

Del Norte Sheriff's Search & Rescue
Application for Membership

Name (Last, First, Middle): _____
Mailing Address: _____ Email: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Cell) _____
Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Sex: M F
Marital Status: _____
Areas of Interest: Ground Dive Technical Rope Rescue

How long have you lived in Del Norte County: _____
Drivers License No.: _____ Years of school completed: _____

List any disabilities which might interfere with your ability to function as a member of this group:

List any experience you have related to search and rescue (backpacking, technical climbing, scuba diving, etc.): _____

List training certificates related to search and rescue (CPR, first aid, diving, etc.): _____

Have you ever been convicted of a crime: No Yes (If yes, give date, charge, and resolution.: _____

Name of employer: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State/Zip: _____

Person to notify in case of an emergency:
Name: _____ Relation: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State/Zip: _____
Phone (Home): _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

*****Important*****

I understand that in signing this application I give my consent to a background investigation. I understand that my application can be denied based on information obtained in this investigation.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Attachment 1

DEL NORTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S SEARCH AND RESCUE

Erik Apperson
Sheriff-Coroner
650 5th Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

Grant Henderson
Operations Commander
650 5th Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

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CRESCENT CITY, CA 95531

Re: Interview

Dear *:

Your application to Del Norte Search and Rescue has been received and an interview has been scheduled for you at ___ p.m. on _____, 2016.

Please arrive a few minutes early at the SAR Station located on Cooper Street.

If you are unable to keep the scheduled appointment, please call me at the numbers listed below before your scheduled interview and make arrangements for rescheduling.

Sincerely,

PEGGY THOMAS
Team Leader
464-2554 (home)
951-2760 (cell)

Attachment 2

ORAL INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Why do you want to be part of a SAR team?

Define your strengths and any special skills you might have.

What do you think your limitations for this team might be, and how can you overcome them?

Situation Questions

1. You are told to meet at the SAR station to respond to a call. You discover the missing person is an old acquaintance. Enroute to the Station, you pass an area you know this person frequents and think you know where the person may be. What would you do?
2. You confront the mother of a 3-year-old that has been lost for four days. The mother is hysterical and feels you are not doing enough to find her lost child. She insists that she go down a steep hill and look for the child herself. As a team member, what action do you take?
3. You and another uniformed SAR member are in a store. You notice that your partner has taken a candy bar and put it in their pocket. What would you do?
4. You are the first person on the scene of an accident. It appears that one person is dead and another badly injured. You notify the Command Post for additional help. What do you do first and how do you communicate your findings over the radio?
5. You are on a night search and have been directed by the SAR coordinator to maintain a specific course of direction. Your team starts out, but one member continually strays from the group. How would you react?
6. What would you do if you were faced with a situation in which you feel you know more than the person in command?
7. You are asked by a dive team member to run a tag line and are uncertain about the procedure. What would you do?
8. There is a rafting accident and a person is stranded across the river. You have had some training in swift water rescue and team leader asks you to do something you believe is questionable. How would you respond?
9. Command Post requests that you respond to a drowning victim. You and your SAR partner get to the location first, you are certified but he is not. You have your equipment ready and waiting and victim's family and your SAR partner urge you to dive and search for the victim. What would you do?

Training Standards

Scuba:

1. Basic certification from recognized training organization.
2. Active recreational or SAR diver.

First-Aid/CPR:

1. Must possess, or obtain within one year, certification from recognized training organization.

Technical Rescue:

1. Certificate from an accredited technical rescue course, or must demonstrate proficiency in technical rescue, i.e., knots, mechanical advantages, anchor systems, rappelling, belaying, etc.
2. SAR and Training Coordinators will determine level of proficiency based on established policies.

Swiftwater Rescue:

1. Certificate from an accredited swiftwater rescue course, or demonstrate proficiency in swiftwater rescue.
2. SAR Coordinator, Training Coordinator, and Dive Team Leader will determine level of proficiency based on established policies.

Mounted:

1. Must qualify horse according to established Mounted Team policies.

Dog:

1. Must qualify dog according to established Search Dog Team policies.

SAR Management:

1. Encouraged to attend the “Direction and Control of the Search Function” course presented by OES and the National Association of Search and Rescue (NASAR).

DEL NORTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S SEARCH AND RESCUE

Erik Apperson

Sheriff-Coroner
650 5th Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

Grant Henderson

Operations Commander
650 5th Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

Congratulations:

You have successfully passed your oral interview. This is the first step toward completion of the application process for membership in the Del Norte Sheriff's Search and Rescue team. You will now need to complete the following:

1. Attend one regular board meeting, which is held on the first Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m., at the SAR Station.
2. Attend two regular Saturday training sessions, always held the third Saturday of the month beginning at 9 a.m., or two Friday evening sessions, held the first Friday and the Friday prior to the Saturday training, beginning at 6 p.m., and one Saturday training.
3. Return the Personal History Statement form, filled out completely, the authorization for release of information form, and arrange with the coordinator, Terry McNamara, to have your fingerprints taken.

To: Erik Apperson, Sheriff
From: Ed Fleshman
Background Investigator, Search and Rescue
Date:
Subject: Executive Summary on Background Investigation

The Background Investigation is one of the most important factors in a hiring decision. The basis of the Background Investigation is to determine if the applicant falls within certain job dimensions. The job dimensions for Search and rescue are:

1. Communication skills.
2. Problem solving ability.
3. Learning ability.
4. Judgment under pressure.
5. Observation skills.
6. Willingness to confront problems.
7. Interest in people.
8. Interpersonal sensitivity.
9. Desire for self-improvement.
10. Appearance.
11. Dependability.
12. Physical ability.
13. Integrity.
14. Operation of a motor vehicle.
15. Satisfies all job dimensions and has fulfilled the requirements necessary to become a member of the Del Norte County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team.

Application filled out
Passed oral board
Attend board meeting
Participate in two training sessions
Unanimous vote of the board
Background Investigation completed

It is therefore my recommendation that this applicant be approved to become a member of the Del Norte Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team.

Approve: _____ Date: _____

Reject: _____ Date: _____

Grant Henderson, Operations Commander

Erik Apperson, Sheriff

DEL NORTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S SEARCH AND RESCUE

Erik Apperson
Sheriff-Coroner
650 5th Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

Grant Henderson
Operations Commander
650 5th Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

*
*

CRESCENT CITY, CA 95531

Dear *:

You failed to attend your scheduled oral interview and we received no notice from you cancelling the appointment.

No further action will be taken on your application unless we receive a letter of request from you to reschedule an interview.

Thank you for your interest in Del Norte County Search & Rescue.

Sincerely,

Ed Fleshman
SAR Coordinator

Attachment 7

DEL NORTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S SEARCH AND RESCUE

Erik Apperson
Sheriff-Coroner
650 5th Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

Grant Henderson
Operations Commander
650 5th Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

*

*

CRESCENT CITY, CA 95531

Re: *Membership Status*

Dear *:

This letter is being sent to give you an opportunity to express your interest in being retained on the active list of the Del Norte County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team.

