

**GA Department of Natural Resources  
Search and Rescue Team**

**Policy Manual**

**Revised 2015**

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## **Mission Statement:**

To provide specialized skills, both through prevention and active operations, in an all hazards environment so that lives may be saved and suffering minimized.

## **Scope of Work:**

A. Provide specialized incident management and technical skills not readily available from other sources.

B. Carry out search and rescue work:

- (1) On DNR owned and operated lands.
- (2) When an official request is received from a pre-approved agency
- (3) As a DNR resource of G.E.M.A., Georgia Emergency Management Agency – Homeland Security.

C. Job Related Responsibility:

- (1) The saving of human life is the highest priority. The minimizing of human suffering is second only to the saving of life.
- (2) Proper knowledge, skills, equipment and training are crucial in accomplishing the mission with the least disruption of normal operations, minimal expenditure of time and money, and least risk to employee or public.
- (3) DNR SAR Team participation is generally voluntary; however, in some instances, may be a part of the job description, making it mandatory. Participation is considered a job-related activity within the scope of each member's duties.
- (4) DNR expects the Team Member to safely carry out SAR Team assignments and function only at levels that do not exceed their training.
- (5) Team Members expect DNR to provide instruction, proper equipment and support logistics.
- (6) DNR SAR Team will remain an organizational member of NASAR (National Association of Search and Rescue).
- (7) Participation in efforts at preventive search and rescue education via lecture and/or demonstration; law enforcement continuing education; lost prevention publication and programs; and passive displays and exhibits.

## **Staffing:**

A. Made up of DNR Staff and volunteers from throughout Georgia with emphasis on certain localities where the probability of SAR incident is high. Areas will include, but are not limited to, Georgia's State Parks, Historic Sites, Wildlife Management areas, Public Fishing Areas and other areas managed by the DNR.

## **Team Membership:**

A. Interested candidates must make application to the SAR Team Chief for review by the Command Staff.

(See [Appendix # 16](#) for SAR Team Member Application)

B. Acceptance to SAR Team is based upon applicant meeting certain basic requirements as listed below:

- (1) Must have completed a minimum of one-year continuous service as an employee or volunteer of DNR, unless membership is a job requirement
- (2) Must maintain an overall performance evaluation of "Met Expectations". If overall "Met Expectations" is not attained, performance should be reevaluated in 90 days.
- (3) Must be at least 21 years of age.
- (4) As a prerequisite for membership, applicant must have and maintain current certificate for CPR and First Aid.
- (5) Must have approval of supervisor for team membership.
- (6) Must achieve minimum training standards within 2<sup>nd</sup> year of service.

C. Each SAR Team member must annually review the SAR Team Policy & Procedures Manual.

D. Each SAR Team member will be required to meet training requirements as outlined in this policy manual.

E. SAR Team Volunteer members much abide by the following:

- (1) Meet or exceed established requirements, including insurance, or the DNR-PRHS Volunteer Program.
- (2) Agree to operate according to identified SAR Team Policies and Procedures.
- (3) Volunteer must cover incurred cost.

### **Safety:**

- A. It should be recognized that SAR is inherently dangerous and the proper attitude concerning safety is critical. Safety will be the responsibility of both Incident Management and Individual SAR Team Member.
- B. Individual rescuer will not operate beyond their training and ability.
- C. All equipment used must meet SAR Team standards for conditions and performance.
- D. Personal protection equipment must be used when needed.

### **Training Requirements:**

- A. Minimum Training Requirements for all SAR Team Members:
  - (1) 8 Hours of full SAR Team training is required of each member annually
  - (2) 8 Hours of specialty squad training is recommended each year. Team members are encouraged to attend search and rescue training opportunities with their local fire departments throughout the year.
  - (3) All SAR Team Members who do not meet the 8 hour annual training requirement will be listed as a member of the support team. The members of the support team will only be allowed to work in low risk environments such as the staging area, the command post and other support areas. Team members who complete the annual training requirement will then be available for any assignments which correspond to their training level. An Incident Commander or the SAR Team Chief may overrule this policy and reassign a support team member to full team membership at their discretion.
- B. Contact Medical Officer, Training Officer, SAR Team Chief or Squad Leaders for recommended reading.

## **Media Procedures:**

A. Purpose: The purpose of allowing media representatives into a scene is to quickly disseminate information to the public. It is the intention of PRHS SAR to provide factual information in a timely manner to all concerned parties.

