

DECISION BRIEF

Weber County Heavy Rescue: Response Staffing & Readiness

An evidence-based defense of tiered deployment, qualified staffing, utilization, and county value

RESPONSE STAFFING EDITION: Includes national team-size benchmarks and Weber County tiered-response analysis

Prepared for	Purpose	Evidence period
Weber County Commissioners	Program value and funding decision	CAD: Jan. 1, 2024–June 17, 2026

RECOMMENDATION

Continue funding the coordinated Weber County Heavy Rescue program and require an annual performance report built from CAD unit-status data, certification records, training hours, equipment readiness, and outcomes.

637	504	\$164,300	24 / 7 / 365
unique CAD incidents	incidents in two complete years	annual county allocation in draft	contracted on-duty readiness

Executive conclusion

The available evidence supports a direct conclusion: Weber County Heavy Rescue is a frequently assigned, countywide emergency capability—not an apparatus maintained for a remote possibility. The three identified units—Heavy Rescue 2 (HE2), Heavy Rescue 41 (H41), and Heavy Ladder 66 (HL66)—appear on 637 unique incidents in the supplied CAD extract. The two complete calendar years contain 504 incidents, or roughly 4.8 incidents per week. The draft agreement allocates \$164,300 annually for training, technician differentials, and durable equipment, producing an illustrative two-year cost of approximately \$652 per CAD incident. [\[1\]\[2\]](#)

The program’s value is broader than incident volume. The interlocal structure uses existing firefighters, stations, command systems, and local apparatus from six participating fire departments. County funding purchases the specialized layer: certified personnel, continuing competence, three distributed companies, durable rescue equipment, common dispatch protocols, and countywide closest-unit response. The agreement requires at least nine Heavy Rescue personnel available on duty at all times across the three contractor companies. [\[2\]](#)

Heavy Rescue is also not interchangeable with Sheriff’s Search and Rescue. The Sheriff’s Office describes SAR as a volunteer organization focused on missing, lost, stranded, or injured people throughout the county. Heavy Rescue is an on-duty fire-service system designed to control technical hazards and extricate trapped patients. The two capabilities can work together, but one does not replace the other. [\[2\]\[13\]](#)

The hard-sell case is therefore factual: the County receives continuous specialized readiness for about \$450 per day, while the participating agencies carry the base employment and ordinary operating infrastructure. The program has documented workload, defined public-safety duties, geographically distributed resources, multi-unit surge capacity, durable public assets, and a formal accountability structure. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

1. What Heavy Rescue does

Heavy Rescue is the fire-service capability used when access, stabilization, atmosphere, load, geometry, water movement, or structural condition makes an ordinary rescue unusually complex. Standard engine companies remain essential: they initiate scene control, fire suppression, emergency medical care, hazard isolation, and basic stabilization. Heavy Rescue adds personnel trained in distinct technical disciplines and equipment designed for hazards an engine cannot carry for every call. [2][3][4]

OPERATIONAL DISTINCTION

An engine company begins the rescue. Heavy Rescue supplies the specialized systems and technicians when ordinary access, stabilization, or removal methods are not enough.

Discipline	Specialized function	Representative incident
Complex vehicle and machinery extrication	Stabilize unusual loads; create access; cut, spread, lift, or disentangle around a patient.	Rollovers, pinned victims, heavy vehicles, machinery, aircraft wreckage.
Structural collapse	Establish collapse zones; assess and monitor movement; shore, breach, lift, and search within unstable debris.	Building collapse, vehicle into structure, explosion damage.
Rope / high-angle rescue	Build anchors, lowering and raising systems, edge protection, and controlled patient movement.	Steep terrain, industrial structures, shafts, elevated or below-grade access.
Confined-space rescue	Control entry, atmosphere, ventilation, communications, retrieval, and backup rescue.	Tanks, vaults, pipes, utility spaces, manholes.
Trench and excavation rescue	Control collapse hazards, shore the excavation, protect utilities, and remove trapped patients.	Construction trenches, excavation failures, buried workers.
Swiftwater, surface-water, and ice rescue	Use water-specific PPE, tether and boat systems, downstream safety, shore coordination, and cold-water controls.	Rivers, canals, sinking vehicles, ice incidents.
Firefighter rescue / rapid intervention	Provide specialized access and removal capability when firefighters become trapped or disabled.	Structural firefighting emergencies.