We do not wish to lose a valued team member, but you have not maintained the required 50% attendance at training sessions for the fiscal year 20__-20__. Unless a reply is received from you by the August *, 20__, board meeting, your name will be placed on the "inactive" list.

A written response may be sent to:
Del Norte Search and Rescue
650 5th Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

Sincerely,

John Williams
President

Attachment 8

DEL NORTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S SEARCH AND RESCUE

Erik Apperson
Sheriff-Coroner
650 5th Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

Grant Henderson
Operations Commander
650 5th Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

*

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CRESCENT CITY, CA 95531

Re: *Membership Status*

Dear *:

At this time you have been placed on the inactive list and you must relinquish your I.D. card, pager, radio if issued, and any keys.

Your name has been removed from the call out list and you will not be called for any search and rescue incidents. You will be considered inactive the period of one year, at the end of which your name will be formally dropped from the SAR team.

To regain active status, you must attend three consecutive training session prior to July 1, 20___. To maintain an active status, team members must attend a minimum of one-half (50%) of all scheduled department training sessions.

If you have any questions, please call your team leader. If your team leader cannot satisfactorily answer your questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Ed Fleshman
SAR Coordinator

Attachment 9

QUALIFYING THE HORSE:

The first part of the testing will be in an arena and begin with the walk, trot, and lope portion as a warm-up. Any horse that seems to be a safety hazard in the arena will not be invited to the trail portion of the test.

If there is doubt about the horse's suitability, both horse and rider will be asked to come back and qualify again.

1. Horses must be sound. Soundness will be tested in the arena and on the trail. The horse is required to cover a specified distance within an allotted time. Ten miles within 2½ hours is the minimum that is acceptable.
2. Horses should be shod year around. Preparedness is part of being a top SAR team, and shod animals ensure that you are prepared for any situation.
3. Walk, trot, and lope both ways in the arena. It is not necessary that the horse show a jog trot, or perfect command of leads, but more important, the gaits should be controlled, no runaways, stop easily, and stand quietly. Excessively nervous animals may not require dismissal, but it is an indication of lack of control if the horse will not do a flat walk or trot or lope on a relaxed rein.
4. The horse should stand quietly while mounted or dismounted from either side and stand quietly while being held or tied.
5. The horse should be ponyed and be able to pony another horse as well as allow the rider to hold at least two other horses while mounted.
6. The rider should be able to put on a slicker and open a map while mounted.
7. The horse should be able to negotiate obstacles in the arena that demonstrate the rider's control and the horse's attitude, as well as their ability to work as a team. A good selection of tasks include:
 - drag a heavy object
 - open and close a gate
 - back an "L"
 - take a small jump
 - side pass
 - go over a large black plastic tarp
8. While in the arena it is a good idea to see how the horse reacts to loud noises such as motorbikes, gunfire, or chain saws. If possible, it is also a good idea to have distractions such as backpackers, helicopters, etc. around.

9. The horse should load readily into two strange trailers, possibly a step-up and a ramp as well as a stock trailer and a two-horse.
10. On the trail, the horse should be well under the rider's control while riding with the group at a variety of gaits.
11. The horse should readily negotiate water and a bridge both with other horses and alone.
12. The rider should be able to lead the horse over rough terrain easily, without the animal pulling back, running over, or walking ahead of the rider.
13. Horse should leave the group at a given gait and return at a walk.
14. Horse should allow other horses to move ahead. Rider will be asked to stand horse while others trot by. Most horses will move about, but the key is control. Bucking, rearing, running away, or other obvious disobedience will disqualify a horse.
15. Each horse will demonstrate the ability to go up and down a steep hill.
16. Tailing up a steep hill and riding double should be optional tasks. The rider should know whether his mount is capable of doing these things and it is strongly suggested that they be skilled in both these areas.

No one will be considered for membership in the mounted team unless they own or have unlimited access to their own horse, horse trailer, and towing vehicle.

No one will be considered for membership in the mounted team unless they are an advanced intermediate rider or better and anyone who is not physically fit will not be considered.

Certification Procedure:

Requirements for Members:

1. Be 18 years of age.
2. Exhibit a positive attitude at all times.
3. Maintain current CPR and First Aid cards.
4. Exhibit proficient horsemanship and trail manners.
5. Exhibit the ability to handle a horse trailer or stock truck.
6. Run ½ mile within ten minutes.
7. Own their mount and transportation for themselves and their mount.
8. Meet all requirements of the Sheriff's Department.
9. Take classes in search and rescue techniques, map reading, etc., as designated by the Board and/or the SAR Coordinator.
10. Upon acceptance into the unit, furnish and maintain a uniform as designated by the Sheriff's Office.

Requirements for Horses:

1. Be an actual four-year-old or older.
2. Remain shod all year.
3. Be in sound physical condition (unsoundness will be grounds for immediate disqualification if considered of a permanent nature).
4. Be a mare or gelding -- **NO** stallions.
5. Complete a 10-mile trail course within 2½ hours.
6. Stand quietly while mounted/dismounted from either side.
7. Stand quietly while rider puts on a slicker, and/or opens a map.
8. Stand quietly while the rider holds three other horses.
9. Stand quietly while tied (not meeting this requirement is grounds for automatic disqualification).
10. Cross a bridge in the arena and/or on the trail.
11. Cross water readily.
12. Pony another horse and be ponyed.
13. Drag an object using a rope.
14. Back readily.
15. Negotiate a small brush jump or log.
16. Accept motorbikes, backpackers, gunfire, helicopters, chainsaws, etc.
17. Load in both step-up and ramp trailers.
18. Be under the rider's control while riding with a group of horses at all gaits.
19. Allow the rider to open and close a gate while mounted.
20. Lead well in difficult terrain and over obstacles.
21. Leave a group of horses at a given gait and return at a walk.
22. Allow other horses to move ahead at a more rapid rate of speed and remain under control of the rider. (Will be required to stand while other horses leave.)
23. Move ahead of other horses at a more rapid rate of speed and remain under control of the rider.
24. Climb and descend a steep grade with the rider.
25. Be tailed up a steep hill (optional).
26. Ride double (optional).
27. Side pass both directions.
28. Pass a physical examination as deemed applicable by the Team Captain.
29. **A horse will be automatically and immediately disqualified if it does not tie, runs away, bucks, rears, kicks, bites, or shows any signs of unsoundness.**

Requirements for Vehicle:

1. Pass an inspection for proper lights, brakes, and safety

Equipment & Supply List for Cattle Bags and Personal Survival

Fanny Pack	Cattle Bag	Trailer
towelettes	space blanket	water
space blanket	waterproof matches	50' rope
waterproof matches	bag, large plastic	bucket
bag, large plastic	bags, small ziplock	liniment
bags, small ziplock	candle, large	antibiotic cream
candle	whistle	cotton wraps
saw or hacksaw blade	tree saw	vet wrap
nylon cord, 50'	50' nylon cord	stable blanket
food for energy	energy food	feed
bouillon cubes	pencil/paper	extra:
waterproof container	aspirin	reins
pencil	antihistamine	bit
paper	bandaids	cinch
tinfoil or mirror	roller gauze	halter
safety pins/fish hook	moleskin	hoof pick
5-10' duct tape	vet wrap	brushes/grooming
whistle	poncho	sleeping bag
aspirin	sun screen	change of clothes
antihistamine	flagging	saddle
rubber band, large	tissues	bridle
bandaids	flashlight	pad
roller gauze	insect repellent	breast collar
moleskin	gloves	
betadine pads	lip balm	
cotton swabs	knife	
tweezers/forceps	fence pliers	
antacid	compass	
razor, single edge	bandanna	
antibiotic ointment	batteries	
flagging	maps	
insect repellent	extra socks	
sun screen	water	
lip balm	sweat scraper	
glo stix	rubber gloves	
water	CPR mask	
ID cards		
personal medications (2 days)		

Canine Requirements and Equipment

Definitions of Canine Disciplines

AIR SCENT/AREA SEARCH DOG: Is used to search a specific area. It is not expected that an area search dog will require a scent article prior to searching but a scent article may be used at the discretion of the handler. The air scent, or area dog, will generally work off lead.

TRAILING DOG: Is generally used to identify one particular individual's scent from any other person. This dog is generally worked on lead, requires a scent article to begin searching, will follow the trail of the selected individual, and will identify the subject at the end unless the subject has left the area.

CADAVER DOG: Searches for and detects decomposing human remains.

WATER DOG: Searches for and detects human remains in water.

AVALANCHE DOG: Searches for and detects a subject recently buried under snow.

DISASTER DOG: Searches for and detects inaccessible subjects and indicates with an alert compatible with the typing of the dog.

Other Definitions:

ALERT: Behavior of the dog when it identifies the subject's scent. This behavior is recognizable by the handler and is considered a clue.

Sporting titles cannot be used as a search and rescue qualification.

TERRAIN AND TEAM TYPING: Typing will confirm to the State of California OES terrain and team typing.

HANDLER REQUIREMENTS:

1. Log Book

The handler shall maintain and keep current a log book documenting the training done with the canine. The log book shall be checked prior to testing and must contain at least six months of current training records.

2. Day Search Pack and Equipment:

The handler shall maintain a day search pack that will be carried on searches. The required content is listed in the Pack Equipment attachment. It should also include items needed for the current weather conditions and winter equipment as appropriate. Handlers qualified for multi-day deployments shall maintain a 72-hour pack consistent with the environment needs.

3. Land Navigation:

The handler shall explain and demonstrate the following skills:

- Explain declination
- Explain the UTM system
- Explain Geographic Coordinate system (Latitude/Longitude and UTM)
- Demonstrate orienting a map and compass to the terrain
- Demonstrate obtaining and following a simple compass bearing
- Demonstrate relating a specific compass bearing to the map
- Demonstrate relating a map direction to a specific compass bearing
- Demonstrate point-to-point navigation with GPS and with compass
- Communicate position with GPS and with map/compass
- Demonstrate route finding with GPS and with map-compass
- Demonstrate marking a waypoint with the GPS
- Demonstrate changing between Lat/Long and UTM with the GPS
- Demonstrate matching map and GPS datum

SAR Tech II certification will meet the Map and Compass portion of this requirement, but GPS skills must still be demonstrated before these skills are signed off.

4. Man Tracking:

The handler shall demonstrate skills and understanding of man tracking fundamentals by successfully performing the following exercises for an evaluator.

- Describe and document the track
- Demonstrate the use of a tracking stick
- Demonstrate the labeling of tracks
- Describe the importance of light and the techniques for dealing with poor conditions (i.e., high sun angle, cloudy days)

- Demonstrate the process of man tracking for a set of 8 to 10 contiguous steps laid in an area that provides both complete and partial prints, such as a dusty trail
- Discuss the following terms and concepts:
 - ~ Sign and sign-cutting
 - ~ Jump tracking
 - ~ Step-by-step tracking
 - ~ Track trap
 - ~ Preservation or protection of sign

SAR Tech II certification will meet this requirement.

5. Knowledge of Scent:

The handler shall be interviewed by a Mission ready handler and asked questions regarding scent guides and scent behavior. The interview shall include the following items of discussion:

- Techniques for collecting a scent guide.
- Instructions for another person to collect a scent guide with cautions about clothes hamper and shared closets, etc.
- Techniques for collecting scent from a car seat using sterile gauze pads.
- Appropriate containers for storing a scent guide.
- Adverse impact of car exhaust and road flares on scent.
- Scent behavior near edge of lakes, streams, steep slopes, and conditions that lead to inversion layers.
- Factors that will tend to extend or attenuate the scent such as sunlight, wind, humidity, etc.
- Factors that will lead to chimney effect.
- Factors that will lead to discontinuous scent from the subject.
- Factors that will lead to looping scent from the subject.
- Strategies for placing area search dogs on ridges/canyon floors to detect subject.

6. Helicopter Safety Class:

The handler is required to attend a lecture on safety in entering and leaving the helicopter and handling the dog in an appropriate manner.

7. Unexpected Night Out Course:

The handler will take a course designed to prepare the team for an unplanned night out while searching. The course shall include at least the following:

- Survival attitude
- Minimum gear
- Food/water issues
- Clothing
- Shelter building
- Dog needs

8. Monthly Workouts:

The handler shall participate in at least six cooperating county training group workouts, pre-approved by their mentor, as well as attend local training workouts on a regular basis. These shall be documented in the handler's log book for search dog training.

9. Field Observation Experience:

The handler shall be required to complete ten hours of field observation experience (without their dog) on at least two separate wilderness missions. Hours may be accrued from the time a DNSAR team member becomes a K9 handler apprentice. Field observation hours must be completed and the K9 Unit Leader advised before a Mission Ready test can be arranged. Handlers shall complete the ten observation hours by observing a DNSAR or other mutual aid mission ready K9 team in the discipline in which they are training. The K9 handler, with mentor recommendation, may petition the K9 team to approve any exceptions. A majority vote of handlers present at a K9 meeting will be required to waive observation hours. Apprentices are encouraged to accumulate additional hours in their own or other disciplines. The signature of the mission ready handler on the Field Observation log sheet is required for each search. Field experience is defined as that time spent observing the mission ready team search the area assigned, briefing and debriefing, and does not include transportation to and from the search or sitting at base camp.

AREA SEARCH DOG FOUNDATION SKILLS

The following list of canine skills and tasks are to be completed prior to the initial Mission Ready test. The dog shall meet the minimum age requirement of nine months for sign-offs. The K-9 team must successfully complete the Foundation Skills before progressing to the 40 Acre Field Evaluation. Each Foundation Skill is valid for two years unless the team has become Mission Ready. Mission Ready teams must have the obedience and agility skills signed off again no more than six months before (may be concurrent with) their next Area Search Mission Ready re-certification test.

1.0 OBEDIENCE

All of the following exercises are to be performed off lead, except where stated. The use of prong collars or electronic collars shall not be permitted.

