

# NCSSAR OHV TEAM GUIDELINES

<b>Search Environment Type</b>			
<b>Type 1 Extreme / Complex Terrain Environments</b>	<b>Type 2 Rugged Terrain Environments</b>	<b>Type 3 Moderate / Gentle Terrain Environments</b>	<b>Type 4 Urban Environments</b>
Extreme Conditions (including but not limited to) Altitude (generally 7000+) or Snow, Ice, Desert, Heat, Heavy Ground Cover Steep difficult terrain.	Rugged Conditions, Altitude generally under 7000', Desert, Heat, Cold, Moderate to Heavy Ground Cover.	Gently Rolling Terrain, Open Spaces, Maintained Trailheads, Agricultural Areas.	High Traffic, Urban Office Complexes, Man-Made Surfaces, Public Interaction and Park Trails.

## Team Member Capabilities and Skills

	<b>TYPE 1</b>	<b>TYPE 2</b>	<b>TYPE 3</b>	<b>TYPE 4</b>
<b>Member qualified for Area Type</b>	<b>1/2/3/4 Multiple Operational Period</b>	<b>2/3/4 Single Operational Period</b>	<b>3/4 Limited Deployment</b>	<b>4 Urban Deployment</b>
<b>Operational periods w/o external support</b>	Capable of multiple operational periods, up to 72 hours in the field.	Capable of field assignments up to one day. With the possibility of a night in the field.	Capable of searching for one 12 hour operational period with self support	Capable of searching for one 12 hour operational period without self support
<b>Medical Skills</b>	First Responder	Current First Aid/ Adult/Child/Infant CPR	Current First Aid/ Adult/Child/Infant CPR	Current First Aid/ Adult/Child/Infant CPR
<b>Radio Communications</b>	Member should be familiar with basic radio communication skills. This should include: understanding the use of Mutual Aid Radio Frequencies and basic radio etiquette.	Member should be familiar with basic radio communication skills. This should include: understanding the use of Mutual Aid Radio Frequencies and basic radio etiquette.	Member should be familiar with basic radio communication skills. This should include: understanding the use of Mutual Aid Radio Frequencies and basic radio etiquette.	Member should be familiar with basic radio communication skills. This should include: understanding the use of Mutual Aid Radio Frequencies and basic radio etiquette.
<b>Knowledge of Basic SEMS/ICS</b>	Member should be familiar with the "Standardized Emergency Management System/ICS"	Member should be familiar with the "Standardized Emergency Management System/ICS"	Member should be familiar with the "Standardized Emergency Management System/ICS"	Member should be familiar with the "Standardized Emergency Management System/ICS"
<b>Helicopter Safety</b>	Basic Helicopter Safety Knowledge and familiarity with Loading/ Unloading - Both Hot and Cold Establish LZ Hoist operations	Basic Helicopter Safety Knowledge and familiarity with Loading/ Unloading - Both Hot and Cold Establish LZ Hoist operations	Basic Helicopter Safety Knowledge and familiarity with Loading/ Unloading - Both Hot and Cold Help establish LZ	Basic Helicopter Safety Help establish LZ
<b>Interview Skills</b>	Member should be familiar with the handling of sensitive information and basic interview skills when dealing with witnesses and the public.	Member should be familiar with the handling of sensitive information and basic interview skills when dealing with witnesses and the public.	Member should be familiar with the handling of sensitive information and basic interview skills when dealing with witnesses and the public.	Member should be familiar with the handling of sensitive information and basic interview skills when dealing with witnesses and the public.

