



Ice Rescue Awareness



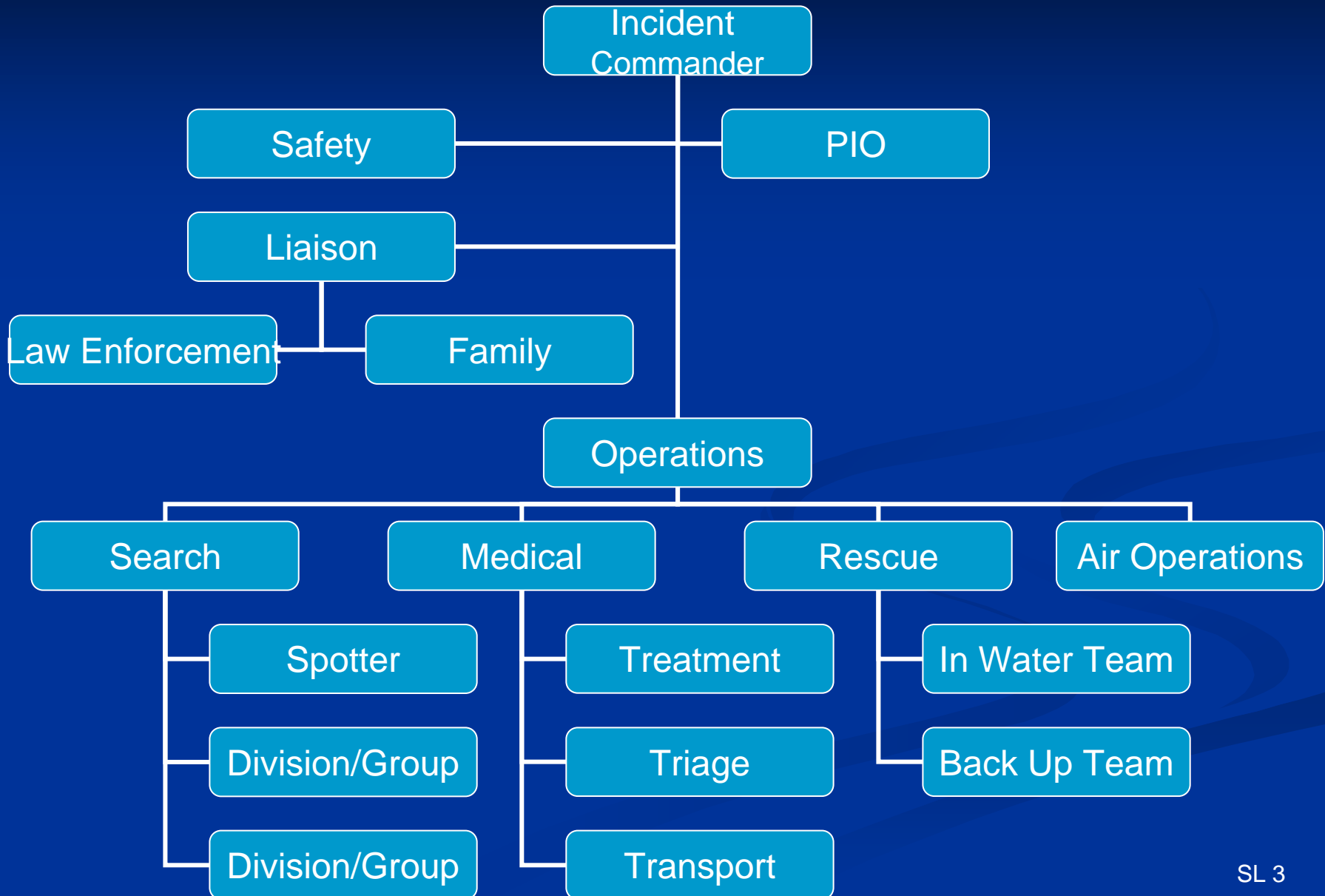


Objectives

- Identify components of Scene Size-Up
- Understand types of ice and the factors affecting formation
- Recognize Rescuer Personal Protective Equipment
- Understand Self Rescue Techniques



Ice Rescue ICS





Scene Assessment / Size-Up

- Location of victim(s)- Distance from shore
- Number of victim(s)
- Time in Water
- Responsiveness of victim(s)
- Equipment / Experience of victim(s)
- Access to victim(s)
- Physical Features
 - Ice Thickness
 - Type of Water- River/Stream vs. static Body
- Haz-Mat present?



Factors Affecting Ice Formation

- Temperature-the colder the atmosphere the thicker the ice.
- Snow-insulates ice and increases weight stress.
- Wind-increased wind speed, decreases rate of ice formation
- Surface Water-creates/shows weak spots
- Currents-thins weakened ice.
- Chemicals / Pollution-weakens ice crystals.
- Changing water levels-cracks and weakens ice
-creates void spaces.

Rescuer PPE

- Shall be worn if personnel are within 10 feet of the waters edge.
- Operational personnel utilize the following:
 - Exposure Protection
 - Drysuit
 - Wetsuit
 - Survival/Exposure Suit
 - PFD Type III-V
 - Personnel shall wear a rated PFD when within 10ft. of the ice or water
 - Footwear
 - Fins
 - Helmet
 - Gloves
 - Whistle
 - Knife
 - Ice Awls, Staffs, Screws and Pitons



Rescuer PPE

- Team/Equipment Compliment
 - Rope Rescue Equipment
 - Hose Inflator
 - Inner Tubes
 - Ladders
 - Pike Poles
 - Specialized Equipment





Self Rescue

- Do not go on ice
- If you fall on the ice
 - Crawl slowly to distribute more weight if needed
 - Walk slowly and carefully, stay in dry areas



Self Rescue

- If you break through ice
 - (On surface)-Roll away from the hole, and crawl back to shore
 - (In-Water, Static)- Keep head above water, brace arms against side of hole
 - Try to get a purchase point and crawl out
 - Lift knee out and roll away
 - (In-Water, Moving)
 - Swift water precautions apply
 - “Swim” in white-water position- on back, feet downstream



Summary

- Do a complete scene size-up and determine the number of victims.
- Isolate and deny entry to civilians.
- Establish command.
- Order appropriate resources.
- If in swift water, assign upstream spotter and downstream protection.