1.1 Heeling On Lead

The dog must heel on lead in a controlled manner through a scattered group of people and dogs. The dog should be responsive to the handler, who may talk or give repeated commands as necessary.

1.2 Heeling Off Lead

The dog must heel off lead in a controlled manner through a scattered group of people and dogs. The dog should be responsive to the handler, who may talk or give repeated commands as necessary.

1.3 Sit and Down

The dog shall demonstrate a sit and a down.

1.4 Recall

The dog shall be left at sit or down while handler goes approximately 25 yards. The dog shall remain as placed until signaled, then shall come with one command or signal.

1.5 Stop on recall

The dog shall be placed on a "stay" at least 25 yards from the starting line. After calling the dog, the handler shall stop the dog approximately halfway.

1.6 Long Wait

The handler shall tether the dog to a fixed object and shall leave the immediate area and remain out of sight for a period of ten minutes. At the end of the first five minutes an evaluator shall move and tether the dog in another location for the remaining portion of the exercise. This second location will also be out of sight of the handler. At some point during the exercise a person unfamiliar to the dog shall walk past the dog in the manner of someone simply passing by. The dog shall not exhibit aggression or undue apprehension during the exercise.

1.7 Long Down

The long down exercise can be done individually or with a group of dogs, but dogs shall be placed at least 15 feet apart. The dog's leash must be removed, but the dog may be placed next to the handler's pack. Upon direction of the evaluator, the handler shall leave the dog and walk out of the dog's sight until told to return. Timing starts when the handler is out of sight. The dog must remain in place for five minutes. The dog may sit, stand, or shift positions, but may not move more than his body length in any direction from where he was placed. The dog must be under the supervision of a monitor throughout the exercise.

1.8 Directed Send Out

Using hand signals and/or verbal commands, the handler shall direct the dog to an identified location or natural feature that is at least 40 to 50 feet from the handler. The dog must come within a 3-4 foot radius of the target.

2.0 AGILITY

The dog shall demonstrate each of the following agility skills in an unfamiliar area.

2.1 Plank Walk

The dog will walk along a 10-inch wide, 10-foot long plank or log. Plank must be elevated at least three feet off the ground.

2.2 Climb/Balance

The dog shall demonstrate confidence when climbing and balancing on a pile of debris (i.e. rocks, a firewood pile). Debris pile should be at least three feet high and five feet long.

2.3 Tunnel

The dog shall demonstrate the ability to go through a 6-10 foot tunnel or culvert.

2.4 Crawl

The dog shall demonstrate the ability to crawl under a fence or similar obstacle. The obstacle must be low enough to require the dog to truly crawl.

2.5 Lift Down

the dog shall calmly accept being lifted onto something (i.e. a boulder or truck bed) 3-4 feet in height, and then being lifted down. The handler may have the assistance of 1-2 helpers for the lifting/lowering exercises as needed.

2.6 Lift Over

The dog shall also calmly accept being lifted over a fence, from or into the arms of a helper. The handler may have the assistance fo 1-2 helpers for the lifting/lowering exercises as needed.

3.0 SWIMMING

The handler may use any method to demonstrate the dog's ability to enter a body of water and swim a total distance of 50 feet.

4.0 TRANSPORT

The dog shall demonstrate the ability to be safely transported on lead with at least two other dog teams. Ideally the dogs should not know each other well. The transport vehicle and a number of teams should be such that the teams are in close quarters, but each handler must have a seat belt. The dogs shall be under the control of their handlers at all times. Teams shall be transported on a bumpy or curvy road for at least five minutes. The dogs shall remain calm and not struggle or show aggression.

5.0 SOCIABILITY

DNSAR dogs must be able to behave appropriately around other dogs, people and animals. Verification of appropriate canine behavior must be obtained from the mentor of an Apprentice team (or from an approved evaluator in the case of a Mission Ready handler certifying a new dog.). It is understood that dog behavior can change over time such that initial verification of sociability cannot replace on-going assessment.

5.1 Dog/Dog & Dog/Human Behavior

The mentor is expected to observe the behavior of apprentice team over an extended period of time. The mentor must verify that there was no observation of, or awareness made of, any incidents of canine misbehavior from the team over the past six months. The mentor should only consider canine behavior associated with DNSAR events.

5.2 Dog/Animal Behavior

The mentor must verify that the dog has not exhibited excessive distraction, fear, or aggression toward other animals during a DNSAR event in the past three months.

AREA SEARCH DOG FOUNDATION SKILLS CHECKLIST

Handler _____ Dog _____

SKILL	DATE	EVALUATOR SIGNATURE
1.0 OBEDIENCE-All Requirements Complete		
1.1 - Heeling On Lead		
1.2 - Heeling Off Lead		
1.3 - Sit and Down		
1.4 - Recall		
1.5 - Stop on Recall		
1.6 - Long Wait		
1.7 - Long Down		
1.8 - Directed Send Out		
2.0 AGILITY-All Requirements Complete		
2.1 - Plank Walk		
2.2 - Climb/Balance		
2.3 - Tunnel		
2.4 - Crawl		
2.5 - Lift Down		
2.6 - Lift Over		
2.7 - Swimming		
2.8 - Transport		
5.0 SOCIABILITY-All Requirements Complete		
5.1 - Dog/Dog & Dog Human Behavior		
5.2 - Dog/Animal Behavior		
6.0 - Helicopter		
7.0 - Night Search Training #1		
7.0 - Night Search Training #2		

ALIVE v DEAD FOUNDATION SKILL (OES Cadaver 2)

PURPOSE: The purpose of this test is to show that a dog responding to a search in which the condition of the subject is unknown will locate the subject whether he is alive or deceased. This is NOT a stand alone certification.

GUIDELINES: This shall be completed by the dog and handler prior to becoming certified in Wilderness/Area search.

TEST CRITERIA: There shall be one evaluator who is cadaver or wilderness certified. The test site shall include open areas, brush, trees, grass/dirt and rocks. The live person shall be hidden so the handler cannot see the hidden subject. The area will be approximately 20 acres. The large cadaver scent source, or a combination of small sources, shall be hidden so the handler or dog cannot see the source. The source(s) will not be buried but shall be camouflaged. The dog must locate both the live subject and the scent source within one hour to pass this test. The dog shall not eat, pick up, or urinate on the scent source.

RE-CERTIFICATION: Cadaver 2 certified teams shall re-certify every two years. Teams shall re-certify within two years of their last certification date. A grace period will be allowed through the end of the following month. Failure of a re-certification test will result in removal from the call out list for Cadaver 2 type searches until the team passes the Cadaver 2 Mission Ready test. Dogs that are certified with DNSAR in Wilderness/Area and OES Cadaver 1 need not separately re-certify as Cadaver 2.

CADAVER 1 PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS

All cadaver dogs are expected to complete, or to have completed, the dog foundation skills/preliminary requirements in obedience, agility, sociability, and transport.

Veteran handlers working a dog that has not been certified in wilderness shall be required to complete the dog foundation skills/preliminary requirements sign offs in obedience, agility, sociability, and transport prior to testing for Cadaver 1.

