Joshua Tree Search and Rescue Plan

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Prepared By

Lost Horse Ranger

9/6/84

Concurred By

Chief Ranger

9/12/84

Approved By

Superintendent

9/12/84
1.0 General

1.1 It is the responsibility of the National Park Service to provide visitor protection services to members of the general public within units of the National Park System. This document is based upon the authority mandated by Congress in the National Park Service Organic Act established August 25, 1916, and thereafter amended and expanded, 16 U.S.C. 1c. The saving and safeguarding of human life takes precedence over all other park management activities.

1.2 All search and rescue operations will be conducted in accordance with the general guidelines outlined in the Joshua Tree National Monument Emergency Operation Plan.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 Joshua Tree National Monument is located approximately 150 miles east of Los Angeles in the Southern California desert. The Monument boundary encompasses about 872 square miles.

2.2 Popular recreational activities which generate potential SAR incidents are technical rock climbing, hiking, and backpacking.

2.3 Environmental hazards to visitors include flash floods, poisonous snakes and arthropods, abandoned mine shafts, extreme weather conditions and deep canyons with vertical rock walls.

2.4 The majority of the Monument is designated wilderness with few roads or developments.

2.5 This plan is not intended to be used as a "how to" training manual but as a working guideline to implement SAR operations.

3.0 Organization

3.1 Search and rescue is the direct responsibility of the Visitor Protection Division and is managed under the Incident Command System during major emergency operations.

3.2 Refer to ICS 420-1 Field Operations Guide and attachment #2 Organization Chart and attachment #3 commonly used ICS positions.

3.3 During major SAR Operations, the first ranger on scene will assume the duties of Operations Chief until relieved by the area Supervisory Ranger.

3.4 During less complex SAR incidents which can be handled with available Monument resources, the area Supervisory Ranger will assume the duties of Incident Commander.
4.0 First Notice/Callout

4.1 The individual receiving the initial report of an incident that might necessitate a SAR operation will, after gathering pertinent information, immediately notify the communications center. The dispatcher will then contact the Supervisory Ranger or his designee in whose area the incident is occurring. See attachment #1 Lost Person Questionnaire.

4.2 If the initial report is received by phone or through a third party, and the reporting party is located within or adjacent to the Monument, consideration will be given to dispatching a ranger to contact the reporting party in person. Once contacted, the ranger should remain with the person making the report until further directed by the Incident Commander or his designee.

4.3 The Incident Commander will size up the situation and implement a SAR response.

4.4 In the Monument, callout will be done by following established organizational channels.

4.5 In order to maintain coordinated efforts, whenever outside resources or personnel are needed, they will always be requested by the Incident Commander, or if he designates, the Operations Chief, through the communications center. Whenever outside resources call field stations, they must be referred to the communications center.

4.6 Request for assistance from other NPS or Scott AFB should be made through the Regional SAR Coordinator, as per the Western Region Emergency Operations Plan.

4.7 Various appendices of Joshua Tree's Emergency Operations Plan list possible sources of assistance.

4.8 The Regional Office will be notified of any major mission.

4.9 Prior to responding to any SAR operation, all personnel involved will assemble at the location designated by the Incident Commander or Operations Chief. Here they will be briefed, equipment issued, and the clothing and personal equipment of each checked for suitability as to the prevailing conditions. Any person not properly equipped or dressed will not be permitted to participate.

4.10 After designation of the team leader(s) and team(s), each team will be dispatched as a unit. All teams will operate as a unit and upon completion of the operation all team members will report as directed prior to returning to normal duties or going off duty.
5.0 Search

5.1 Search is an emergency. Until located, the possibility of the subject being injured or sick must be recognized.

5.2 Some level of response, even if it is as simple as completing a questionnaire, should be made for every missing person or overdue party.

5.3 After contact is established with the reporting party, and pertinent information is obtained, the first thing the Incident Commander should do is ascertain whether or not the person(s) reported missing is actually lost. This can be done through such things as:

1. Contacting friends, relatives, or neighbors to learn if they know the subject's whereabouts.

2. Careful questioning of the person making the report.

3. Checking parking lots for the subject's vehicle.

4. Checking local attractions (eg. Barker Dam, Willow Hole etc.) on the chance the missing person may have been attracted there.