- (1) All questions are to be answered by the Public Information Officer, Incident Commander or their appointee.
- (2) All interviews and conversations with media personnel are on the record at all times using only factual data.
- (3) An area for the media should be set aside as soon as time allows. The area should be out of site of the key areas of the search such as the incident command post and staging areas. Power, internet access and phones should be made available where possible.
- (4) Media personnel should have their credentials displayed at all times
- (5) Media personnel should be escorted when access to the search area, incident command post or staging area are requested.
- (6) Personnel should be mindful of their conversations at all times while at the scene of a search and rescue operation.

B. Photos and video at the scene of a search:

- (1) Purpose: The recording of scenes at a search can be crucial to preserve evidence as well as future training operations.
- (2) Photos and video should only be recorded on equipment owned by the GA Department of Natural Resources.
- (3) Personal recording equipment should never be used at search and rescue operation except in extreme circumstances where key evidence may be lost if not immediately recorded. In those circumstances, the image should be placed on GA DNR owned equipment as soon as possible and deleted entirely from any personal device.
- (4) Images of the victim should not include the face or any recognizable features. No images should be taken of any part of the body which would not be covered by a swim suit that could be worn in public.
- (5) Any images taken should be treated as both evidence and the property of the GA Department of Natural Resources.
- (6) No images will be released at any time until approved by the Director of the Parks and Historic Sites Division.

C. Social media in reference to search and rescue operations:

- (1) Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to protect both the privacy of a victim as well as the integrity of the PRHS SAR Team.
- (2) No member of the PRHS SAR Team should use or update their personal social media accounts while in route to, involved in or returning home from a search and rescue incident.
- (3) No member of the PRHS SAR Team may post any information to their social media account regarding search and rescue operations at any time.
- (4) No member of the PRHS SAR Team may post any content on their personal social media account that would bring shame or incur added liability to the PRHS SAR Team.

**Organizational Structure:**

- A. SAR Team administration is supervised by PRHS Division Region I Manager
- B. SAR Team Command Staff should consist of SAR Team Chief, Asst. SAR Team Chief, Squad Leaders, Training Officer, Medical Officer, Chaplain, IT Officer, Wellness Officer, and Volunteer Coordinator.
- C. If vacancy occurs on SAR Team Command Staff, remaining members will make a recommendation for replacement to SAR Team supervisor.
- D. SAR Team Squad should consist of:
- (1) Squad Leader: Duties are to perform annual evaluations, initial evaluations, coordinate training, carry out administrative functions, and annual review of preplans.
  - (2) Assistant Squad Leader: Serves as squad second in command and is responsible for team/individual equipment needs, inventory and maintenance.
  - (3) Squad Training Coordinator: Is responsible for the schedule and coordination of squad training.
  - (4) Squad Medical Coordinator: Should be trained as EMT, former EMT, First Responder, Wilderness First Responder, or better. Provides medical training and expertise, coordinates medical needs, and maintains medical supplies and equipment.
  - (5) Squad Chaplain: Provides spiritual support and guidance, especially in critical stress situations.

E. Training and experience requirements for leadership positions

- (1) Each leadership position carries responsibilities that should not be taken without the proper training and experience. The following is a list of requirements that must be met prior to advancing to a higher leadership position.
- (2) Team Member:
  - Complete the NASAR Fundamentals of Search and Rescue Course or its equivalent
  - Certified at a minimum of First Responder or Wilderness First Responder
- (3) Assistant Squad Leader:
  - Complete a 16 hour managing the lost person search class
  - Serve as team member for a minimum of 1 year
- (4) Squad Leader:
  - Complete the requirements for Assistant Squad Leader
  - Serve as Assistant Squad Leader for a minimum of 1 year or 3 years as team member
  - Complete the NASAR Tech II certification
  - Complete ICS 200, 700 and 800
- (5) Specialty Squad Leader:
  - Incident Management
    - Complete the requirements for Squad Leader
    - Serve on the specialty squad for a minimum of 1 year
    - Complete ICS 300 and 400

- High Angle Squad
  - Complete the requirements for Squad Leader
  - Serve on the specialty squad for a minimum of 1 year
  - Complete Technician Level Training or equivalent
- Cave Rescue Squad
  - Complete the requirements for Squad Leader
  - Serve on the specialty squad for a minimum of 1 year
  - Complete NCRC Tech. II Training
- Swift Water Rescue Squad
  - Complete the requirements for Squad Leader
  - Serve on the specialty squad for a minimum of 1 year
  - Complete Technician Level Training or equivalent

