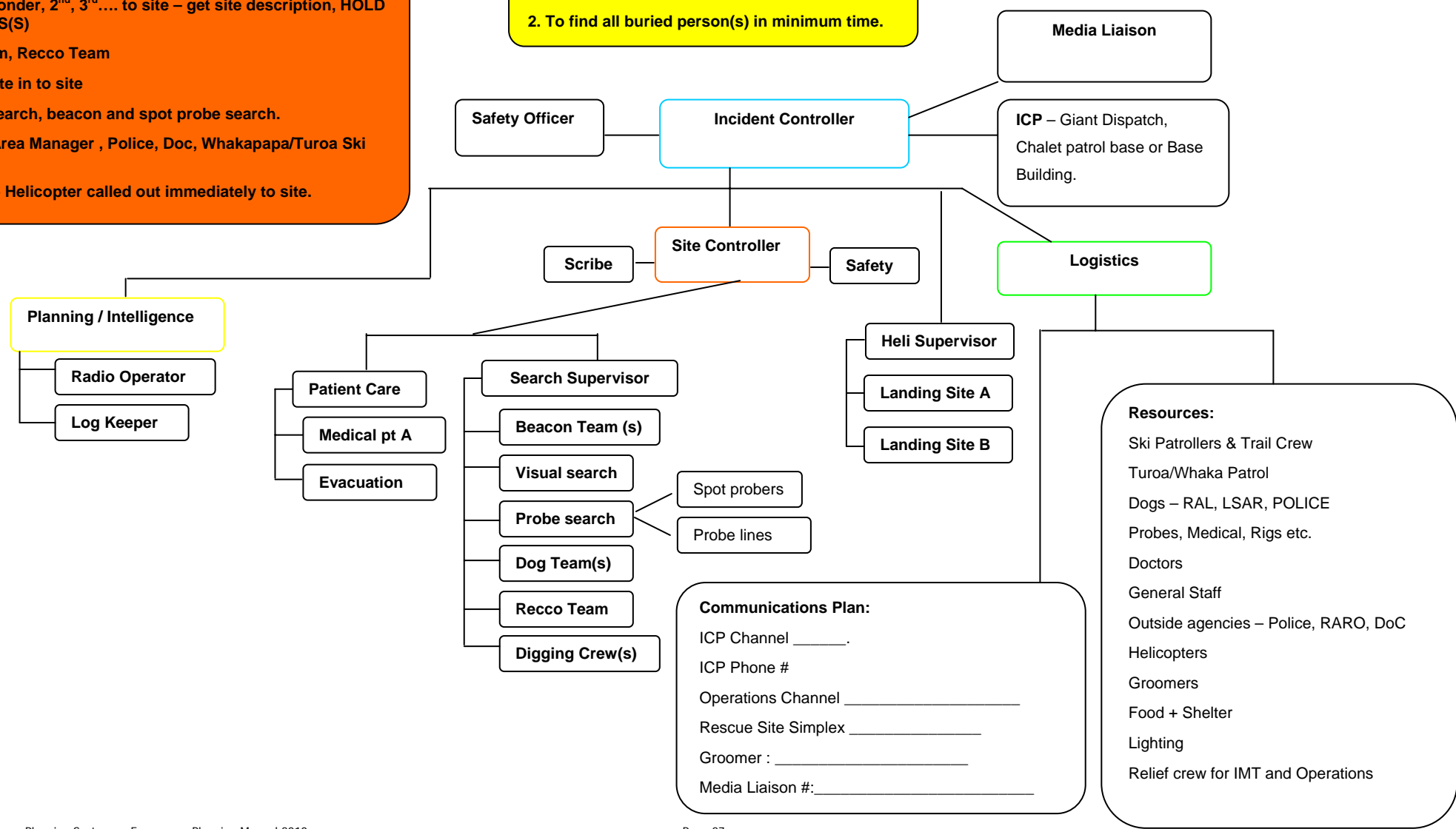
Avalanche Rescue Pre-Plan

Reflex Tasking Period:

- 1st Responder, 2nd, 3rd.... to site – get site description, HOLD WITNESS(S)
- Dog team, Recco Team
- Safe route in to site
- Visual search, beacon and spot probe search.
- Inform Area Manager , Police, Doc, Whakapapa/Turoa Ski Patrol
- Doctor + Helicopter called out immediately to site.

Objectives:

1. To maintain safety of all personnel and public at all times through the operation
2. To find all buried person(s) in minimum time.



T0 – T10 – REFLEX TASKING – As above.

T10-T90 – Up scale the operation.

- Site safety. – emergency plan, log searchers on and off.
- Assess other ski area operations and close area to free up as many skilled avy rescue personnel.
- Nominate IC and set up IMT.
- Media Liaison – vital – call MSC Avalanche Programme Manager
- Focus in this period is **speed and maximum effort! – 34%-91% survivability.**
- More dog teams to site if possible.
- More skilled Avalanche rescue staff (Whakapapa/Turoa), off duty patrollers, RARO.
- Comprehensive beacon search of all debris.
- Visual searchers deployed – every inch of debris checked closely.
- Spot probes deployed
- Support to Site Controller – safety person, scribe, Patient Care and Search Leader on site.
- Mark edge of debris (single wand) and any clues (with crossed wands) or PLS (Point Last Seen).
- Focus on clues – **interview witnesses in detail – take back to site.**
- Draw diagram of site, split into segments.**
- Identify all areas of higher POA (probability of area) – and focus search around these.
- POLF Calculator.... Consensus POA's.
- Confirm doctor en route to site with **defib, intubation, ACLS skills.**
- Confirm Helicopter en route to site if possible or as close as possible.
- As more searchers arrive on site probe lines can be formed – use appropriate technique with lower POD but higher POLF. (3 step angled – 2m depth max).
- Reverse Triage if multiple burials – start with those closer to surface etc.

Patient Care:

- The presence of an air pocket is vital information.**
- Use conveyor digging method**
- Be ready to treat for the Triple H syndrome – (hypercapnia, hypothermia, hypoxia)**
- Buried less than 35 min = Rapid extrication and resuscitation.**
- Buried more than 35 min = Quiet extrication and treatment for hypothermia.**
- Plan for prevention of further cooling – blankets, warm packs, hat, emerg blanket.**
- Avalanche victims with presence of air pocket aren't dead until warm and dead.**
- Doctor or most experienced patient care team member to do final digging to patient's head.**
- Refer to ICAR resuscitation algorithm for advanced care guidelines.**

Extended Search –

- Upscale existing structure as required.**
 - Police will assume IC role unless mutually agreed otherwise.**
 - Plan for relief of operational and IMT staff.**
 - Plan for shelter, lighting, fresh dogs, food.**
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- Debrief the incident**