5. Contacting visitors.

Priorities

5.4 If a search condition does exist, the following guide will help determine the relative urgency of the situation. The lower the priority factors, the more urgent the need to respond.

| Victim Profile | Age                  |
|               | Very young.          | 1 |
|               | Very old             | 1 |
|               | Other                | 2-3 |

| Medical Condition | Known or suspected injured or ill | 1-2 |
|                  | Healthy                | 3 |
|                  | Known Fatality         | 3 |

| Number of Subjects | One alone | 1 |
|                    | More than one (unless separation suspected) | 2-3 |

| Weather Profile | Existing hazardous weather | 1 |
|                | Predicted hazardous weather (8 hrs. or less) | 1-2 |
|                | Predicted hazardous weather (more than 8 hrs.) | 2 |
|                | No hazardous weather predicted | 3 |
Equipment Profile
Inadequate for environment.........................1
Questionable for environment.........................1-2
Adequate for environment.........................3

Victim Experience Profile
Not experienced, does not know area.............1
Not experienced, knows area..........................1-2
Experienced, not familiar with area...............2
Experienced, knows area.............................3

NOTE: Elapsed time from when victim "went missing", along with the "political" sensitivity of the circumstances will have the effect of increasing the relative urgency.

5.5 Appropriate Response to Urgency Ratings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor Sum</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-12</td>
<td>High priority emergency response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-15</td>
<td>Moderate response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-24</td>
<td>Low priority response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-27</td>
<td>Search situation or missing person?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Strategy

5.6 If a search is warranted, establish the probable boundaries of the search area. Factors to be taken into consideration are:

1. Statistical data (case histories of behavior of lost persons).
2. History of the area and deductive reasoning; "reconstruct the circumstances".
3. Intuition.
4. Analysis of time/distance traveled.
5. Terrain idiosyncrasies.
6. Clues.
7. Subject information.
8. Natural routes.
10. "Put yourself in subject's shoes".

Investigation

5.7 Consideration must be given, in the very early stages of a search, to designation someone to carry through with a thorough investigation. Other considerations must be given to criminal possibilities, clues, and preserving evidence.
Clues

5.8 Although clues (footprints, items discarded by subject, scent articles) may not lead directly to the subject, their most powerful effect can be to eliminate search areas. Every person involved in a search (especially the early phases) must be reminded constantly to be "clue conscious".

Tactics

5.9 Initial actions will have three objectives:

1. Confine the subject(s) travel, prevent the search area from enlarging,

2. Effectively use the resources that are immediately available,

3. Find the subject or clues.

5.10 Confinement and attraction methods:

1. Road or trail patrols,

2. Track traps,

3. Noise,

4. Lights,

5. Road or trail blocks,

6. "Camp-ins",

7. Lookouts,

8. Smoke.

5.11 Generally, available trained NPS personnel will be dispatched, immediately as hasty teams, to areas of highest probability of detection, to attempt to locate the subject or CLUES.

Efforts of this type include:

1. Follow known or suspected route,

2. Trail running,

3. Sign (track) cutting,

4. Areas of attraction,

5. Especially hazardous areas,

6. Roads,

7. Drainages,

8. Ridge tops,
9. The easily forgotten obvious - restrooms, tents, vehicles, home, etc.

5.12 Clue-finding and/or Clue/Subject-finding resources will be used as early in the search effort as they can be moved to the search area. These resources include:

1. Visual trackers,
2. Search dogs (air scent),
3. Tracking dogs,
4. Trained (clue conscious) hasty teams,

Preference for Resources

5.13 The following outlines the order of preference of tactics and resources to be used on a search:

1. Trained (clue conscious) hasty teams,
   Visual trackers,
   Search dogs,
   Confinement and attraction,
   Tracking dogs (IF weather and available scent article dictate),
   Air search,

NOTE: The above resources will be used concurrently, as available.

2. Untrained hasty teams
3. Grid (line) searchers.

5.14 Every reasonable effort will be carried out to locate the subject using those methods listed in 5.13.1 before using those methods listed in 5.13.2 and 5.13.3; even though large numbers of searchers might be immediately available. The use of grid or line search techniques must be regarded as a last resort, along with which the efficiency, economy and control of the mission can be expected to substantially diminish. Large numbers of searchers, even when reasonably well trained, virtually obliterate clues. As a result, the effectiveness of those resources that have the highest and quickest probability of detection is considerably reduced, or even eliminated.