(6) Training Officer:

- Serve as a team member for a minimum of 3 years
- Maintain current POST/Military/Fire Instructorship or educational equivalent

(7) Medical Officer:

- Serve as a team member for a minimum of 3 years
- Minimum of Advanced EMT certification

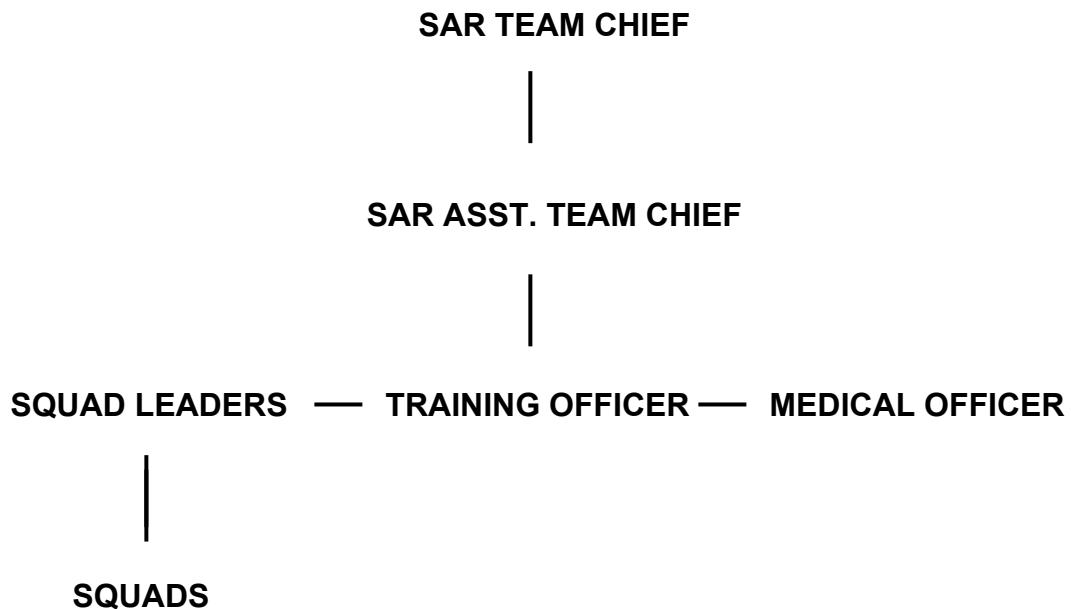
(8) Assistant Chief:

- Serve as a Squad Leader for 2 years or 4 years of team membership
- Complete all the requirements for Squad Leader
- Complete ICS 300 and 400

(9) Chief:

- Serve in leadership position for 2 years or 5 years of team membership
- Complete all the requirements for Assistant Chief
- Serve at least 1 year on a specialty squad

**Diagram of Team Organization**



## **Equipment Standards:**

- A. Survival Equipment Standard shall meet or exceed NASAR SAR Tech Equipment Standards as budget allows.
- B. Uniforms will be issued by the SART Command Staff as budget allows. The uniform will consist of yellow polo's, t-shirts and jackets with "DNR SAR" and the approved emblem. Black BDU pants will also be issued as budget allows.
- C. Communications Equipment Standards. (See Appendix # 4)
- D. First Aid Equipment Standards. (See Appendix # 5)
- E. Technical Rescue Equipment Standards
  - (1) Rope/Cave Rescue (See Appendix # 6)
  - (2) Swift Water Rescue (See Appendix # 7)
- G. Search Management Equipment Standards (See Appendix # 8)

## **Budget:**

- A. A separate budget is sometimes assigned to the SAR Team for supplies, equipment, training, gear replacement, and travel. When a separate budget is not assigned, specific site funds should cover any expenses.
- B. With approval of the SAR Team Supervisor, at no cost, the SAR Team and assisting agencies shall be allowed to stay in DNR group camps, cottages/lodge rooms, provided food and utilization of the facilities during operations and training only if subject to availability with priority for the off season use.
- C. The SAR Team will attempt to monitor and control all expenses, including travel, to the best of their ability.