Capabilities are drawn from the agreement's scope, Utah's NFPA 1006 certification structure, and the official UFA Heavy Rescue program description. [2][3][4]

Why this is separate from ordinary firefighting

Utah lists technical rescue credentials separately by discipline and by Awareness, Operations, and Technician level. The state certification process requires completion of training records and written and skills testing. Current Utah categories include confined space, machinery, rope, structural collapse, trench, common passenger vehicle, heavy vehicle, surface water, swiftwater, and ice rescue. This structure documents that technical rescue is not a single add-on skill contained within basic firefighter certification. [3]

Unified Fire Authority likewise describes Heavy Rescue as a dedicated program with strategically placed rescue companies, specialized staffing, and apparatus stocked for trench, confined space, structural collapse, high-angle rescue, extrication, firefighter rescue, and machinery disentanglement. UFA is used here only as an official Utah fire-service description of the capability; Weber County's own staffing and funding are governed by its agreement. [4]

Heavy Rescue and Sheriff's Search and Rescue are complementary—not interchangeable

Both organizations rescue people, but they are built for different operational problems. Weber County Sheriff's Search and Rescue is a volunteer organization assigned to assist the Sheriff with calls involving missing, lost, stranded, or injured people. The Sheriff's public description identifies wilderness and terrain-oriented work involving climbers, hikers, children, hunters, snowmobilers, skiers, drowning victims, and downed aircraft. It also identifies specialized SAR components such as mountain rescue, technical climbers, K-9 rescue, winter rescue, and underwater recovery. [13]

Comparison	Heavy Rescue	Sheriff's Search and Rescue
Primary mission	Control technical hazards and remove trapped patients.	Locate, reach, stabilize, and evacuate missing, lost, stranded, or injured people.
Typical operating environment	Roadways, structures, industrial sites, trenches, confined spaces, machinery, moving water, and wreckage.	Backcountry, mountains, trails, snow, wilderness, open water, and remote terrain.
Core work	Cutting, lifting, shoring, rigging, breaching, atmospheric monitoring, technical entry, stabilization, and disentanglement.	Search management, navigation, tracking, wilderness access, technical climbing, field evacuation, and recovery.
Staffing model	Fire-service companies with a contractual minimum of nine qualified personnel on duty countywide at all times.	Sheriff-directed volunteer organization activated for calls for help.
Dispatch / mobilization	Dispatched through Weber Area Dispatch under technical-rescue protocols using closest-unit response.	Volunteer callout and assembly model; the reviewed public source does not publish comparative response times.
Where missions overlap	Rope, water, difficult access, patient packaging, aircraft incidents, and unified command.	Rope, water, difficult access, patient packaging, aircraft incidents, and unified command.

The comparison describes different missions and readiness models. It does not criticize SAR or claim a specific deployment delay; no official comparative mobilization-time data was identified. [2][13]

OPERATIONAL BOTTOM LINE

Search and Rescue is organized to find and reach people across terrain. Heavy Rescue is organized to control technical hazards and free people from entrapment. Complex incidents may require both capabilities at the same time.

Aircraft response

The supplied CAD data records three 2024 incidents classified as AIRPLANE CRASH with at least one Weber County Heavy Rescue unit assigned. The July 24, 2024 Roy crash lists H41; the January 26 Huntsville incident lists HE2; and the June 1 Fremont Island incident lists HE2 and H41. News reporting on the Roy crash documents a twin-engine aircraft in a residential yard, damage to the aircraft and a home, and two occupants transported to a hospital. The CAD record proves Heavy Rescue assignment; the news report describes the scene. Neither source alone proves that a specific cutting or extrication task was performed on that call. [1][7]

2. Weber County's operating model

The draft interlocal agreement organizes Heavy Rescue as a coordinated county team rather than six isolated municipal programs. Ogden City, Riverdale City, and Weber Fire District are identified as contractors operating the three core companies. North View Fire District, Roy City, and South Ogden City provide trained personnel as subcontractors to augment the team. [2]

