

A. SAR MISSION TYPING

1. Some of the factors that determine the complexity of a SAR mission vary and may include some of the following;
 - a. The subject's profile
 - b. The subject's location
 - c. The impact on life and property
 - d. The safety of community and SAR responders
 - e. The potential for hazardous terrain and/or the condition of materials
 - f. The weather and/or other environmental factors
 - g. The likelihood of cascading events
 - h. The potential of a crime scene (including terrorism)
 - i. The aspect of political sensitivity, external influences, and/or media relations
 - j. The area involved to include proper jurisdictions
 - k. The availability of resources
 - l. The urgency of the response
 - m. The anticipated use of certain critical resources
2. The on-scene or assigned Incident Commander and the on-call Area Commander are responsible for determining the SAR mission Type. The New Mexico State Police Mission Initiator at the scene may assist in assigning a Type to the mission.
3. Once the mission Type is determined, the Incident Commander shall request resources to fulfill the mission objectives to include;
 - a. A higher Type Field Coordinator and command staff if needed.
 - b. A mission should be managed by the same Incident Commander type (i.e. a Type II mission should be managed by a Type II Incident Commander). Refer to SAR policy SAR-002.
4. A SAR mission shall be Type III if one (1) air asset or critical resource is utilized. SAR missions that utilize more than one critical resource shall be typed as a Type II mission.
5. A Type II or higher mission shall require the positioning of ALL incident command staff and Section Chiefs with appropriate personnel.

B. TASK FORCE TYPING

1. All task forces utilized in New Mexico for SAR operations shall be typed.
2. The minimum qualifications for all task forces are defined as:
 - a. TYPE IV -
 1. Field teams – two (2) to seven (7) personnel with one (1) assigned as the leader.

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2. All personnel must have the necessary equipment to stay in the field or Incident Base for up to four (4) hours.
 3. Field teams must have one (1) hand held radio per team that is capable of communicating with Incident Base.
 4. One (1) member per field team must be experienced with land navigational skills utilizing maps, compasses and Global Positioning Systems (GPS).
- b. TYPE III -
1. Field teams – two (2) to seven (7) personnel with one (1) assigned as the leader.
 2. All personnel must have the necessary equipment to stay in the field or Incident Base up to eight (8) hours.
 3. Field teams must have one (1) hand held radio that is capable of communicating with Incident Base on at least two SAR frequencies.
 4. One (1) member per field team must be experienced with land navigational skills utilizing maps, compasses and Global Positioning Systems (GPS).
- c. TYPE II -
1. Field teams – two (2) to seven (7) personnel with one (1) assigned as the leader who has completed the Field Team Leader training.
 2. All personnel must have the necessary equipment to stay in the field or Incident Base up to 12 hours.
 3. Field teams must have two (2) hand held radios that are capable of communicating with Incident Base on at least two (2) SAR frequencies.
 4. Field teams must have one (1) HAM licensed operator with one (1) hand held radio capable of operating on the HAM frequencies.
 5. At least two (2) members per field team must be experienced with land navigational skills utilizing maps, compasses and Global Positioning Systems (GPS).
 6. At least one (1) member per field team should have basic medical training and be authorized to provide medical treatment in the field.
- d. TYPE I -
1. Field teams – two (2) to seven (7) personnel with one (1) assigned as the leader who has completed the Field Team Leader training.
 2. All personnel must be able to carry the necessary equipment to stay in the field up to 24 hours.
 3. Field teams must have at least two (2) hand held radios that are capable of communicating with Incident Base on three or more SAR frequencies.
 4. Field teams must have at least one (1) HAM licensed operator with one (1) hand held radio capable of utilizing the HAM frequencies.
 5. All field team members must be experienced with land navigational skills utilizing maps, compasses and Global Positioning Systems (GPS).

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6. At least one (1) member per field team should have advance medical training and be authorized to provide medical treatment in the field.
3. Additional qualifications may be determined by the Incident Commander (i.e. for a Type III Search Task Force, the Incident Commander may add at least two members who have fair to good knowledge of critical separation and search methods).

7.0 ATTACHMENTS

NONE

8.0 APPROVAL

APPROVED BY: _____ DATE: _____

DPS Cabinet Secretary