5.15 The Incident Commander is encouraged to refer to the "Search is an Emergency" handbook for detailed information on search management. A copy of this book and other helpful information and materials are located in each ranger station and the communications center.
6.0 Rescue

6.1 Technical rescue usually involves the use of specialized equipment to evacuate an injured or stranded subject.

6.2 A carryout is defined as a non-technical means to evacuate an injured person from the backcountry or to move an injured subject for transport to a trailhead or a parking area.

6.3 Technical rescue operations will be performed only by trained personnel who meet rescue team certification standards.

6.4 Carryout teams may be composed of Monument employees who do not meet rescue team certification standards provided they have proper personal protective clothing and equipment.

6.5 Trained VIP's may be used in support functions during technical rescue operations but may not be placed in any high risk position i.e., litter bearer, lead climber unless they are placed on emergency employment status.

6.6 Proper emergency medical care will be immediately provided to stabilize an injured subject prior to evacuation unless unusual circumstances dictate, i.e., mid-face evacuation.

6.7 Technical rescue operations will be carried out by the most expedient not necessarily the most elaborate method.

6.8 Safety of the subject and rescuers are of paramount importance.

6.9 Upon completion of all technical rescue operations, an equipment inventory and inspection will be conducted. Rescue and trauma packs will be restocked and damaged equipment replaced.

7.0 Suspending the Operation

7.1 The SAR operation will be suspended only when:

1. The lost or injured person is recovered and all personnel are removed from the field.

2. All reasonable efforts have been expended to locate and/or evacuate the subject without success. The Superintendent, Chief Ranger, and Incident Commander must agree to suspend the operation.

7.2 The following factors should be considered:

1. Weather, age and experience of the subject,
2. Equipment carried by the subject,
3. The reasonable length of time that survival could be expected under the circumstances,
4. Political ramification.
7.3 A deescalated search or patrol will continue on a level determined by the Incident Commander.

8.0 Documentation and Reporting

8.1 The completion of the following reports within 48 hours of the close of each operation is the responsibility of the Incident Commander for that operation. These forms are required for each major search operation, technical rescue, and backcountry carryout. It does not include the numerous lost person instances or other emergencies which do not extend beyond the limits of developed visitor use areas such as auto campgrounds.

1. Case Incident Record 10-343
2. Log of major events
3. Cost Summary
4. DI-134 "Report of Accident or Injury" on each injury or fatality
5. Initial Lost Person Questionnaire
7. Supporting documentation: photographs, statements and descriptions
8. Narrative memo to Superintendent with description of accident and rescue operation.
9. Map or sketch of accident location (only in complex, unusual operations or those involving a fatality).

9.0 Critique

9.1 Critique will be held as soon as possible after a major mission, or when deemed necessary for minor SAR operations.

9.2 Outside resources involved in the operation will be urged to participate in the critique.

10.0 Training

10.1 The Lost Horse Ranger is responsible for developing a SAR training program for the Monument.

10.2 Only trained personnel who have completed the requirements for rescue team certification will be used in hazardous positions, or functions that require knowledge of technical skills during technical rescue operations. The Lost Horse Ranger will determine who has met these requirements. (See attachment #4 Training Standards).

10.3 Records of each member of the Joshua Tree Technical Rescue Team will be maintained by the Lost Horse Ranger (See attachment #5 Skill Evaluation).
LOST PERSONS QUESTIONNAIRE/CHECK LIST

Date ______________________

Mission No. _______ S.O. No. _______ Officer _______

Data taken by ______________________________________

By: Phone _______ In person _______ S.O. _______

Name of missing person ____________________________________ Age ______

Local address __________________________________ Local phone ______

Home address __________________________________ Home phone ______

Nicknames ___________________________________ Aliases ______

A. Physical Description:

Height ______ Weight ______ Build ______________________

Hair-color ______ Length _______ Sideburns ______

Beard ______ Balding? ______

Eye color ______

Facial features/shape _______ Complexion ______

Any distinguishing marks/scars, etc? ______________________

Race ______

General appearance ______________________

Complete and detailed answers to questions needed to identify clues as found. Put "none", "NA (not applicable)", or "unsure" in blanks as appropriate.

B. Clothing:

Shirt/Sweater style _______ color ______

Pants style _______ color ______

Jacket style _______ color ______

Raingear style _______ color ______
B. (Cont'd.)

Shoes
- style_________________ color___________
- sole type_________________________________
- sample available?______ where________________

Hand gear
- style_________________ color___________

Gloves
- style_________________ color___________

Glasses
- regular/sun___________ style___________

Any extra clothes/shoes?