LOG BOOK

the team must present their logbook showing at least six months of current, regular training in cadaver. Handlers shall keep complete training records; these should start when the dog's training is started and end when the dog is retired. These records indicate the experience of the handler even after placing a new dog in service.

CADAVER SCENT EXERCISE

The team must demonstrate the ability to find/locate the following cadaver scents at a training session in a search area not to exceed 20 yards by 20 yards. Scent source materials are to be placed 30 minutes before the dog begins the exercise. The team will have 20 minutes to

complete each sign off. These sign offs may or may not be completed on the same day. The scent source material location will not be known to the team. One of the sign offs must include an animal distraction.

4.1: Surface Blood

The scent source material will be a minimum of 3 cc of human blood on a sterile gauze pad exposed to air for at least 48 hours. The item will be on the ground but covered with leaves, branches, etc. and not readily visible to the dog or handler.

4.2 Buried Cadaver Scent

The cadaver scent material will be buried 15 inches in porous soil and not readily visible to the dog and handler. Porous soil can be made by mixing debris such as leaves, branches, and rocks into the dirt. One or two false holes must be made no closer than 20 feet from the scent source. In case of digging, the handler shall identify the alert before the item is visible.

4.3 Cadaver Hanging

The cadaver scent material will be suspended approximately three feet from the ground and not readily visible to the dog and handler.

4.4 Cadaver Interior Environment

The cadaver scent material will be placed on or close to the floor (less than one foot above the floor) in an interior environment. The item will be inaccessible to the dog and not readily visible to the dog and handler. The interior shall be approximately the size of a standard two-car garage and not a confined space.

Animal Remains Distraction

An animal remains distraction that is not buried shall be placed in one of the four sign off areas. The dog shall not alert on the remains.

TRAILING DOG PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS

The following list of canine skills and tasks are to be completed prior to the initial Mission Ready test. The dog shall meet the minimum age requirement of 9 months for sign-offs. The team must successfully complete the Preliminary Requirements before progressing to the Mission Ready Test. For Type 1 and Type 2 teams, the Mission Ready test must be taken within one year from the completion date of the 48-hour-old Wilderness trail (8.0). For Type 4 teams, the Mission Ready test must be taken within one year from the completion date of the Successful Urban Trail (12.0).

With the exception of Sociability, which must be signed of by the mentor, refer to “Evaluator Requirements” for evaluator qualifications.

PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS – DOG SKILLS

1.0 OBEDIENCE

1.1 Walking on Leash: The handler shall demonstrate the dog’s ability to walk on leash through a scattered group of people and dogs on leash in a controlled manner. Demonstration of control is satisfied by the handler being able to keep the dog near his/her side and with the dog not exhibiting aggression toward other dogs or people.

1.2 Long Wait: The handler shall tether the dog to a fixed object and shall leave the immediate area and remain out of sight for a period of ten minutes. At the end of the first five minutes an evaluator shall move and tether the dog in another location for the remaining portion of the exercise. This second location will also be out of sight of the handler. At some point during the exercise, a person unfamiliar to the dog shall walk past the dog in the manner of someone simply passing by. The dog shall not exhibit aggression or undue apprehension during the exercise.

2.0 CONFIDENCE/AGILITY

The dog and handler shall successfully negotiate the following obstacles with the dog on lead.

2.1 Lift Over: The handler, with the assistance of one or two helpers (if needed), shall lift the dog over a fence or similar barrier between three and four feet in height. The dog shall be controllable throughout the exercise.

2.2 Crawl Under: The dog shall demonstrate a crawl under an obstacle such as a barbed wire fence or a gate.

2.3 Lift Down: The handler, with the assistance of one or two helpers (if needed), shall demonstrate lifting the dog down from a height, such as a boulder, truck bed, or helicopter. The dog shall be controllable throughout the exercise.

2.4 Climb & Balance on Rocks: The handler and dog shall safely climb and balance on rocks, a woodpile, or similar uneven terrain.

2.5 Walk on Log Bridge or Plank: The dog will walk along a 10-inch wide, 10-foot long plank or log. Plank must be elevated at least three feet off the ground.

3.0 SWIMMING

The handler may use any method to demonstrate the dog's ability to enter a body of water and swim a total distance of 50 feet.

4.0 TRANSPORT

The dog shall demonstrate the ability to be safely transported on lead with at least two other dog teams. Ideally the dogs should not know each other well. The transport vehicle and number of teams should be such that the teams are in close quarters, but each handler must have a seat belt. The dogs shall be under the control of their handlers at all times. Teams shall be transported on a bumpy or curvy road for at least five minutes. The dogs shall remain calm and not struggle or show aggression.

5.0 SOCIABILITY

The dog must be able to behave appropriately around other dogs, people, and animals. Verification of appropriate canine behavior must be obtained from the mentor.

5.1 Dog/Dog & Dog/Human Behavior: The mentor is expected to observe the behavior of Apprentice teams over an extended period of time, and must verify that there has been no observation of, or awareness of, any incidents of canine misbehavior from the team over the past six months.

5.2 Dog/Animal Behavior: The mentor must verify that the dog has not exhibited excessive distractibility, fear, or aggression toward other animals during a training event.

6.0 HELICOPTER TRAINING

The handler and dog shall participate in helicopter safety training. The dog shall demonstrate the ability to be safely loaded on and off from an operating helicopter with rotors in motion. (Hot loading).

7.0 CADAVER SCENT EXPOSURE

The intent of the cadaver scent exposure exercise is for the handler to gain knowledge of how the dog will respond to the scent of a decomposing human body. It is not intended as a cadaver training exercise, nor does it in any way certify or qualify the dog for cadaver search work. In a natural environment, a cadaver scent source that is inside a secure container shall be placed at ground level at least 20 minutes before the exercise begins. The cadaver scent source shall be inaccessible to the dog. The exposure exercise should

be set up in such a way that the dog will discover the cadaver scent rather than having the scent pointed out to the dog. The handler shall document the dog's behavior in the team's logbook.

8.0 SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF 48-HOUR-OLD WILDERNESS TRAIL

The team shall successfully complete a 48-hour-old trail that is unknown to the handler. The trail shall be approximately ½ mile in length and have several intersections or other decision points and one or more changes of direction. The trail shall be laid in a rural area and may cross paved roads/sidewalks.

9.0 SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF 60 to 72-HOUR-OLD WILDERNESS TRAIL

The team shall successfully complete a 60 to 72-hour-old trail that is unknown to the handler. The trail shall be approximately ½ mile in length and have several intersections or other decision points and one or more changes of direction. The trail shall be laid in a rural area and may cross paved roads/sidewalks.

10.0 DEMONSTRATED EXPERIENCE ON A 96-HOUR-OLD WILDERNESS TRAIL

The team shall demonstrate running at least one 96-hour-old trail. The team is not required to be successful and may know where the trail was laid. The purpose of this exercise is for the handler to know the dog's capabilities for the conditions encountered on this type of trail. The trail shall be at least 1/3 mile in length.

