



Australian Government

POLSAR006 Undertake land search and rescue duties

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
1	This unit was released in POL Police Training Package release 1.0 and meets the Standards for Training Packages.

Application

This unit describes the skills required to prepare land search and rescue (SAR) responses, determine current location and destination, provide grid references to search and rescue teams, and plan land search and rescue operations.

This unit applies to those working as police staff involved in police land search and rescue operations. It may be applied in the field and within office environment.

The skills and knowledge described in this unit must be applied within the legislative, regulatory and policy environment in which they are carried out. Organisational policies and procedures must be consulted and adhered to, particularly those related to work health and safety (WHS).

Those undertaking this role will work within multi-agency teams and often liaise with stakeholders, while completing complex tasks in a broad range of contexts. They will have to make decisions independently while giving consideration to financial and human resource management requirements.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to unit at the time of publication.

Competency Field

Search and rescue

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
Elements describe the essential outcomes	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the range of conditions section.
1. Prepare for land search and rescue response	1.1 Establish command and control to conduct land search and rescue operations. 1.2 Conduct urgency assessment to determine level of response. 1.3 Establish forward command post to facilitate coordination of land

	search and rescue operations. 1.4 Establish communications to facilitate flow of information. 1.5 Assess characteristics of target and environment to inform search and rescue response. 1.6 Access jurisdictional information management systems to gather information on target.
2. Determine current location, destination and resources	2.1 Identify maps to source information. 2.2 Interpret information from maps to ensure accurate parameters of search area. 2.3 Analyse data to plot incident location. 2.4 Calculate incident distance and location from given landmarks. 2.5 Triangulate incident from distinct features to fix a position. 2.6 Plot search areas to determine resource allocation and asset deployment for probable and possible search areas. 2.7 Evaluate terrain to identify impacts on land search and rescue operations. 2.8 Identify safe routes and potential access restrictions to determine access to search area. 2.9 Identify specialist resources to facilitate land search and rescue operations.
3. Provide grid references to search and rescue operations team	3.1 Calculate grid references using magnetic bearings, and/or latitude and longitude and/or incident location details provided by callers. 3.2 Communicate six figure grid references to search and rescue operations team. 3.3 Communicate references to field personnel for use in portable navigational aids. 3.4 Communicate directional information to operations team on request.
4. Perform land search and rescue response	4.1 Establish cordons to limit size of search area. 4.2 Use land search strategies to develop an accurate search area. 4.3 Select land search patterns in accordance with conditions and terrain. 4.4 Allocate taskings for resources and assets in accordance with capability. 4.5 Apply portable navigation aids to provide live information to search coordinator, where available. 4.6 Analyse information from portable navigation aids to determine areas searched by teams. 4.7 Modify land search patterns using on scene intelligence.

Foundation Skills

The foundation skills demands of this unit have been mapped for alignment with the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF). The following tables outline the performance levels indicated for successful attainment of the unit.

ACSF levels indicative of performance:

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Learning NA					Reading					Writing					Oral communication					Numeracy				

Performance variables:

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
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Further information on ACSF and the foundation skills underpinning this unit can be found in the Foundation Skills Guide on the GSA website.

Unit Mapping Information

No equivalent unit.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=98c3984e-2cf1-48a8-8ed1-85e4b92e7351>

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Assessment Requirements for POL SAR006 Undertake land search and rescue duties

Modification History

Release	Comments
1	These Assessment Requirements were released in POL Police Training Package release 1.0 and meet the Standards for Training Packages.

Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria. If not otherwise specified the candidate must demonstrate evidence of performance of the following on at least one occasion.

- assessing land search and rescue requirements
- facilitating the coordination of land search and rescue operations
- collecting and assessing information on land search and rescue requirements
- evaluating terrain and weather conditions to inform search and rescue operations
- determining target locations, distances and destinations
- communicating with and coordinating stakeholders within land search and rescue context
- applying appropriate land search and rescue tools and techniques

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria. If not otherwise specified the depth of knowledge demonstrated must be appropriate to the job context of the candidate.

- principles of land navigation
- map and chart types
- map interpretation
- weather patterns
- terrain types
- cartographic symbols and legends
- lost person behaviour
- variation
- obstacles to land searches
- basic land navigation tools
- limitations and/or regulations which impact on land searches
- common land search scenarios

- land search resources and their limitations
- local land environment
- policies and procedures for handover and takeover of land searches
- Naismith's rule
- the Mattson Consensus

Assessment Conditions

This unit contains no specific industry-mandated assessment conditions. Guidance on suggested and recommended conditions and methods can be found in the Implementation Guide.

Assessors must satisfy the NVR/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors.

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