

Overview: Developing an Incident Command Information Tool to Protect Drinking Water

Doug Ryan

USDA Forest Service

Research and Development

A stylized silhouette of a mountain range in shades of teal, located at the bottom right of the slide.



Current Situation

- ◆ Drinking water sources are vulnerable to terrorist attack
- ◆ Protection is expensive and takes time
- ◆ Steps needed to minimize consequences to the public of an attack
- ◆ Rapid, effective response to an attack can reduce public risk.


Protecting the Public

- ◆ Incident Commanders direct first responders in emergencies
- ◆ Timely and accurate information vital for effective action
- ◆ Drinking water information widely scattered
- ◆ Not readily available in an emergency

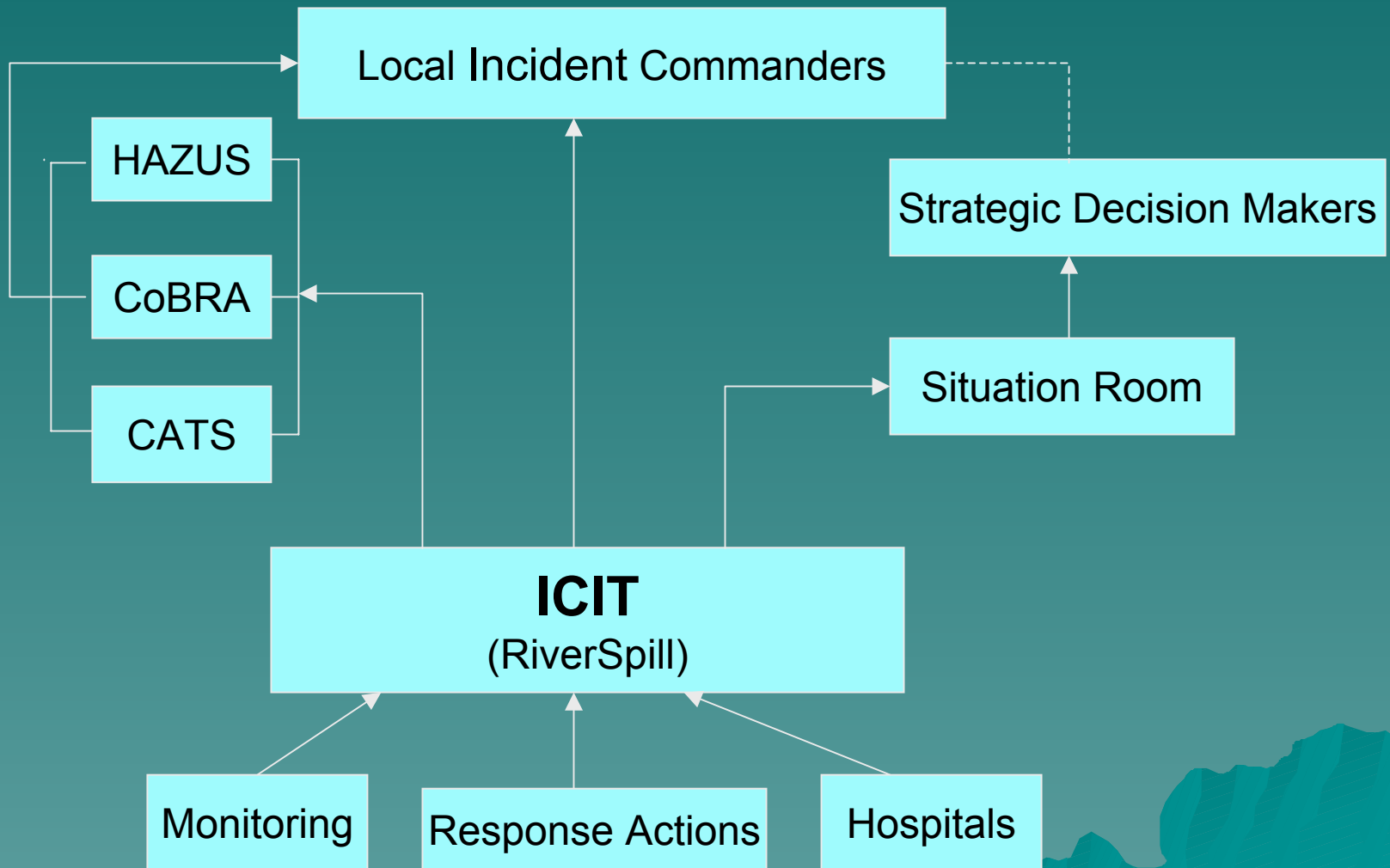
Information Tool Needed

- ◆ Gather critical information
- ◆ Single, secure site
- ◆ Provide access for Incident Commanders
- ◆ Cover all 50 States
- ◆ Implement through consortium of Federal, State and Local agencies

Why the Forest Service?

- ◆ Cadre of trained Incident Commanders
 - ◆ Experience responding to wildland fires and other major disaster response.
 - ◆ National Forests important source of public drinking water.
- 
- A stylized silhouette of a mountain range in shades of teal, located at the bottom right of the slide.

Incident Command Information Tool (ICIT)



ICIT Development Phases

```
graph TD; A[Requirements] --> B[Pilot]; B --> C[Operational];
```

Requirements

Pilot

Operational

We Need Your Participation

- ◆ What information should go into ICIT?
- ◆ What should format, resolution, timing, etc. be for ICIT output?
- ◆ Who should use the Tool?
- ◆ What will facilitate Tools adoption and use?

Some Side Boards

- ◆ ICIT is an Information Tool
- ◆ NOT an Artificial Intelligence Device
- ◆ Assume ICIT will be deployed securely
- ◆ How to make ICIT secure is OFF today's agenda

Summary

- ◆ Water sources are vulnerable
- ◆ Preparedness will reduce consequences to the public of an attack.
- ◆ Incident Commanders need timely information to act effectively.
- ◆ Tool will provide ICs critical information when they need it.
- ◆ Your participation is vital.