Resource	Operating location	Address / distribution	Role
HE2	Ogden City Fire Station 2	1185 East 21st Street	Contractor company
H41	Riverdale City Fire Station 41	4334 Parker Drive	Contractor company
HL66	Weber Fire District Station 66	3641 West 2200 South	Contractor company
Augmentation	Roy Stations 31/32; North View 21/22; South Ogden 81/82	Multiple locations	Subcontractor personnel

The agreement establishes distributed companies and augmentation personnel across six participating fire departments. [2]

Readiness requirements

- Each contractor is to maintain at least nine trained and certified technical rescue personnel. [2]
- Each subcontractor is to provide at least three trained personnel. [2]
- The agreement funds a roster of 36 team members. [2]
- The three contractor companies are to make at least eight personnel available on duty at all times: three from Ogden, three from Riverdale, and two from Weber Fire District. [2]
- Dispatch requests are coordinated through Weber Area Dispatch 911 under technical-rescue protocols. [2]
- Service areas are based on closest-unit response rather than municipal boundaries. [2]

Training commitment

Contract discipline	Hours
Rope rescue	80
Confined space	40
Trench rescue	40
Extrication	40
Swiftwater / ice rescue	40
Structural collapse	120
Course-hour framework per technician	360

The agreement specifies course lengths and a Technician-level objective. It also states that members may be at different stages of completion. [2]

The listed course framework totals 360 hours per technician. Applied across a 36-member roster, that is a full-cohort equivalence of 12,960 course hours. This is a scale calculation—not a claim that every current member has completed every listed course. The agreement requires the agencies to maintain certification records and competence. [2]

State recertification requirements

Utah technician certifications are valid for a three-year period. The supplied UFRA standards state that certified candidates should participate in at least 36 hours of structured class and skill training each year to maintain competency and remain current. The 36-hour figure applies to all certified levels combined—not 36 hours for every individual credential. A total of 108 hours is required for the previous three-year certification period. [14]

Technician-level renewal is not based on attendance alone. The standards require an in-house comprehensive examination evolution that allows the candidate to demonstrate all technician-level skills contained in the applicable standard. The technician training record for the prior three years must accompany the recertification request. Structural-collapse recertification similarly requires a comprehensive examination of the technician-level skills. [14]

Requirement	UFRA standard	Meaning for the program
Certification validity	3 years	Renewal is required at the end of each certification period.
Annual structured training	36 hours	Combined across all certified levels; intended to maintain competency and currency.
Three-year training record	108 hours	Required for the previous certification period.
Technician recertification	Comprehensive practical evolution	Candidate demonstrates all technician-level skills in the applicable standard.
Documentation	Prior three-year training record	Original technician training documentation accompanies the request.

The recertification language is repeated across the ten supplied Utah technical-rescue standards. [14]

How the Weber County program supports recertification

Under the current Weber County Heavy Rescue program, each of the 36 technicians is capable of receiving 48 hours of specialized refresher training per year across the program's rescue disciplines. At full participation, that represents 1,728 technician-hours of annual refresher capacity. Over three years, the program can provide 144 hours per technician—36 hours above Utah's 108-hour combined-level recertification benchmark. [2][14]