11.0 SUCCESSFUL WILDERNESS NIGHT SEARCH TRAINING

The team shall demonstrate one successful wilderness night search training exercise for Type 1 and two for Typ3 2 to give the team search experience at night. This will provide the handler with an opportunity to demonstrate the team's ability to work in new and different scent conditions, the experience of searching in the dark, reading the dog, and seeing how the dog reacts to people and animals in the dark. The team may not know where the trail was laid. The night trail exercise shall be a minimum of ½ mile in length, and it shall be aged at least two hours before it is worked.

12.0 SUCCESSFUL URBAN TRAINING

The team shall successfully complete an 8 to 12-hour-old trail on streets and sidewalks in an urban or suburban area that is unknown to the handler. The team is required to be successful and may not know where the trail was laid. The trail will include heavily traveled streets as well as less frequently traveled streets and will contain segments with driveways or other openings that will collect scent as cars drive on or adjacent to the trail. The trail shall be 1/3 to ½ mile in length.

13.0 DEMONSTRATED EXPERIENCE ON 48-HOUR-OLD URBAN TRAIL

The team shall demonstrate training on at least one 48-hour-old trail on streets and sidewalks in an urban or suburban area. The team is not required to be successful and may know where the trail was laid. The purpose of this exercise is for the handler to

know the dog's capabilities and limitations in the urban environment. The trail will include heavily traveled streets as well as less frequently traveled streets and will contain segments with driveways or other openings that will collect scent as cars drive on or adjacent to the trail. The trail shall be 1/3 to 1/2 mile in length.

14.0 DEMONSTRATED EXPERIENCE ON A 60 to 72-HOUR-OLD URBAN TRAIL

The team shall demonstrate training on a 60 to 72-hour-old trail on streets and sidewalks in an urban or suburban area. The team is not required to be successful and may know where the trail was laid. The purpose of this exercise is for the handler to know the dog's capabilities and limitations in the urban environment. The trail will include heavily traveled streets as well as less frequently traveled streets and will contain segments with driveways or other openings that will collect scent as cars drive on or adjacent to the trail. The trail shall be 1/3 to 1/2 mile in length.

15.0 SUCCESSFUL URBAN NIGHT SEARCH TRAINING

The team shall demonstrate one successful urban night search training exercise for Type 1 and two for Type 4 to give the team search experience at night. This will provide the handler with an opportunity to demonstrate the team's ability to work in new and different scent conditions, the experience of searching in the dark, reading the dog, and seeing how the dog reacts to people and animals in the dark. The team may not know where the trail was laid. The night trail exercise shall be a minimum of 1/2 mile in length, and it shall be aged at least two hours before it is worked.

16.0 TRAIL HEAD VERIFICATION/SCENT GUIDE VERIFICATION

The dog shall be provided a scent guide and last known point (LKP) such as a trail head, trail junction, car, or home. The handler shall fire the dog at the LKP and demonstrate the ability to read the dog to determine whether any scent matching the article is present. This exercise will be performed with either a matching or a non-matching scent guide and the handler shall not be told which is the case during the evaluation. If the scent guide is non-matching, the evaluator shall take special care to ensure the LKP does not have scent matching that of the guide. If the scent guide is matching, the subject will be available at the end of a short trail.

TRAILING DOG PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS CHECK LIST – DOG SKILLS

Handler _____

Dog _____

1.1 – Walk on leash		
1.2 – Long wait		
2.1 – Lift Over		
2.2 – Crawl Under		
2.3 – Lift Down		
2.4 – Climb & Balance on Rocks		
2.5 – Walk on Log Bridge or Plank		
3.0 – Swimming		
4.0 – Transport		
5.1 – Dog/Dog & Dog/Human Behavior		
5.2 – Dog Animal Behavior		
6.0 – Helicopter Hot Load		
7.0 – Cadaver Exposure		
8.0 – Successful 48-hr Wilderness Trail		
9.0 – Successful 72-hr Wilderness Trail		
10.0 – Demonstrated Experience on 96-hr Wilderness Trail		
11.0 – Successful Wilderness Night Trail		
11.0 – Second Wilderness Night Trail		
12.0 – Successful Urban Trail		
13.0 – Demonstrated Experience on 48-hr Urban Trail		
14.0 – Demonstrated Experience on 72-hr Urban Trail		
15.0 – Successful Urban Night Trail		
15.0 – Second Urban Night Trail		
16.0 – Trail Head Verification		

SPECIALTY K-9 PROGRAM GUIDELINES FOR FIREARMS DETECTION

The K-9 team shall successfully pass agency qualification standards related to the specialty skill of Firearms Detection. While under the direction and control of the handler, the K-9 must find all of the Firearms/components in order to successfully complete the Firearms Detection evaluation.

Firearms Detection Considerations

The concealment of Firearms/components in the test area will be appropriate to the type of detection being evaluated.

The evaluators and assistants will take the precautions necessary to prevent scent contamination of the Firearms/components or the test area.

If possible, the Firearms/components should not belong to or be handled by the evaluators. The Firearms/components may not be handled by or belong to the handler being evaluated.

Test areas shall simulate the team's typical work environment, including typical distractions, physical challenges, and concealment locations.

The K-9 shall alert, signaling a find to the handler when the Firearms/components are detected. The K-9 team should indicate the approximate location of the item.

K-9 teams that fail the evaluation must wait two weeks to retest and show documentation of specific related training.

The evaluation, pass or fail, shall be documented with a copy turned in to the K-9 leader and Training Officer.

K-9 TEAM FIREARMS DETECTION TEST

CRITICAL TASKS: Locate firearms/components and demonstrate reasonable control.

The K-9 team must be proficient in locating Firearms and their related components (referred to as Firearms/components). Firearms/components to be used during the evaluation will consist of the firearm (long guns and/or handguns), and major firearm components (barrels, magazines, etc.). When the Firearms/components are detected, the K-9 will alert, signaling the find to the handler.

One to three Firearms/components will be concealed and placed in an outside area approximately 100 feet by 100 feet, uncontaminated by similar scents, with ground cover or other concealment. The number of Firearms/components in the test area will be unknown to the team being evaluated. The Firearms/components must be accessible to the K-9 but do not need to be visible. At least one of the items must be a handgun or long gun. All firearms/components must be in place one hour prior to the test and should not belong to or have been handled by the team being tested. When the Firearms/components are detected, the K-9 will alert, signaling the find to the handler. The K-9 team must indicate the approximate location of the Firearms/components. The K-9 team must locate all items in order to successfully complete the evaluation. The K-9 team will have one hour to complete the test.

Prerequisites: All handler sign-offs and all K-9 Foundation Skills must be complete and current. All Firearms Prerequisite Skills shall be signed off prior to evaluation.

All teams shall re-certify on the above "Detection Test" every year to maintain active status as a Firearms Detection K-9. Re-certification must occur within one month, either before or after, the anniversary month. The anniversary month is the month in which the original certification test was taken. For example, if a team originally took their certification test on March 15, they must re-certify between February 1 and April 30. If a team fails to re-certify during the prescribed period, the team must repeat the Prerequisite Skills prior to evaluation.