## **Administrative Standards:**

- A. The SAR Team Policy and Procedures Manual will expire five years from date of acceptance. At that time or sooner, the Command Staff will review and make any necessary revisions. Subsequent revised editions will expire every five years and require the review process.
- B. Administrative procedures will follow Incident Command System administrative and reporting procedures.
  - (1) DNR-SAR Team Form #201 will be completed for each incident.
  - (2) For any incident requiring activation of more than one squad, a 201 shall be completed prior to arrival of additional resources.
  - (3) If incident expands, additional ICS Forms will be used as appropriate.
  - (4) Upon completion of incident, the IC (Incident Commander) is responsible for ensuring appropriate paperwork is completed and distributed as follows:
    - a. Original filed with site of occurrence
    - b. Copies sent to SAR Team Chief, appropriate SAR Team Squad Leader, PRHS Division Assistant Chief of Operations, appropriate PRHS Region Supervisor, or appropriate WR Division Game Management Region Supervisor.
    - c. All reports should be processed within 10 days of incident.
    - d. If other agencies or resources are utilized, appropriate letters of appreciation will be written within 10 days of incident.
    - e. The Squad Leader shall keep records of training on each SAR Team member. It is also the responsibility of the Team Member to assist Squad Leader in keeping these records current. A SAR Team Master Training Log will be updated after each training course.
    - f. If criminal charges are filed, a rescue fee or restitution fee may be charged to the violator at the discretion of the local responsible court.

## **APPENDIX # 1**

### **PRE-APPROVED OUTSIDE AGENCIES**

The SAR Team is designed to provide specialized skills in technical search and rescue not readily provided by other sources. All SAR Team responses must be according to established policy and procedures outlined in this manual.

#### **THE FOLLOWING ARE APPROVED AGENCIES:**

- (1) Georgia DNR State Parks and Historic Sites, Wildlife Management Areas and DNR Public Fishing Areas.
- (2) Inter-Agency Easement Properties (i.e. trails in both National Forest and Georgia Department of Natural Resources.)
- (3) United States Forest Service properties when official request is received from Property Manager.
- (4) United States Fish and Wildlife Service properties when official request is received from Property Manager.
- (5) As a State Agency, Member of GEMA (Georgia Emergency Management Agency) – Homeland Security.
- (6) Georgia Power Company easement properties.
- (7) Incidents on State Boundary – If ongoing incident, which initially began within scope of SAR Team, escalates beyond state boundary, it is permissible to cross said boundaries in a mutual aid situation.
- (8) In support of DNR Aviation Unit

## **APPENDIX # 2**

### **FITNESS STANDARDS CRITERIA**

It should be recognized that search and rescue involves strenuous activity. The SAR worker must be prepared for any eventuality. This criterion is derived from the DNR, Law Enforcement Division's Physical Fitness Criteria and the Wild Land Fire Fighter Pack Test. For further information, refer to that manual. SAR Team member's fitness standards are voluntarily. Each member is encouraged to have a rating of "fair" or better.

#### **MALE TEAM MEMBER**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Age 20-29</b>	<b>Age 30-39</b>	<b>Age 40-49</b>	<b>Age 50 &amp; Up</b>	<b>Rating</b>
Push-ups	50+	40+	35+	29+	Excellent
Reps/Min	40-49	30-39	25-34	25-28	Good
	30-39	15-29	15-24	15-24	Fair
	20-29	10-20	10-14	10-14	Poor
Sit-ups	49+	Same for Each Age Group			Excellent
Reps/Min	42-48	Same for Each Age Group			Good
	35-41	Same for Each Age Group			Fair
	26-34	Same for Each Age Group			Poor
1 ½ Mile	<9:45	<10:00	<10:30	<11:00	Superior
Run	9:45-10:45	10:00-11:00	10:30-11:30	11:00-12:30	Excellent
Time	10:46-12:00	11:01-12:30	11:31-13:00	12:31-14:30	Good
Min:Sec	12:01-14:00	12:31-15:45	13:01-15:35	14:31-17:00	Fair
	14:01-16:00	15:46-16:30	15:36-17:30	17:01-19:00	Poor
	16:00+	16:30+	17:30+	19:00+	Very Poor

