



WEST VALLEY CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Thayle "Buzz" Nielsen

UNDERWATER RECOVERY TEAM (URT)

~ Operational Plan ~

August 26, 2010

CASE NUMBER: 09I054602

LOCATION: Jordan River Parkway Wetlands, 1075 West 7850 South

AUTHORIZATION: Chief Buzz Nielsen

OPERATION SUPERVISOR: Sgt Powell

OPERATION MANAGER: Joe McCuen

FORENSICS: WVCPD Forensics

RESCUE DIVER: Glen Williams

MEDIC/DIVER: Matt Ryder, West Valley City Fire Dept.

AGENCY CONTACT: Sgt Bobrowski, West Valley City P.D.

SECURITY: West Valley City Police Department

MEDIA CONTACT: West Valley City Police Department

WEST JORDAN STORM WATER: [REDACTED]

HOSPITAL: L.D.S. Hospital

BAROMETRIC CHAMBER: L.D.S. Hospital

OPERATION DIVER #1: Mike Powell, Underwater Evidence Technician-WVCPD

OPERATION DIVER #2: Joe McCuen, Underwater Evidence Technician-WVCPD

OPERATION DIVER #3: Jason Hauer, Uniform Patrol Division-WVCPD

OPERATION DIVER #4: Glen Williams, Underwater Evidence Technician - UTA PD

OPERATION DIVER #5: Bruce Champagne, Underwater Evidence Tech – Saratoga PD

OPERATION DIVER #6: Stuart Fore, Underwater Evidence Technician

American Fork Police Department

OPERATION DIVER #7: Matthew Ryder, West Valley City Fire Dept.

* More Operation Divers may be added to this list as needed.

OBJECTIVE: We are attempting to locate evidence possibly associated with a current investigation being handled by the West Valley City Major Crimes Detectives. The Underwater Recovery Team will locate, document, recover, and preserve any objects of evidentiary value following protocol. Once stabilized, recovered items and associated reports will be released to the West Valley City Police Department.

METHODOLOGY: Horizontal grid, a single rope will be pulled across the wetlands and will be attached to stakes to secure it. URT divers will walk shoulder to shoulder across the wetlands area parallel to the rope. A second rope will be used to control the distance from the first rope and to maintain a parallel course. After a target is located, a URT diver will position and identify the target, and recover the target if appropriate following established protocol.

Upon target location, URT diver will maintain his position until the target is identified and marked in position. The target will then be recovered by the URT team diver and released to the Medical Examiner's Office.

When the URT Team reaches the end of a horizontal grid, the URT Team member will re-position orientation lines for the return horizontal grid(s). URT Operation Divers will remain at the surface utilizing atmospheric air until directed to submerge and identify and/or recover targets. Operation Divers may request additional divers and will rotate position(s) as needed.

BEGIN: 07:15 - URT members meet in the parking lot on the west side of West Valley City Hall. Equipment will be combined into dually provided by WVC for transport to the dive site.
07:45 - Head to location of dive at 1080 West 800 South.
08:30 - Operation begins

CONCLUDE: To be determined

LOCATION DESCRIPTION

This is a wetlands area west of the Jordan River Parkway. One body of water separated into three smaller bodies by reeds. The area was a research project by the University of Utah. The area was designed to filter storm water before it flows into the Jordan River.

Depth: Approximately 4' 6"
Substrate: flat, clay, 2" – 16" silt, and depressions
Current: very low - standing water
Temperature: Unknown
Visibility: Zero
Debris: Unknown
Hazards: Unknown

WEATHER FORECAST

8-26-10

High Temp: 97 Low Temp: 64

Sunrise: 07:48 Sunset: 17:03

Partly Cloudy Wind: SE 10 mph

Chance of Precipitation: none UV Index: 6

Snow or rain forecasted for the evening: none

TEAM ASSIGNMENTS

Operation Manager: Joe McCuen

Tender: Mike Powell

Diver: Jason Hauer

Diver: Bruce Champagne

Diver: Stuart Fore

Diver: Matt Ryder

Emergency Diver: Glenn Williams

FORENSIC TEAM

West Valley City Police Department Forensics

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

Individual diving gear (dry suit, BCD, fins, hood, gloves, mask, weight, extra weight, 3 cylinders air, lunch, digging tool, positioning tool, shore uniform, knife)

Rope (search grids)- WVCPD Forensics

Laser positioning equipment- WVCPD Forensics

Forensic equipment (object preservation materials and containers)

Easy Up - McCuen

Each URT member and support staff should be prepared for weather (both wet and dry assignments) and other individual requirements (food, physical, etc.).

CONTACT INFORMATION

Bruce Champagne: 801-766-6518 desk



Jason Hauer



Joe McCuen:



Mike Powell:



Glenn Williams



Lance Call



AFTER ACTION

On Thursday 8/26/10, the West Valley City URT Team responded to 1075 West 7850 South for a Dive Operation. Divers from four other Agencies also responded to assist us. West Jordan Storm/Waste water employees responded to provide access to the site.

A briefing was held to explain who we were assisting, what we were looking for, how the operation would be handled, and what to do if evidence was found.

The dive site was one body of water. The body of water was divided into three different sections by reeds. The body of water is part of a wetland research project developed by the University of Utah. It is maintained by the West Jordan Storm/Waste Water Department. The area is designed to filter water before it runs into the Jordan River.

As you drive south on the Jordan River parkway the first body of water is the smallest, on the north end. The second body of water, in the middle, is the largest. The third body is on the south end.

The body of the water in the middle has a direct access off the of Parkway trail. The access is directly across from a bridge that goes over the Jordan River Parkway. The only parking area is on the east side of the river, north of the bridge.

The large body of water was searched first. Ropes and stakes were set up to divide the area in half. The north side was searched first.

Powell stood in the middle and controlled the search pattern. Hauer, Champagne, Fore, and Ryder formed a line shoulder to shoulder. The area was covered using an arch that decreased after each pass. Additional time was taken to search two small areas outside of the arch pattern.

The south side of the same body of water was searched next. Hauer, Champagne, Fore, Ryder, and Williams formed a line shoulder to shoulder. They walked the perimeter of the area first. The area was then searched using a pattern parallel to the rope stretched across the middle. Powell tended the rope and controlled the search pattern.

The body of water on the south end was searched next. Hauer, Fore, Williams, and Ryder formed a line shoulder to shoulder. They walked the perimeter of the area first. The area was then searched using a pattern parallel to the south shore. Powell tended the rope and controlled the search pattern.

The body of water on the north was searched last. This was the smallest body of water. Powell, Hauer, Fore, Williams, and Ryder formed a line shoulder to shoulder. They walked the perimeter of the area first. Then they made two passes going west then east to cover the area.

During the search numerous items were found, but no evidence was found.