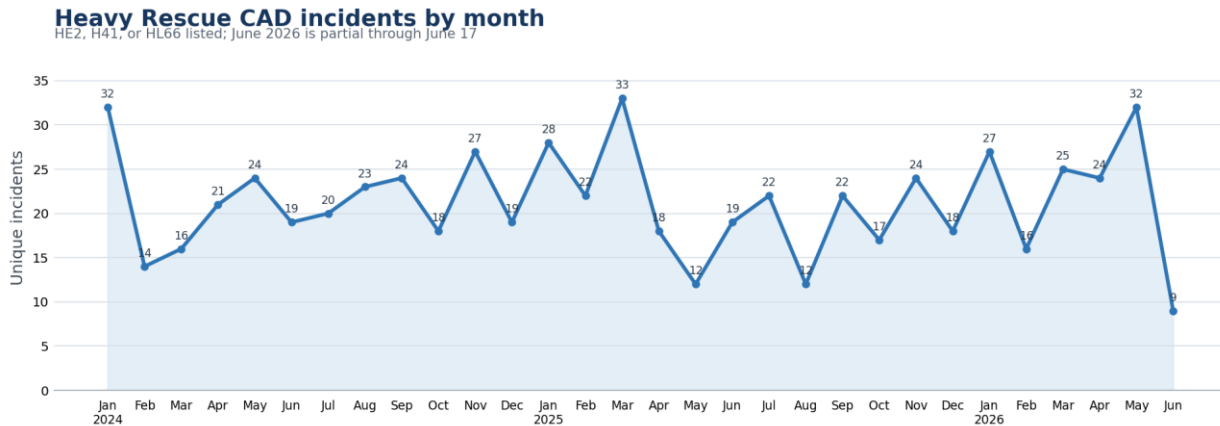
The comparison must be stated carefully: 48 available hours does not prove that every technician attends every hour, and the additional 12 annual hours are not excess capacity. Technicians maintain multiple high-risk disciplines, and the state benchmark applies across all certified levels combined. Completed attendance, examination results, and credential status should be included in the recommended annual report. [14]

WHY COUNTY FUNDING MATTERS

The agreement's \$58,500 training and replacement-staffing allocation creates the time for on-duty firefighters to attend specialized training while their home departments maintain operational coverage. Without the shared allocation, that cost must be absorbed by participating departments or training capacity must be reduced.

3. CAD evidence: frequency and totals

The supplied workbook contains 982 records across sheets for 2024, 2025, and 2026. For this analysis, an incident is counted once when any of HE2, H41, or HL66 appears in a unit column. Multiple Heavy Rescue units on the same incident are not counted as separate incidents. This produces 637 unique Heavy Rescue CAD incidents. [1]



Monthly unique incident count. June 2026 contains records only through June 17 and must not be compared as a full month. [1]

Period	Unique incidents	H41 assignments	HE2 assignments	HL66 assignments	Multi-unit incidents
2024	257	135	149	57	74
2025	247	113	145	59	66
2026 through June 17	133	60	65	34	26
Total	637	308	359	150	166

Individual unit assignments sum to 817; the unique-incident total is 637 because 166 incidents included more than one Heavy Rescue unit. [1]

Frequency findings

- The two complete calendar years contain 504 unique incidents: 257 in 2024 and 247 in 2025. [1]
- Across those two complete years, Heavy Rescue appears on approximately 21 incidents per month, or 4.8 incidents per week. [1]
- 166 incidents—26% of the 637—listed more than one Heavy Rescue unit, documenting repeated demand for redundancy, additional staffing, geographic support, or multiple equipment packages. The CAD fields do not identify which of those reasons applied to a particular incident. [1]
- 241 incidents occurred between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m.; 172 occurred on weekends; 334 occurred at night or on a weekend. These categories overlap. [1]

Call-type distribution

CAD classification	Incidents	Relevant Heavy Rescue problem
Rollover	284	Vehicle stabilization, access, lifting, patient protection
Traffic accident	108	Potential escalation to complex access or extrication
Pinned victim	96	Disentanglement, cutting, lifting, controlled removal
Vehicle into building	90	Combined vehicle and structural stabilization
Entrapment—22B/22D/22Z	49	Access, atmosphere, machinery, or below-grade rescue depending on scene

CAD classification	Incidents	Relevant Heavy Rescue problem
Train accident	4	Large loads and complex machinery
Aircraft crash	3	Irregular wreckage, access, fuel hazard, potential disentanglement
Sinking vehicle	3	Water access and vehicle stabilization

The third column describes the capability associated with the CAD classification; it does not assert that every listed task was performed on every call. [1][2][4]

4. Response levels and deployment justification

The claim that multiple apparatus artificially inflate program use can be tested directly. This brief counts each CAD incident number once, regardless of whether HE2, H41, HL66, or a combination of those units was assigned. The result is 637 unique incidents and 817 unit assignments. Apparatus assignments are therefore reported as resource loading—not as additional incidents. ^[1]

Heavy Rescue units listed	Unique incidents	Share of 637	What the record establishes
One unit	471	74%	The normal CAD pattern involved one geographically positioned Heavy Rescue unit.
Two units	152	24%	A second unit added personnel, geographic support, redundancy, or another equipment package.
All three units	14	2%	All three county units were associated with only a small fraction of incidents.
Total	637	100%	The incident count is deduplicated; 817 is the separate unit-assignment total.