Scent articles available?______ where________________

C. Equipment:

Pack
- style_________________ brand___________
- color________________

Tent
- style_________________ brand___________
- color___________

Sleeping Bag
- style_________________ brand___________
- color___________

Food
- what________________________________
- brands_________________ amount________

Flashlight__________ Matches___________ Knife_________

Map_________________ Compass___________

Gloves/hardware_________________________

Camera_________________ brand___________

Money______________ amount______ credit cards________________

Firearms
- type_________________ brand________________
- ammo________________________
D. Trip Plans:
   Going to ______________________ via ______________________
   Purpose _________________________________________________
   How long? ______________________ How many in group? ______
   Group affiliation ____________________ Transportation ______________________
   Started at ______________________ when ______________________
   Car located at ______________________ type ______________________
   license _________ verified ______________________
   Alternate car at ______________________ type ______________________
   license _________ verified ______________________
   Pickup/return time _______ where ______________________
   All in Group:
   Name ______________________ Address ______________________
   Phone ____________ Car License ______________________
   Name ______________________ Address ______________________
   Phone ____________ Car License ______________________
   Name ______________________ Address ______________________
   Phone ____________ Car License ______________________
   Any alternate plans/routes/objectives discussed? ______________________
   __________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________

E. Last Seen Details:
   When ______________________
   Where ______________________
   By whom ______________________ Present? ______________________
   If not, location ______________________ Phone ______________________
   Weather ______________________
   Going which way ______________________ How long ago? ______________________
E. (Cont'd.)

Special reason for leaving?

Unusual comments upon leaving?

F. Experience:

Familiar with area _____ How recently

If not local, what other areas of experiences?

Mountaineering classes_____ where

when

First Aid Training_____ where

when

Scouts_____ where when

Military Service

How much overnight experience

Ever been lost before? _____ Actions

Ever go out alone?

Stay on trails or go cross country?

How many long trips before

If not regular hiker, general athletic interests and ability

G. Contacts Person Would Make Upon Reaching Civilization:

Home address

Phone___________ Anyone home?

Local contact?___________ Phone

Friends___________ Phone

Friends___________ Phone

Relatives___________ Phone
H. Health - General Condition:
   Any physical handicaps?
   Any known medical problem
       Knowledgeable doctor
       Phone
   Any known psychological problems
       Knowledgeable person
       Phone
   Taking prescription medication?
       Doctor
       Consequences of loss
       Amount carried
       Eyesight without glasses
       Spares?

I. Actions Taken So Far:
   By: Friends/Family
       when
       results
   Sheriff
       when
       results
   Park Service
       when
       results
   Missing persons report filed
       when
       where
   All points bulletin issued
       when
       Authority

J. Personality Habits:
   Smoke
       How often?
       what brand
   Drink
       brand
J. (Cont'd.)

Drugs

Hobbies/interests: fishing, flowers, climbing, photography

Does person work for spare money?

Outgoing or quiet; likes group, or alone?

Evidence of leadership

Ever been in trouble with law? Now?

Hitchhike often? Accept rides?

Feelings toward grownups

Any current family/girl(boy) friend problems?

Religion Serious?

What does person believe in?

What does person value most?

Who is person closest to: in family in general

Where born and raised?

Any history of depression, running away?

Status in school draft

Who last talked at length to person? where subject

Any recent letters?

Give up easily or keep going?

Will person hole up and wait or keep moving?

K. For Children:

Afraid of dogs? Horses? Dark?

What training regarding what to do when lost?

What are actions when hurt? Cry? Carry on?
K. (Cont'd.)
Talk to strangers; accept rides?__________________________
Active type or lethargic?____________________________

L. For Groups Overdue:
Any personality clashes in group?__________________________
Any strong leader types not actually the leader?________________
What is competitive spirit of group?________________________
What would be actions if separated?________________________
Any persons especially close friends?_______________________
What is experience of leader and rest of group?________________
________________________________________________________________

M. Family - To prevent press problems:
Father's occupation____________________________________
Parent's separated or similar problem?_____________________
Family's desire to employ special assistance________________
Name, address, phone of father/mother/husband/wife/son/daughter
to notify if found in good condition (give most appropriate kin
for information or contact when found):
Name_________________________ Address__________________
Phone_______________________ Relationship________________