#### **FEMALE TEAM MEMBER**

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>AGE 20-29</b>	<b>AGE -30-39</b>	<b>AGE 40-49</b>	<b>AGE 50-59</b>	<b>RATING</b>
Push-Ups	45>	39>	33>	28>	Superior
Reps/Min	36-44	31-38	24-32	21-27	Excellent
	30-35	24-30	18-23	17-20	Good
	23-29	19-23	13-17	12-16	Fair
	17-22	11-18	6-12	6-11	Poor
	<16	<10	<5	<5	Very Poor
Sit-Ups	51>	42>	38>	30>	Superior
Reps/Min	40-50	35-41	29-37	24-29	Excellent
	38-43	29-34	24-28	20-23	Good
	32-37	25-28	20-23	14-19	Fair
	27-31	20-24	14-19	10-13	Poor
	<26	<19	<13	<9	Very Poor

1 ½ Mile	<10.47	<11.49	<12.51	<11.00	Superior
Run/Time	10:48-12:51	11:50-13:43	12:52-14:31	14:21-15:57	Excellent
	12:52-14:24	13:44-15:08	14:32-15:57	15:58-16:58	Good
Min:Sec	14:25-15:26	15:09-15:57	15:58-16:58	16:59-17:55	Fair
	15:27-16:33	15:58-17:14	16:59-18:00	17:56-18:49	Poor
	16:34>	17:15>	18:01>	18:50>	Very Poor

#### OR Wild Land Firefighter Pack Test

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Refer to DNR, Wildlife Resources Division, Law Enforcement Section PHYSICAL FITNESS MANUAL for explanation and pertinent rationale for testing criteria and NFPA documents for PACK TEST.

\*These figures will not be used in team status evaluation. Recommend (not mandatory) that SAR members that do not carry a red card pass the pack test.

Or Wild Land Firefighter Pack Test: Arduous – 3 miles in 45 minutes with 45 lbs; Moderate – 2 miles in 30 minutes with 25 lbs. Recommend that SAR members that do not carry a red card, pass the pack test.

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#### MALE AND FEMALE TEAM MEMBER

##### **Pack Test**

Red Card - ability to pass Wild Land Fire Fighter Pack Test, Arduous - 3 miles in 45 minutes with 45 lb. Pack or Moderate – 2 miles in 30 minutes with a 25 lb. Park. Recommend that SAR members that do not carry a red card, pass the pack test

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## **APPENDIX # 3**

### **Fatigue Management Policy**

Rescuers are taught a large variety of skills. Many deal with how to function safely on task. For instance, how air, water, food and sleep are an essential physiological need.

Fatigue becomes a common and often life-threatening problem due to several factors. These include: the limited numbers of adequately trained and skilled individuals as well as the need for incident specific knowledge makes rescuers more valuable to the operation.

The goals of the SAR Team Fatigue Management Policy are:

1. Prevent fatigue-related accidents.
2. Help SAR Team members to better understand the relationship between sleepiness and accidents.
3. To enable SAR Team members to better understand what causes sleep and why time of day is important.
4. Understand and ensure timely implementation of fatigue related accident prevention, including methods to obtain core sleep, utilization of naps, pre-planning sleep schedule, recognition of sleepiness, tailoring operational response based on sleep needs and appropriate action when sleepiness occurs while driving.

The action plan for obtaining these objectives includes:

1. Fatigue awareness discussed in Fundamentals of Search and Rescue.
2. Implementation of sleep strategies, such as:
  - (a.) Increase staffing levels
  - (b.) Stop or limit operations.
  - (c.) Decrease the need for sleep by allowing more core sleep time.
  - (d.) Shorten sleep and augment with naps.
  - (e.) Adopt fragmented sleep schedule.
3. Incident Commander and Safety Officers, along with individual team members, shall monitor fatigue levels and make recommendations as to action members should take.

## **APPENDIX # 4**

### **COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT STANDARDS**

Each SAR Team member should have a device for means of communication. This standard will be met through the issuing of SAR Team radios, GPS Units with radios and/or the use of personal cell phones. Radios will be cached where not appropriate to issue. The following items will also be issued as budget and situation dictates:

Carrying case for each radio. \*

At least one extra battery for each radio. \*

Waterproof Radio Bags and Chest Harness for each radio. \*

Operation speaker microphone for each radio. \*

This list is derived from SAR Team member recommendations, Walker County Cave Rescue Squad Equipment Lists and various publications including: "Wilderness Search and Rescue" by Setnicka, "Manual of U.S. Cave Rescue Techniques" by Hudson, "Managing the Search Function" by NASAR Course Text and numerous other publications.

\* Note: These will be provided as budget allows. SAR Team Chief in conjunction with Assistant SAR Team Chief, and SAR Team Command Staff does priorities for assignment.