The CAD fields establish assignment or association. They do not, by themselves, establish that every unit arrived, remained committed, or performed hands-on technical work. That limitation supports better response-stage reporting; it does not justify treating every multi-unit assignment as a separate incident. ^[1]

National benchmarks explain multi-unit staffing

FEMA's National Incident Management System resource definitions are national minimum criteria for typed resources. FEMA specifies five personnel for a Type 3 Structural Collapse Rescue Team and six for Type 2 or Type 1. FEMA specifies six personnel for a Type 3 Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue Team, 12 for Type 2, and 16 for Type 1. These figures describe the qualified team core; they do not include every command, safety, medical, fire-protection, traffic-control, or supporting function that may be required at the incident. ^{[15][16][17]}

National resource	Published personnel benchmark	Important limitation
Structural Collapse Rescue Team	5 at Type 3; 6 at Types 2 and 1	Typed rescue-team core; construction complexity and qualifications increase by type.
Swiftwater/Flood SAR Team	6 at Type 3; 12 at Type 2; 16 at Type 1	Team size expands with multiple boats, larger operational area, rope support, and complexity.
Confined-space rescue	No universal fixed number	OSHA requires capability appropriate to hazards, entrants, configuration, and rescue needs.

OSHA likewise does not establish one universal confined-space rescue number. It states that the minimum is driven by the hazards or potential hazards, number of entrants who may require rescue, and configuration and size of the space. The selected rescue service must be capable of reaching victims within a timeframe appropriate to the identified hazards and must be equipped and proficient for the rescue. ^{[18][19]}

Why more than one company may be required

A technical-rescue team must often perform several functions simultaneously. The first apparatus does not necessarily bring enough qualified personnel—or every equipment package—to fill all of them safely. Depending on the discipline, the incident may require: [2][15][16][17][18]

- A primary entry or rescue team and a qualified backup team.
- Stabilization, shoring, rigging, cutting, lifting, or haul-system operators.
- Atmospheric monitoring, ventilation, communications, and entry control.
- Dedicated safety, technical supervision, incident command, and accountability.
- Patient protection and medical care while rescue systems are constructed and operated.
- Fire protection, traffic control, upstream and downstream water safety, or other hazard-specific support.

Weber County already uses a tiered, geographically distributed response

Weber County's existing model uses geographically located Heavy Rescue units and tiered deployment to reduce response time while matching resources to the information available. The agreement supports that model through distributed companies, closest-unit response, common dispatch protocols, and a minimum of nine qualified Heavy Rescue personnel available on duty countywide. [2]

1. Initial access: the closest appropriate Heavy Rescue resource can begin size-up without waiting for a centralized county team to assemble.
2. Escalation: additional units add qualified personnel, backup capability, geographic support, or discipline-specific equipment when complexity is reported or confirmed.
3. High-risk operations: trench, confined-space, collapse, complex extrication, and swiftwater incidents may require multiple teams and supporting functions.
4. Reduction: after size-up, command can release resources when the anticipated entrapment or technical hazard is absent.

RESPONSE PRINCIPLE

Tiering is the control: rapid initial access, scalable staffing, and prompt release when the anticipated hazard is absent. A cancellation should be measured separately from an arrival or confirmed technical operation.

Operation

Technical discipline used, rescue action, major equipment, patients accessed or removed, and time committed.

Review

Whether the tier was appropriate, after-action findings, and protocol changes.

5. Financial value to Weber County

The current tracked text of the supplied draft identifies three annual county funding commitments. Deleted draft language for \$100,000 in vehicle purchases and \$21,000 in vehicle operation and maintenance is excluded from this analysis. [2]

Funding purpose	Annual amount	Contract function
Specialized training / replacement staffing	\$58,500	Releases on-duty members for training or reimburses replacement staffing.
Technician stipends / differentials	\$64,800	\$150 per month for each of 36 rostered technicians.
Durable equipment	\$41,000	Purchase and replacement of approved rescue equipment.

