



Australian Government

POLSAR018 Undertake land search and rescue duties

Release: 1

POLSTAR018 Undertake land search and rescue duties

Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the POL Police Training Package
Release 5.0

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to prepare land search and rescue (SAR) responses, determine current location and destination of target, plan safe routes/courses, and plan land SAR operations.

This unit applies to those working as police officers involved in police land SAR operations. It may be applied in the field and within an 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 unit would work within multi-agency teams and often liaise with stakeholders, while completing complex tasks in a broad range of contexts. They would 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.

Pre-requisite Unit

Not applicable.

Competency Field

Search and rescue

Unit Sector

Not applicable.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Elements describe the essential Performance criteria describe the performance needed to

outcomes.

demonstrate achievement of the element.

1 Prepare for land SAR response

- 1.1** Identify a command and control structure to facilitate land SAR operations
- 1.2** Conduct urgency assessment to determine level of response
- 1.3** Assess requirements of the SAR incident to establish forward command post
- 1.4** Facilitate flow of information to stakeholders to progress SAR operation
- 1.5** Assess characteristics of target and environment to inform SAR operations
- 1.6** Assess information obtained from jurisdictional information management systems to inform SAR operations

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 distinct features
- 2.5** Plot probable and possible search areas to determine resource allocation and asset deployment
- 2.6** Evaluate terrain to identify impacts on land SAR operations
- 2.7** Identify safe routes and potential access restrictions to determine access to search area
- 2.8** Identify specialist resources to facilitate land SAR operations

3 Provide navigational references to SAR operations teams

- 3.1** Calculate grid references using magnetic bearings, and/or latitude and longitude and/or incident location details provided by callers
- 3.2** Communicate navigational references to SAR operations

- team to inform search area
- 3.3 Communicate navigational references to field personnel for use in portable navigation aids
- 3.4 Communicate directional information to operations team on request
- 4 **Perform land SAR response**
 - 4.1 Determine size of search area to establish cordons
 - 4.2 Assess land search strategies to develop an accurate search area
 - 4.3 Select land search patterns in accordance with conditions and terrain
 - 4.4 Determine taskings for assets to facilitate land SAR operations
 - 4.5 Deploy portable navigation aids to search coordinator, where available, to provide timely information
 - 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

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Range of Conditions

Range is restricted to essential operating conditions and any other variables essential to the work environment.

Non-essential conditions may be found in the POL Police Training Package Companion Volume Implementation Guide.

Unit Mapping Information

This unit replaces and is equivalent to POL SAR006 Undertake land search and rescue duties.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guides can be found on VETNet - -

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

Assessment Requirements for POL SAR018 Undertake land search and rescue duties

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Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria on at least one occasion and include:

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

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria and include knowledge of:

- principles of land navigation
- map types
- map interpretation
- jurisdictional legislation, policies and procedures relating to SAR operations
- weather patterns
- terrain types and land environments
- obstacles to land searches
- land navigation references, tools, aids and equipment
- limitations and/or regulations which impact on land searches
- common land SAR scenarios
- land search resources and their limitations
- land search strategies
- national manual relating to SAR
- specialist resources
- jurisdictional information management systems.

Assessment Conditions

Assessors must hold credentials specified within the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

Assessment must satisfy the Principles of Assessment and Rules of Evidence and all regulatory requirements included within the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language, literacy and numeracy requirements of the work being performed and the needs of the candidate.

Assessment must occur in workplace operational situations. Where this is not appropriate, such as in situations that can affect safety or occur only rarely, assessment can occur in simulated workplace operational situations that reflect workplace conditions.

Resources for assessment must include access to:

- a range of relevant exercises, case studies and/or other simulations
- relevant and appropriate materials, tools, equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) currently used in industry
- applicable documentation, including workplace procedures, regulations, codes of practice and operation manuals.

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