Person to notify if found in very poor condition or dead (should
be friend, relative, or minister of next-of-kin):
Name_________________________ Address__________________
Phone_______________________ Relationship________________
INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM
GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

The following are general instructions applicable to all ICS personnel:

1. Receive your incident assignment, order no., reporting location, Strike Team/Task Force No., and communications channel from your home agency dispatch center.
2. Upon arrival at the incident, Check-in at designated Check-in locations. Check-in locations may be found at:
   Incident Command Post (Resources Unit)
   Base or Camps
   Staging Areas
   Helibases
   Division Supervisors (for direct line assignments)
3. Agency Representatives from Assisting or Cooperating agencies report to Liaison Officer at the Command Post after checking in.
4. All radio communications to Incident Communications Center will be addressed: "(Incident Name) Communications" e.g., "Webb Communications".
5. Use Clear Text and ICS terminology (no codes) in all radio transmissions.
6. Receive briefing from immediate supervisor.
7. Acquire work materials.
8. Organize and brief subordinates.
9. Complete forms and reports required of the assigned position and send material through supervisor to Documentation Unit.
10. Respond to demobilization orders.
11. Brief subordinates regarding demobilization.
12. When released return to home agency or other assignment.
Commonly Used ICS Positions

Command Staff

Incident Commander-The Incident Commander of any major SAR operation within the Monument will be the Chief Ranger. For less complex operations which can be handled with Monument resources, the Incident Commander will be the area Supervisory Ranger.

Safety Officer-responsible for monitoring and assessing hazardous and unsafe situations and developing measures to assure personnel safety. Function usually performed by the Monument Safety Officer during a major SAR incident.

Liaison Officer-is responsible for contact between family members and cooperating agencies. This function is best performed by the Monument Superintendent.

Information Officer-responsible for all contact with the news media regarding Monument staff activities and situation status during major SAR activities. Usually performed by a designated member of the Headquarters staff.

Operations

The Operations Chief during a major SAR incident will be the area Supervisory Ranger. The Operations Chief is responsible for the management of all operations directly applicable to the primary mission—the saving of lives.

Investigator-reports to the Operations Chief and is responsible for assembling information on lost persons and interviewing witnesses. Can be performed by the first ranger on scene or as assigned by the O.C. During large scale SAR operations, deputy sheriffs in whose county the incident is taking place may be used.

Air Operations—responsible for coordinating all tactical activities such as helibase/helispot selection, manifesting, and to provide logistical support to helicopters operating on the incident. Can be performed by any personnel trained in helibase management.

Plans

The Plans Chief is responsible for the collection, evaluation, dissemination and use of information about the development of the SAR incident and status of resources. Information is needed to: 1) understand the current situation, 2) predict probable course of incident events, and 3) prepare alternative strategies and tactical operations for the incident. Can be performed by any personnel trained in search strategy and tactics.
Documentation Unit—responsible for maintaining accurate and complete incident records. May be performed by personnel who have complete knowledge of the incident activities and is familiar with NPS reporting procedures.

Logistics

Logistics Chief is responsible for providing supplies, equipment, and services necessary to support the mission.

Communications Unit—responsible for developing plans for the effective use of incident communications equipment and facilities.

Finance/Timekeeping

Finance Section Chief—responsible for all financial and cost analysis aspects of the incident.

Timekeeper—responsible for time recording of all personnel, aircraft and other equipment.
Major Search Checklist

1. Mobilize search resources too fast rather than too slow.

2. Establish Command Post at the ranger station nearest the search area when the size of the operation exceeds what the Monument can handle.

3. Chief Ranger will be the Incident Commander unless he designates someone else to act in his behalf.

4. Start an Investigation/Documentation Unit as soon as possible and refer to "Field Coordinators Handbook" for suggestions and alternatives.

5. Refer to SAR Master Resource List for sources of manpower and equipment.

6. Designate an administrative person to keep track of all emergency overtime and equipment costs. At the end of the operation this person will compile total costs of the mission.