Funding purpose	Annual amount	Contract function
Total annual county allocation	\$164,300	Training, qualified personnel, and durable capability.

Funding figures are from the current tracked text of the supplied draft agreement; final executed funding should be confirmed before public adoption. [2]

Utilization-based view

Measure	Result	Calculation
Annual county allocation	\$164,300	Draft agreement total
Daily readiness cost	\$450	$\$164,300 \div 365$
Hourly readiness cost	\$18.76	$\$164,300 \div 8,760$
2024 illustrative cost per CAD incident	\$639	$\$164,300 \div 257$
2025 illustrative cost per CAD incident	\$665	$\$164,300 \div 247$
Two-year illustrative cost per CAD incident	\$652	$\$328,600 \div 504$

Cost-per-incident is an illustrative allocation, not the marginal cost of an individual response. Readiness exists continuously whether or not a call occurs. [1][2]

Why the structure creates leverage

- The participating agencies—not the County agreement—remain responsible for base employment and staffing. County funding adds the specialized training, differential, and equipment layer. [2]
- The County receives three distributed contractor companies and augmentation from three additional departments instead of funding a separate county rescue department. [2]
- The agreement requires countywide closest-unit response, allowing residents to receive the nearest appropriate resource without municipal-boundary restrictions. [2]
- Durable equipment remains a County asset, is inventoried annually, and must be returned at the end of useful life or agreement termination. The draft defines durable equipment as having at least a three-year useful life or otherwise meeting County asset criteria. [2]
- The parties are required to pursue grant opportunities that can supplement local funding. [2]

VALUE PROPOSITION

For approximately \$18.76 per hour, the draft agreement maintains a coordinated countywide system of trained personnel, distributed companies, durable rescue equipment, common dispatch, and continuous readiness.

6. Documented community benefits

The strongest benefits are those directly established by the agreement and CAD records. The program provides a defined response system for hazards that occur repeatedly, distributes resources geographically, maintains trained personnel, and creates a structure for more than one Heavy Rescue unit to support the same incident. [1][2]

Community benefit	Documented mechanism	Evidence
Countywide access	Closest-unit response is required without regard to individual contractor boundaries.	Agreement Section 3

Community benefit	Documented mechanism	Evidence
Continuous readiness	At least eight contractor personnel are to be available on duty across the three companies at all times.	Agreement Section 3
Surge and redundancy	166 CAD incidents listed two or three Heavy Rescue units.	CAD analysis
Specialized competence	The agreement funds Technician-level development across six technical disciplines and requires certification records.	Agreement Sections 3–5
Credential maintenance	48 annual refresher hours per technician can support Utah's 36-hour annual / 108-hour three-year recertification framework and practical examination requirement.	UFRA standards / program data
Durable public assets	County-funded rescue equipment is inventoried, assigned, governed, and returned to the County.	Agreement Sections 3, 5–7
Regional coordination	The agreement links Weber County to a Northern Region technical-rescue framework and grant opportunities.	Agreement Section 8

What the evidence does—and does not—prove

The evidence proves that the units are regularly included in CAD responses and that the agreement funds a defined level of readiness. It does not prove that Heavy Rescue performed hands-on technical work on all 637 incidents. CAD unit-status timestamps, cancellation codes, narratives, and patient-care records would be needed to distinguish dispatch, arrival, staging, cancellation, and specific operational actions. A credible defense of the program should state that limitation openly. [\[1\]\[2\]](#)

The public-policy test

The relevant question is not whether every Heavy Rescue dispatch results in a complex extrication. Specialized response systems are designed to arrive before the full complexity of an event is known. The evidence-based policy test is whether Weber County faces recurring complex-rescue hazards; whether the units are regularly assigned; whether the program has a defined readiness obligation; and whether the cost is proportionate to the capability purchased. On the supplied record, each answer is yes. [\[1\]\[2\]](#)

7. Weber County case studies

These cases illustrate the operating environment behind the CAD totals. They are not used to inflate the utilization count. Where news coverage does not confirm formal Heavy Rescue activation, the case is labeled as capability-demand evidence rather than a confirmed Heavy Rescue operation.