Evaluator Requirements: Two evaluators are required for testing. For the initial testing period of six months, any team member qualified as an area search evaluator may conduct testing. After this period, the primary evaluator must have passed the Firearms Detection Test. A second evaluator must be a mission ready handler in any discipline.

FIREARMS DETECTION PREREQUISITE SKILLS

The K-9 team must demonstrate the ability to find/locate the following firearms/components at a training session in a search area not to exceed 50 feet by 50 feet. Firearms/components are to be placed 30 minutes before the K-9 team begins. The team will have 30 minutes to complete each sign off. These sign offs may or may not be completed on the same day. The Firearms/components locations will not be known to the team being tested.

Handler: _____ **K-9:** _____

1. Handgun (must not contain any live ammunition). The K-9 shall locate and alert on a handgun.

Date: _____ Evaluator: _____

2. Long gun (must not contain any live ammunition). The K-9 shall locate and alert on a long gun.

Date: _____ Evaluator: _____

3. Major gun component (magazine, barrel, etc.) The K-9 shall locate and alert on a major component from a handgun or long gun.

Date: _____ Evaluator: _____

Exposure Firearms/Components (Required)

1. Spend casings (age/handling _____)

K-9 Response: _____

2. Gun oil on sterile gauze

K-9 Response: _____

3. Gun cleaning solvent on sterile gauze

K-9 Response: _____

Training Log Check Complete: _____

K-9 TEAM EVALUATION FOR FIREARMS DETECTION

Name of Handler: _____

Name of K-9: _____

Name of Primary Evaluator: _____

Name of Co-Evaluator: _____

Date: _____

All Handler sign offs current and complete? _____

All K-9 Foundation Skills current within two years? _____

All K-9 Firearms Prerequisite Skills complete within past six months? _____

Firearms/Components Placement Time _____

Test Start Time _____ **Test End Time** _____

Outside area search for Firearms/components: **Pass:** _____ **Fail:** _____
Types of Firearms/Components used in evaluation:

- | | | |
|----------|---------|--------------------|
| 1. _____ | Located | Not Located |
| 2. _____ | Located | Not Located or N/A |
| 3. _____ | Located | Not Located or N/A |

Distractions:

Comments:

Evaluators' Signatures:

K-9 EQUIPMENT

In addition to the DNSAR personal equipment list, the dog handler will also have the following items available.

- Collar
- Leash
- Shabrack
- Transport Harness
- Chemical light stick or equivalent
- Muzzle for helo transport
- K9 food rations enough for deployment period
- Additional water as required

Additional optional equipment:

- Dog rappelling harness
- Dog boots
- Dog coat, neoprene
- Bringsel
- Dog medications
- Dog brush
- Dog treats
- Dog dish
- K9 first aid equipment

EVALUATOR GUIDELINES FOR 40-ACRE EVALUATION

Mandatory Prerequisites: All the following must be checked off before the team is eligible to take the 40-acre Evaluation. A mentor will certify that everything has been checked prior to the test; however, the team being tested must bring everything to the test site. Field uniform may be worn on the test. Prior to setting up the 40-Acre evaluation, the mentor will ensure that the apprentice handler has the following:

1. A Class A uniform
2. A complete daypack
3. Current certification in CPR and first aid
4. Handler Preliminary Requirements (complete to extent required)
5. K-9 Preliminary Requirements are complete
6. Physical fitness requirement is complete within 12 months
7. Training log is current

Prior to commencement of the evaluation, the dog will demonstrate a simple alert and re-find of a concealed subject. (May use subject runaway to demonstrate.)

MANDATORY PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

The evaluators will record the weather conditions and features of the terrain that influence scent conditions. The handler and K-9 skills are to be assessed by the evaluators to the extent that conditions allow. The report on the team's performance will be either YES, NO or N/A where N/A indicates not applicable or not observed. The evaluators should provide an explanation for N/A reports in the comments section of the evaluation form. A NO rating by either evaluator on any of the performance parameters will result in failure of the evaluation. Each skill should receive a YES/NO report unless conditions are such that the skill is not observable or required for the test. The evaluators are encouraged to provide constructive feedback to the team.

40 ACRE EVALUATION

The dog shall meet the minimum age requirement of 12-months.

1. Evaluators

Tests and evaluations shall be given in accordance to the K-9 SAR Dog Evaluator Guidelines as stated in this document. This evaluation may be conducted in county by in county evaluators.

2. Setting up the Test

The dog team must search a forty-acre (1/4 mile by 1/4 mile) area and locate one subject in a maximum of two hours. The boundaries shall be well defined. The dog may track, trail, or air scent the subject. The subject shall be placed at least 30 minutes prior to the evaluation and must be concealed. Camouflage clothing is preferred; bright colors are unacceptable. The handler shall not be able to see the subject from a distance of twenty feet. To ensure that the subject is not easily trackable by the handler, area tests shall not be set up (subject placed) when snow is on the ground (patchy snow OK) or when other similar conditions (i.e., mud, dew, etc.) cannot be avoided which create easily visible tracks leading to the subject.

3. Area Search Problem

The search dog team shall arrive on time and check in to search base with appropriate equipment. The apprentice handler will provide the required form signed by his/her mentor that verifies the following items:

- Complete Class A uniform
- Required items in search pack
- Up to date log book
- Handler Preliminary Requirements complete to the extent required
- K-9 Preliminary Requirements complete
- Current CPR & First Aid certification
- Physical Fitness requirement complete

Prior to the evaluation, the handler shall describe and have the dog demonstrate the alert sequence. The dog shall be sent a minimum of 25 yards to a bush or suitable hiding place to find a concealed subject.

The team shall be given a scenario and pertinent information. The handler shall develop a search plan based on the scenario and information given and shall advise base camp of the plan. The handler shall keep base camp informed of progress in the field, plan changes, and any clues or evidence found. Timing of the evaluation will begin with the deployment of the search dog. The dog and handler shall demonstrate the ability to negotiate banks, logs, brush, and other natural obstacles. During the evaluation, the handler shall have periodic radio communication with search base. When the subject is located, the handler will determine the subject's condition, location, and request whatever resources are required. If the subject is found in less than one

hour, the dog shall be required to work a minimum time of one hour. A subject may be placed so the dog can continue to search the required time. The dog shall not be failed if it does not locate the second subject.

To pass the evaluation, the dog shall locate the subject within the two hours allowed and perform the alert sequence. The handler shall assess the subject's condition and report their position accurately on the map. The team will be evaluated on essential search skills including: clue recognition and action taken by the team, handler and dog stamina, search plan and implementation, map and compass skills, radio communication skills, and interviewing skills. The evaluators shall assess and report the team's performance with YES, NO or N/A (not applicable or not observed). If N/A is reported, then an explanation of the circumstances should be included. **Any assessment item which receives a "NO" rating by one or both of the evaluators will result in a failure of the test.**

AREA SEARCH MISSION READY TEST

1. **Evaluators**

For evaluator requirements, refer to Evaluator Requirements in the Policies and Procedures.