7. Major search strategy and tactical hints:
   a. Hold on to the witnesses!
   b. Determine the point last seen and cordon off the area like a crime scene.
   c. Preserve tracks or any other physical evidence.
   d. Take the witnesses to the point last seen and attempt to reenact the incident.
   e. Close the area to the public if necessary and attempt to seal off the perimeter to confine the subject.
   f. If weather is bad or victim is quite old, young, or has a medical condition, escalate the search.
   g. Assign an investigator early in the search.
   h. Establish the probable search area boundaries based on terrain, clues, historic information, weather, condition of the subject etc.
   i. Dispatch hasty teams of qualified experienced personnel to follow logical routes, trails, check hazardous areas, attractions, etc.
   j. Search for clues, i.e., tracks, clothing, personal items, witnesses,
   k. Interview all hikers in the area.
l. Order helicopters early and get plenty of them, especially if they will be used for transportation of persons and supplies.

m. Consider the use of the following resources:

   1. Trained, clue conscious hasty teams,
   2. Visual trackers,
   3. Tracking dogs if weather and available clues dictate,
   4. Helicopter search,

n. Untrained searchers and grid search should be a last resort.

o. Avoid the use of "pick up" volunteers. Try to get experienced volunteer rescue groups, i.e., Mountain Rescue Association.

p. Obtain an agency liaison from each outside team.

q. Maintain control of outside teams so you know what they searched and how well they did.

r. Hold structured briefings and debriefings with all team leaders. Outline objectives, areas to be searched, how well areas should be searched, etc.
Technical Rescue Checklist

1. Only trained individuals who have the appropriate equipment will be used during technical rescue operations.

2. Determine exact location of injured or stranded subject.

3. Minimum equipment carried to the scene will include:
   a. Rescue pack
   b. Anchor pack, ropes, rope pads and edge rollers
   c. Trauma pack
   d. Portable oxygen unit
   e. Suction unit

4. Minimum equipment carried by each team member will include:
   a. helmet
   b. gloves
   c. seat harness
   d. headlamp
   e. water
   f. figure 8 ring or rappel rack
   g. ascenders or prusik knots
   h. chest harness
   i. 6 locking carabiners

5. Usually the first team member on the scene will be in charge of the overall operation.

6. Determine evacuation route as you approach the scene.

7. Do not take unnecessary risks; no free solo climbing.

8. Protect the subject and stabilize all injuries prior to evacuation unless subject is in a hazardous location.

9. Check all systems and back-ups prior to evacuation.

10. Call for ambulance or air evacuation for standby and estimate time subject will arrive at a parking area, trailhead or heli-spot.

11. Call for additional carryout teams and crowd/traffic control as needed.

12. Do not allow spectators to interfere with the operation.

13. At the end of the rescue, inventory and replace all damaged equipment. All ropes will be inspected and washed after each use. Record the use of all ropes on the assigned card.
Search and Rescue Master Resource List

Trained Searchers
Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team
(818)355-1414

Riverside Mountain Rescue Unit
(714)654-4279
(714)654-0947
(714)787-2444

China Lake Mountain Rescue Group
(619)939-3323

San Diego Mountain Rescue Team
(619)276-5360 (answering service)
(619)565-2181 (San Diego County Sheriff Dept.)

San Bernardino County Sheriffs Dept.
(619)367-9544

NPS VIP's
Dave Miller 367-2646  Bill Clem, M.D. (213) 545-3403
Ron Matthews 367-1033  Bill Maher (213) 420-8944
Gerry Huff 367-6807

Tracking Dogs
Sierra Madre SAR Team
(818)355-1414

Scent Dogs
California Rescue Dog Association
(916)988-5542
(916)989-4989 Answering service (emergency only)

Helicopters
San Bernardino County Sheriffs Dept.,
Aviation Division
(714)822-0563

Landell Aviation
(619)875-8751

Military - AFRCC
(800)851-3051

Helitac Crew (for helibase management)
Order through BLM Dispatch (714)351-6382

Air crash unit- Marine Base Fire Dept.
368-6871
Logistics
Base Camp Support
South Zone - Request through BLM Dispatch
(714)351-6382
Base Unit NFES 6001
Facsimile Machine Kit NFES 0970

Communications
Field kitchen
Chemical toilets - Van Dyke Plumbing
367-9151
Potable water - Park Maintenance

Weather information - National Weather Service
(714)351-6520

California Office of Emergency Services
(916)427-4235

Ambulance
Joshua Tree Ambulance
367-7507

Yuca Valley Fire Department (paramedics)
365-3333

Trackers
U.S. Border Patrol
(213) 548-2353

San Diego Mountain Rescue Team
(619) 276-5360 (answering service)
(619) 565-2181 (San Diego County Sheriff Dept.)