I-84 canyon pinned driver — confirmed Heavy Rescue operation

On July 4, 2023, a vehicle left Interstate 84 and struck a rock formation. Gephardt Daily reported that Riverdale Heavy Rescue 41 was summoned to cut the vehicle open so responders could remove the pinned driver. The report also identified Weber Fire Heavy Rescue among the responding agencies. The patient was treated while trapped and transported in critical condition. This is direct public documentation of specialized Heavy Rescue equipment being used to create access to a patient. [5]

Roy manhole rescue — multi-hazard technical rescue

On March 25, 2022, a woman fell through an unsecured manhole cover, became trapped, and broke a water pipe. KUTV reported that crews simultaneously pumped water, removed the cover, and freed her during a technical rescue lasting about 50 minutes. Roy, Ogden, Riverdale, Weber Fire District, law enforcement, and dispatch resources assisted. The article does not identify a specific Heavy Rescue unit; it demonstrates the kind of below-grade, water, access, and entrapment problem for which the program is organized. [6]

Roy aircraft crash — Heavy Rescue assignment documented by CAD

On July 24, 2024, a twin-engine aircraft crashed into a residential yard about a mile from Ogden-Hinckley Airport. KUTV reported two occupants treated and transported, aircraft damage, and damage to a home. The supplied CAD export lists H41 on incident 24RF3523, classified AIRPLANE CRASH. The combined sources establish the local aircraft-rescue exposure and the Heavy Rescue assignment; they do not establish that the occupants required cutting or disentanglement on this specific call. [1][7]

Weber River response — demonstrated swiftwater hazard

On May 3, 2025, a 17-year-old disappeared in the Weber River. Gephardt Daily reported fast current, a response by Weber County Fire, the Sheriff's Office and Search and Rescue, swiftwater teams searching the banks, divers entering the water, and air transport after the patient was found. Because the report includes Search and Rescue and does not identify HE2, H41, or HL66, it should not be counted as a confirmed Heavy Rescue CAD incident. It does demonstrate the recurring moving-water hazard addressed by the agreement's swiftwater and ice-rescue training requirement. [2][8]

Marriott-Slaterville roof collapse — collapse-rescue exposure

On September 1, 2024, KSL reported that the roof of a commercial building collapsed within three minutes of fire crews arriving. Two occupants had escaped, and a Riverdale firefighter was transported for hand injuries. The article does not identify formal Heavy Rescue activation. It demonstrates why structural-collapse readiness, collapse zones, monitoring, shoring, breaching, and firefighter-rescue capability must exist before an unstable-building event. [2][9]

Vehicles into buildings — repeated combined hazards

The CAD export contains 90 unique Heavy Rescue incidents classified VEH VS BLDG. News coverage of an October 2023 Weber Human Services collision reported major building damage and a multi-agency response. The data establishes that this is not a singular scenario: vehicle stabilization, patient access, and structural stability may have to be managed together. The 90-call count does not establish that structural shoring was performed on every incident. [1][12]

8. Recommendation and accountability framework

The evidence supports continued funding. The more defensible position is not unconditional funding without measurement; it is continued investment paired with a transparent annual readiness and utilization report. That approach protects the capability and gives commissioners the information needed to govern it.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Continue the Heavy Rescue agreement at no less than the documented \$164,300 program level, subject to confirmation of the executed contract, and direct staff to produce an annual Heavy Rescue performance report.

Required annual report

Measure	Minimum reporting content
Utilization	Dispatches, en route, arrivals, cancellations, staging, mutual aid, time on scene, and unit-hours by HE2, H41, and HL66.
Operations	Incident type, technical discipline used, rescue action performed, patients accessed or removed, and major equipment deployed.
Readiness	Roster strength, on-duty coverage, vacancies, certification by discipline and level, and lapsed credentials.
Training	Available and completed course hours by member, drills, competency evaluations, replacement/backfill cost, and training gaps.
Certification	Credential by discipline and level, expiration date, three-year training record, technician examination date/result, and recertification status.
Equipment	Inventory, condition, readiness status, replacement schedule, purchases, and grant-funded assets.
Finance	County allocation, agency contribution where measurable, grants, spending by category, and cost per available hour / incident.
Performance	Response-time distribution, percentage arriving before cancellation, multi-unit events, after-action findings, and corrective actions.
Response level	Initial tier, escalation reason, number of qualified technicians and apparatus, cancellation/release time, and whether the anticipated technical hazard was confirmed.