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<b>Navigation</b>	Determine and communicate position in the field in UTM coordinates; determine position by triangulation using only a map and compass; determine compass bearing to a visible point in the field; determine correct compass heading from one point to another designated on a topo map; select a logical route between two points on a topo map; demonstrate use of a GPS to determine position in both UTM and Lat/Long; enter and go to given UTM coordinates, enter routes and record tracks	Determine and communicate position in the field in UTM coordinates; determine position by triangulation using only a map and compass; determine compass bearing to a visible point in the field; determine correct compass heading from one point to another designated on a topo map; select a logical route between two points on a topo map; demonstrate use of a GPS to determine position in both UTM and Lat/Long; enter and go to given UTM coordinates, enter routes and record tracks	Determine and communicate position in the field in UTM coordinates; determine compass bearing to a visible point in the field; determine correct compass heading from one point to another designated on a topo map; demonstrate use of GPS to determine position and enter and go to given UTM coordinates.	Determine and communicate position in the field in UTM coordinates; determine compass bearing to a visible point in the field; determine correct compass heading from one point to another designated on a topo map; demonstrate use of GPS to determine position and enter and go to given UTM coordinates.
<b>Tracking Skills</b>	Clue and track aware with familiarity in use of tracking tools, sign-cutting, and three man team.	Clue and track aware with familiarity in use of tracking tools.	Clue and track aware.	Clue and track aware.
<b>Fitness</b>	Fitness Test Type 1 Overnight	Fitness Test Type 2 --8 mile hike with 20# pack (excluding water) 500' elevation gain in under 3 hrs	Fitness Test Type 3 --8 mile hike with 20# pack (excluding water) 100' elevation gain in under 3 ½ hrs	Fitness Test Type 4 --4 mile hike with 10# pack (excluding water) in under 2 hours
<b>Rope Skills</b>	Basic Low Angle Skills; Packaging and litter work. Awareness of raising and lowering skills.	Basic Low Angle Skills; Packaging and litter work. Awareness of raising and lowering skills.	Basic knots. Assist with packaging and litter work.	Basic knots. Assist with packaging and litter work.
<b>Crime Scene Protection and Clue Awareness</b>	Member should be familiar with basic crime scene protection, chain of evidence and documentation, and basic search tactics.	Member should be familiar with basic crime scene protection, chain of evidence and documentation, and basic search tactics.	Member should be familiar with basic crime scene protection, chain of evidence and documentation, and basic search tactics.	Member should be familiar with basic crime scene protection, chain of evidence and documentation, and basic search tactics.
<b>Pack Requirements</b>	72 hour pack	24 hour pack	Day pack	Day pack
<b>Winter Survival</b>	Winter overnight Classroom/gear check	Winter survival	N/A	N/A
<b>Personal Safety Training</b>	Blood borne pathogens Search safety	Blood borne pathogens Search safety	Blood borne pathogens Search safety	Blood borne pathogens Search safety

**Type 1 Team:** Any driver, team or vehicle type that can traverse over terrain requiring vehicle modification. Modification would include, but not be limited to, lifts, differential lockers, aggressive suspension articulation, winches, skid plates and tow hooks as necessary. This type team should be able to traverse areas with steep grades and severe ground undulation. Type 1 vehicles should be able to negotiate severe sideways tilts, water crossings (above tires) or deep un-groomed snow. Additionally the team should be able to maneuver through narrow sand hills having soft down slopes and areas where backing for long distances might be required.  
 \*\*Also able to function as a type 2 or 3 team

**Type 2 Team:** Any driver, team or vehicle type that can traverse dirt or rocky roads and terrain suitable for most sports utility vehicles and ATV's. Four wheel drive, low range and high ground clearance would be required. Factory skid plates and tow hooks should equip the team or vehicle. This

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type of team should be able to traverse areas of fairly steep grade that are manageable when dry or have moderately groomed snow trails. Moderate sideways tilt and narrow shelf roads might also be encountered. Water crossings would be limited to the depths of the tires and rock stacking may be necessary. \*\*Also able to function as a Type 3 team

**Type 3 Team:** Any driver, team or vehicle that can traverse any gravel, dirt, clay or mildly rocky roads. Gentle grades would be encountered as well as low water crossings or established groomed snow trails. Teams would operate on full width single lanes with adequate passing room most of the time. Type 3 teams would operate in areas where four wheel drive is recommended however not necessary. Areas of minor sideways tilt might be encountered however the majority of the area would be well maintained roads and trails.

## Use of OHV Teams :

Off Highway Vehicle teams would include any off road motorized vehicle used in the search operation. These vehicles would include but not be limited to: Four Wheel drive vehicles, Motorcycles, All Terrain Vehicles, Snow Mobiles, Snow Cats, Dune Buggies, Sand Rails, Military Vehicles and any implement defined under CVC 38006 and 38012.

Use of these teams or equipment should never exceed the operator skill level. Often times the equipment will operate in areas exceeding the operator's skill level. Operators should never operate equipment or in areas exceeding their skill level.

## Equipment:

OHV team members should have at the minimum the personal gear consistent with the type 3 searcher. Search and rescue teams should ensure the personnel assigned to OHV search teams are also trained to at least this level.

Safety equipment associated to the specific OHV should be consistent but not limited to the requirements set forth by the vehicle code sections pertaining to off road vehicles. (Sections 38325 thru 38380).

Search and Rescue teams should have in writing, specific personal safety gear requirements when utilizing OHV teams in search operations. Regular inspections should be performed and documented by the agency of the OHV, safety equipment and personal safety gear.

## Training:

OHV operation and skill level is vehicle specific. Teams should train regularly in the operation of the equipment assigned to the OHV team. Each member needs to be familiar with the equipment he/she is operating and know the limits he/she can safely operate the vehicle. Members should strive to complete an Off Road Vehicle Safety/Operation course and a course specific to the vehicle operated.