Federal Aviation Administration-Flight Service Station (Thermal)
(619) 399-5155
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR

USING HELICOPTERS

1. All operations in/or around the helibase or helispot will be directed by a trained helibase or helispot manager.

2. All persons working on or near the helibase or helispot will wear goggles and hardhats during landings and takeoffs; the hardhat will be strapped in place.

3. Personnel assigned to low altitude reconnaissance and observation flights are advised to wear personal protective equipment which includes leather boots, protective headgear, gloves and fire-resistant clothing.

4. Only those persons directly involved with the helicopter operation will be allowed access to the helibase or helispot.

5. Except in emergency conditions, only those areas designated for use as a helibase or helispot will be utilized for this purpose. These areas will be designated in advance.

6. All areas being used for a helibase or helispot will be conspicuously marked as such while in use.

7. All personnel who will be or who might be involved in a SAR mission utilizing a helicopter will receive basic training in helicopter operations. This training will include such things as:
   a) Safety around helicopters
   b) Types of helicopters that might be used and their particular "characteristics".
   c) Types of "hoist equipment", their use, and the safety rules involving each type.
   d) Methods of loading a helicopter and the rules to be followed when doing so.
Equipment Inventory
Lost Horse Rescue Cache

3 - Search Packs which contain:

- Lowe Rescue Pack (1)
- hardhat (1)
- headlamp (1)
- spare batteries (4)
- fire shirt (1)
- canteen 1 Gal. (1)
- canteen 1 Qt. (1)
- space blanket (1)
- sleeping bag (1)
- bivvy sack (1)
- ensolite pad (1)
- pen (1)
- compass (1)
- maps (1 set)
- lightsticks (2)
- aerial flair kit (1)
- smoke grenade (1)
- flagging tape (1)
- 10' parachute cord (2)
- food rations (2 bxs)
- sierra cup (1)
- fuel tabs (2 bxs)
- dining packet (1)
- assorted coffee, tea, hot chocolate, ERG, (1 pkg.)
- note pad (1)
3 - Rescue Packs (brown, light blue, dark blue) which contain:

Dolt Mt. Whitney Pack

locking carabiners (15)  parachute cord 10' (2)

oval carabiners (25)    Gibbs free running ascender (1)

Stubai steel locking carabiners (1)  Gibbs spring loaded ascender (1)

rappel rack (1)            Forrest Ultimate sit harness (1)

figure 8 descending ring (1)

single runners (10)

double runners (4)

20' runners (2)

chocks (assorted)

clog ascenders (3)

tenstron (3 lengths)

helmets (1)

gloves (1 pair)

head lamp (1)

light sticks (2)

rescue pulleys (4)

11' two inch webbing with buckle (2)

accessory tie-on straps (2)

gear sling (1)

daisy chain (2)

etriers (2)

foot loops with rope ascending slings (2)

friends mechanical chocks (4)

titons #5, 6, 7, 8, 9 (1 each)

Joshua Tree Climbers Guide (1)

adjustable chest harness (1)

aerial flair kit (1)
3 - Anchor Packs which contain:
4 - 50 foot anchor ropes

3 - Rope Packs which contain:
1 200'x7/16" static rope
3 - Dynamic climbing ropes 165'x11 mm

1 - litter wheel
2 - full length stokes litter
1 - split stokes litter on pack frame
2 - litter spyder riggings
Indian Cove Rescue Inventory

Chocks
Hexes #10(2), #9, #8, #7(2), #6, #2
Clogs #10(2), #9(2), #8, #7(2), #6, #4, #3(2), #2(2)
Stopper #5
Friends #4, #3, #1
Locking D Carabiners 18
Oval Carabiners 18
CMI Descending Rings 2
Jumars 1 pair
Gibbs Free Running 1 pair
Anderson 2" Pulley 4
Rappel Rack w/6 bars
Foot Stirrups 1 pair
Prusiks 6mm Perlon 6
Daisy Chain 1
Chest Harness 1
Swami Belt 2" w/buckle 2
Etriers 2
3/8" Polypropalene Rope 6' 3
1" Tubular Webbing 20' 1
1" Tubular Webbing 3' 7
1" Tubular Webbing 5' 7
1" Tubular Webbing 10' 9
7/16 Gold Line 20' 3
1 - Full Length Stokes Litter
1 - Plastic Stokes Litter
1 - Litter Pre-rig Spyders
3 - Static Ropes 200' x 7/16"n
3 - Dynamic Ropes 165' x 11mm
2 - Edge Rollers