Decision statement

Based on the supplied CAD records, the agreement, Utah certification structure, and documented local incidents, Weber County Heavy Rescue is a regularly assigned regional capability with a defined public-safety mission and a comparatively small county funding requirement. Eliminating or materially degrading the program would remove specialized training, coordinated staffing, distributed apparatus capability, and durable equipment from a system that appears on hundreds of incidents. The available evidence supports continuation, performance reporting, and disciplined investment—not elimination. [1][2][3][5][6][7]

Appendix A. Data methodology and limitations

Method item	Treatment
Source period	2024 and 2025 complete sheets; 2026 records through June 17.
Heavy Rescue identifiers	HE2 = Heavy Rescue 2; H41 = Heavy Rescue 41; HL66 = Heavy Ladder 66, as confirmed by the program representative.
Unit-field normalization	All columns whose names begin with "Unit" were combined and normalized to uppercase text.
Unique-incident rule	An incident was counted once if any of the three Heavy Rescue identifiers appeared. Multiple units on one incident were not double-counted.
Multi-unit rule	An incident was labeled multi-unit when two or three of the identifiers appeared.
Time rules	Night = 6:00 p.m.–5:59 a.m.; weekend = Saturday or Sunday. Night and weekend categories overlap.
Scope limitation	The workbook's selection criteria are not documented. Therefore, the analysis does not claim that the 982 workbook rows represent all fire, EMS, or public-safety incidents in Weber County.
Operational limitation	Unit listing proves CAD association/assignment, not arrival or hands-on action. Unit status histories and narratives are needed for operational confirmation.
Contract limitation	The supplied agreement is a draft with tracked changes and a stated term ending December 31, 2025. Current execution and renewal status must be confirmed.
News limitation	News stories are illustrative and incomplete. They are not used as the primary utilization denominator.

Appendix B. Monthly Heavy Rescue CAD incidents

Month	Unique incidents
January 2024	32
February 2024	14
March 2024	16
April 2024	21
May 2024	24
June 2024	19
July 2024	20
August 2024	23
September 2024	24
October 2024	18
November 2024	27
December 2024	19
January 2025	28
February 2025	22
March 2025	33
April 2025	18
May 2025	12
June 2025	19
July 2025	22
August 2025	12
September 2025	22
October 2025	17

Month	Unique incidents
November 2025	24
December 2025	18
January 2026	27
February 2026	16
March 2026	25
April 2026	24
May 2026	32
June 2026 (through June 17)	9

Monthly counts use the unique-incident methodology described in Appendix A. [1]

Appendix C. Source list

- [1] HR Data set.xlsx, supplied Weber Area CAD export covering 2024, 2025, and 2026 through June 17, 2026.
- [2] Weber County Technical Rescue Team Agreement Updated Draft 2 (2024) (003), supplied draft with tracked changes; Sections 1, 3–8.
- [3] Utah Fire and Rescue Academy, “Certification,” Technical Rescue—NFPA 1006, 2021 Edition.
<https://www.uvu.edu/ufra/certification/index.html>
- [4] Unified Fire Authority, “Heavy Rescue.” <https://unifiedfireut.gov/heavy-rescue/>
- [5] Gephardt Daily, “Critically injured driver extricated after Weber County accident,” July 5, 2023.
<https://gephardtdaily.com/local/critically-injured-driver-extricated-after-weber-county-accident/>
- [6] KUTV, “Rescue crews respond to person who fell, became trapped in Roy manhole,” March 25, 2022.
<https://kutv.com/news/local/rescue-crews-respond-to-person-who-fell-because-trapped-in-roy-manhole>
- [7] KUTV, “Plane crashes in front yard of home near Ogden Hinckley Airport,” July 24–25, 2024.
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