2. **Setting up the Test:**

The test area shall be approximately 100-120 acres in terrain appropriate for the "Type" being tested. All portions of the test area shall be accessible (i.e., via hiking through the area or by hiking the perimeter and sending the dog in). One to three subjects shall be placed thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the evaluation in widely separated areas. The number of subjects shall be unknown to the handler being tested. The subjects will be carefully concealed and will not wear bright clothing; camouflage is preferred. The handler should not be able to see the subject(s) from a distance of twenty (20) feet. To ensure that the subject(s) is/are not easily trackable by the handler, area tests shall not be set up (subjects placed) when snow is on the ground (patchy snow OK) or when other similar conditions (i.e., mud, dew, etc.) cannot be avoided which creates easily visible tracks leading to the subject(s). Type 3 Tests are tests that take place in gentle terrain environments. In Type 3 test areas, the difference between the high point and low point must be a minimum of 100 feet. Trees and/or light to moderate brush must cover at least 25% of the search area. No more than 10% of the area shall be heavy ground cover that substantially impedes progress. Type 2 Tests are tests that take place in rugged conditions. In Type 2 test areas, the difference between the high point and low point must be a minimum of 200 feet. No more than 25% shall be open area. No more than 10% of the area shall be heavy ground cover that substantially impedes progress. Type 1 Tests are tests that take place in extreme conditions. Type 1 tests must be administered above 6,000 feet. In Type 1 test areas, the difference between the high point and low point must be a minimum of 300 feet. No more than 25% shall be open area. Nor more than 10% of the area shall be heavy ground cover that substantially impedes progress. In addition, Type 1 teams must successfully complete the Type 1 Overnight Exercise prior to testing.

3. **Area Search Problem**

The team will be given a scenario, map of the search area (indicating three clearly defined boundaries and one undefined boundary based upon a compass bearing or contour line), and time to develop a search plan. Timing of the test shall commence when the handler deploys the dog. The test shall last a minimum of three hours. If the team locates three subjects, or reports that they have completed the assignment prior to three hours, they shall continue to work the area until the minimum time has elapsed. The team shall be allowed a maximum of four hours to complete the search assignment. Evaluators shall not inform the team as to whether or not they have located all the subjects until the four hour time limit has been reached. The teams must locate all the subjects in order to pass the test. The team will be evaluated on essential search skills including: clue recognition and action taken by the team, handler and dog stamina, search plan and implementation, map and compass skills, radio communication skills, and interviewing skills. The

evaluators shall assess and report the team's performance with a YES - NO or N/A (not applicable or not observed). If N/A is reported, then an explanation of the circumstances should be included. **Any assessment item which receives a "NO" rating by one or both of the evaluators will result in a failure of the test.**

EVALUATOR GUIDELINES FOR MISSION READY TEST

1. General

The evaluators will record basic test information, including the start and stop time, minimum and maximum elevation, "Type," and test location.

2. Mandatory Prerequisites

DNSAR Team apprentice's mentor shall ensure that all of the following have been checked off before the team is eligible to take the Mission Ready test. The team being tested must bring everything to the test site. Field uniform may be worn on the test. Items 2, 4, and 6 are not applicable for mission ready teams taking a recertification test.

1. Has complete Class A uniform.
2. Has complete cay pack.
3. Handler certifications in CPR and first aid are current.
4. Handler Preliminary Requirements complete and are not expired.
5. Dog Foundation Skills complete/updated and are not expired.
6. Team has completed 40-Acre Area Search Dog Evaluation within 12 months.
7. Physical fitness requirement is current.
8. Training log checked.

WATER SEARCH (CADAVER 3)

Refer to CalEMA MA Guideline - Dog Appendix C - Water

SAR DOG EVALUATOR GUIDELINES

1. It is recommended, but not mandatory, initial certification testing in any discipline be conducted with a minimum of two out of county evaluators and in an area unfamiliar to the team being evaluated, outside of Del Norte County. Recertification testing may occur out of county' however, it is not required.
2. The evaluators shall be currently or have been previously certified in the discipline and type for the test being given.
3. One of the evaluators should have been deployed on a minimum of ten searches, in the discipline being tested, at the Level and Type equal to or higher than the Type being tested. This requirement may be modified in testing disciplines where search deployment is unusual, such as avalanche, cadaver, water, and disaster. In Del Norte County, a water evaluator or cadaver evaluator shall have been deployed on a minimum of five searches in the respective discipline. Persons meeting these qualifications are also capable of signing off preliminary skills in the disciplines they are certified in.

4. The County SAR Coordinator and K9 Team Leader, must approve all evaluators in their jurisdiction. In order to preserve the highest standards of professionalism and to avoid any perceived conflict of interest between the evaluator and the K9 team, the evaluator may not have a monetary interest in the training of the K9 team being evaluated.

USE OF OHV TEAM

Off Highway Vehicle teams would include any off road motorized vehicle used in the search operation. These vehicles would include, but are not limited to, four wheel drive vehicles, motorcycles, all terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, 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. Oftentimes 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.

SEARCH PACK EQUIPMENT LIST

Required

Bandana
Batteries, spare for all carried devices
Boots, consistent with weather/terrain
Carabineers, locking
Compass
Chemical light sticks (12 hr. duration)
Clothing appropriate for weather conditions
Duct tape (2" wide)
First aid kit (see list)
Flashlight
Food, snacks, bars, nuts, dried fruit, etc.
Food for long deployment
Food preparation equipment, fuel, utensils
Gaiters
Gloves, leather or equivalent
Goggles/Safety glasses/Eye protection
Knife, multipurpose
Waterproof matches, magnesium bar, or lighter
Metal drinking cup, heatable
Note pad and pen/pencil
Nylon parachute cord
Plastic ziploc bags - 1 or 2 gallon size
Rain gear
Shelter for search conditions
Signal mirror (may be with compass)
Sleeping bag
Socks, extra
Tissues or toilet paper
Flagging tape
Trash bags, 40 gal. size
Tubular webbing, enough for seat harness
Watch
Water purification system
Water
Waterproof permanent marker (for flagging)
Whistle

Optional-Recommended

Altimeter
Antacid/anti-diarrheal medication
Camera
Insect bite & burn treatments
Personal meds, eyeglasses, sunglasses
50 ft. 9mm rope
Sam splint or equivalent
Shovel-folding, toiletries

First Aid Kit Items

Antibiotic ointment
Antihistamines
Aspirin or equivalent
Band-Aids, assorted
Chemical hot and cold packs
CPR Micro-shield or pocket mask
Elastic (Ace) bandage
Electrolyte replacement drink
Gauze pads
Insect Repellent
Moleskin
Protective gloves
Roller gauze
Space blanket
Sun screen & lip balm
Trauma sheers or scissors
Triangular bandages with safety pins
Tweezers
Waterproof tape
Waterless hand sanitizer (towelettes)