## **APPENDIX # 5**

### **FIRST AID EQUIPMENT STANDARDS**

Individual Needs: (Each SAR Team Member)

Items listed in this category are to service the rescuer and to provide immediate care to the patient when first located. These are the basic requirements.

Waterproof Pack	Velcro Tourniquet
Moleskin	Sawyer Envenomization Kit
Betadine Pads	1 Trauma Dressing
4 Triangular Bandages	2 Space/Rescue Blankets
Benadryl Tablets	2 SAMS Splints
Sting Kill Swabs	Mini-Flashlight
(10) 4 x 4 Gauze Pads	Aspirin
Pair EMT Scissors	Tweezers
CPR Mask w/one way valve	Antacid
Latex Gloves, Medical Type	Adhesive Tape
Assorted Bandages	Matches
Insta-Glucose (1 Tube)	Universal Cervical Collar
First Aid Cream	Cold Packs
Merthiolate Swabs	Alcohol Prep Swabs
Paper and Pencil	Heat Packs
Lip Balm/Sun Screen	Eye Wash Solution
Insect Repellent	Ammonia Inhalants
Personal Prescription Drugs or Glasses	

Or a Wilderness Adventures Mountain Medic Pack.

## **APPENDIX # 6**

### **TECHNICAL ROPE/CAVE RESCUE EQUIPMENT STANDARDS**

Individual Needs: (Each HAO certified member should have the following)

Helmet, UIAA Approved	Commercial Seat Harness
2 Large Locking D Carabiners	1 Non-Locking Carabiners
8 Locking 'D' Carabiners	1 Rescue Pulley, 2"
2 Ascenders w/Spring Tooth	Pair Ascender Slings
1 Prusik Knot Sling	20' x 1" Tubular Webbing
Pair Gloves, Light Leather	Anchor Strap
2 Pair Latex Gloves, Medical	12' x 1" Tubular Webbing
Rescue Bag/Rucksack	Canteen/Bottle, 1 qt.
Pair Boots, Lug Sole	2 Rope Pads
Emergency Harness	Commercial Chest Harness
1 Ascender for Chest	
Rappel Device (Rescue Rack Preferred, Fig. 8W/ears)	
150' x 7/16" Static Kernmantle Rope and Rope Bag	

Cave Needs:

Cave Suit
2 Additional Light Sources
Cave Gear Bag

Squad Needs:

Gear Bag	SKED Stretcher System
Assorted Carabiners	Assorted Rescue Pulleys
Assorted Rope Pads	2 Chest Harness
2 Edge Rollers	Litter Spider Prerig
1 Haul System Set	1 Lower System Set
Assorted Anchor Straps	Assorted Lengths Tubular Webbing
Rope Washer	Rope End Dip-Rope Meter & Cutter
Rope I.D. Tags	Headlamps, Rechargeable
Loud Hailer	Spotting Scope/Binoculars
2 Pairs Snowshoes	Ice Axe
Assorted Pitons/Hex Nuts	Piton Hammer
3 Pairs Ascenders	3 Rappel Racks, 6 Bar, Rescue Type

Rope Bags for Each Individual Length of Rope

Rope, Static Kernmantle, 6/16" Diameter in these Lengths:

- 1 each, 90'
- 6 each, 150'
- 2 each, 300'
- 1 each, 600'
- 1 each, 1200' (On Spool)

## **APPENDIX # 7**

### **WHITE WATER RESCUE EQUIPMENT STANDARDS**

#### Individual Needs:

PFD (Personal Flotation Device), Type III or VI

Helmet, UIAA Swift Water Approved

Wetsuit

Carabiners, D-Shaped, Aluminum, Non-Locking

2 Each, Prusik Slings, 7mm

Knife with one Serrated Edge and Place Locking Sheath

Whistle

Emergency Kit in Waterproof Container to Include:

Personal First Aid Kit

Waterproof Fire Starter, 2 Types

Space Blanket

Signaling Device

70' x ½" Polypropylene Yellow River Rescue Rope in Throw Bag

#### Squad Needs:

Inflatable Rubber Raft

4 Each 150' x ½" Polypropylene Yellow River Rescue Rope

4 Each 150' Capacity River Rescue Throw Bags

## **APPENDIX # 8**

### **SEARCH MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT STANDARDS**

Briefcase or storage box for planning kit  
Selection water soluble markers  
Ruler  
Pens & Pencils  
Pad of Paper  
Tape  
T-Card Organizer and 3x5 Index Cards or T-Cards  
Field Coordinator's Guide "Search is and Emergency"  
Map Coordinator Scale and Protractor  
DNR Search Sequence Handbook  
Site Preplans  
Compass, Clear Base W/Scale, Map Type, Lensatic, Liquid Filled,Luminous, Magnified  
Miscellaneous Map Tools  
Flagging Tape  
Radio Communications Equipment  
Various Area Maps: U.S. Geological Survey, Gridded 7.5 MinuteTopographical Maps,  
D.O.T. County Road Maps, Etc.  
ICS Field Operations Guide (ICS0420-1)  
ICS Form 201 (Rescue Summary & Incident Briefing)  
ICS Form 202 (Incident Objectives)  
ICS Form 205 (Incident Radio Communications Plan)  
ICS Form 214 (Unit Log)  
Personal or Lap Top Computer with Printer, Modem, Scanner, and Cell Phone  
Accessibility  
Power Converter  
Software Program for Re-programming High Band Radios  
Map Navigator Programs  
Up-to-Date Lost Person Behavior Reference Material (i.e. Alzheimer Patient Behavior  
ICS Signs  
4 Wipe Boards and Cleaner  
ICS Position Vests  
Blank "Urgency Determination Forms"  
Blank "Lost Person Questionnaires"

## **APPENDIX # 9**

### **DNR-SAR TEAM INFECTIOUS BODY FLUIDS AND BLOOD BORNE PATHOGENS POLICY**

This policy was developed to protect all DNR-SAR Team Associates from contact with body fluids and Blood Borne Pathogens. It is also designed to prevent cross-contamination between multiple patients. Due to the nature of the work involved in Search & Rescue, the potential exists for all Associates to come in contact with body fluids. It is required that all Associates comply with this policy.

#### **Prevention**

- All SART members are responsible for personal protection as outlined in this section. Any updates on policies will be forwarded to team members when it becomes available.

#### **Reporting and Administration**

- A record of all training vaccinations received and medical evaluations will be maintained.
- A record of all incidents (ICS Form 201) will be maintained.
- A record of all personnel responding to incidents and type of contact with trauma victims (ICS Form 201) will be maintained.
- A Workman's Compensation Report will be filed on all injuries sustained in a line of duty. This report will be filed within 24 hours of occurrence.

#### **Personal Protective Measures**

- Latex gloves will be worn when handling any medical patient.
- Latex gloves will be worn when in the vicinity of any patient and when performing an evaluation of a patient.
- Latex gloves will be changed between the handling of patients in multiple patient situations to prevent cross-contamination.
- It is encouraged to wear latex gloves under rappel or utility gloves when performing technical work.
- Those individuals performing patient care are to wear protective glasses or goggles to prevent contamination of mucous membranes.

- ❑ The use of personal protective face shield with a one-way air valve will be used when performing artificial respiration.
- ❑ All exposed body parts will be washed with soap and hot water and disinfected with one part bleach and 10 parts water or approved disinfectant material.

### **Decontamination**

- ❑ Dispose of all gloves, soiled bandages, and first-aid supplies in a trash bag labeled “Bio-Hazard”.
- ❑ Disinfect all equipment to include helmets, technical gear, stretchers, etc. with a 1:10 solution of bleach and water.
- ❑ Disinfect all ropes, webbing, bags, and harnesses by washing with soap and water in rope washer and/or washing machine.
- ❑ All exposed clothing will be washed in hot water and detergent. This clothing will be segregated from other washables.

**DNR SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM**  
**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: M F (Circle One)

Phone Number Home(\_\_\_\_\_) Work: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Position Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Position Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Years of DNR Service: \_\_\_\_\_ Permanent Status: Y N (Circle One)

List Prior Emergency Response Training/Experience (EMT, CPR, First Aid, Rock-Climbing,  
HAM Radio License, Winter Hiking, Orienteering, White Water, Etc.):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are there any medical problems, which might hinder your performance as an active member of the MSRT?

- Breathing/Respiratory
- Allergies
- Heart
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Swimming Ability: \_\_\_\_\_

- Membership is a requirement of my position.
- Membership is voluntary.

Disclaimer - Applicant is aware that participation in the DNR Mountain Search & Rescue Team often occurs under hazardous conditions, which could result in serious injury or death to the applicant.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit a recent photograph for I.D. purposed.  
Please submit a photocopy of all certifications.