

**INFORMATION ONLY**

**The Search**  
(Search Techniques)  
  
Created by:  
Tony Gaier  
NMSAR

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**References**

- SAR Field Certification Study Guide, published by NM DPS

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**Objectives**

- Identify the fundamentals of search planning
- Describe the procedures for team briefings, debriefings, and mission check-in/check-out
- Identify the different types of searches
- Describe the procedures for handling a death scene
- Describe the procedures for finding and handling clues

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**INFORMATION ONLY**

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**Overview**

- Fundamentals of Search Planning
- Sign-in and Team Briefing
- Search Considerations
- Search Techniques
- Finding and Handling Clues
- Death Scene
- Team Debriefing and Sign-out
- Summary

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**FUNDAMENTALS OF SEARCH PLANNING**

- Search Probabilities
  - Probability of Area (POA)
    - Probability expressed as a percentage of subject in area
    - Sized for resource used

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**FUNDAMENTALS OF SEARCH PLANNING**

- Search Probabilities
  - Probability of Detection (POD)
    - The probability the subject would have been found
  - POD depends on:
    - Type of search resource
    - Environment
    - Effort expended in the area
    - The object/subject of the search

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### SIGN-IN AND TEAM BRIEFING

- Sign-in (NMSAR Form 211)
- Briefing
  - Specific information about the subject
  - Your assigned search area, the tactics and techniques to be used, and associated maps
  - The communications plan for the incident
  - The 'death code'
  - Safety and hazard information and the rescue plan
  - Location of the media and/or family
  - Any other information the ICS Staff feels you will need

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### SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS

- Identification of the search area

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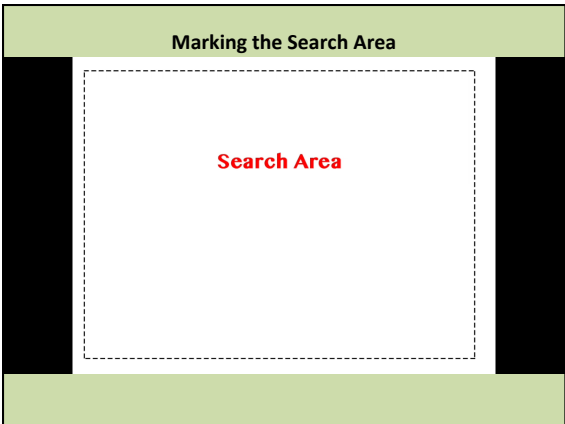
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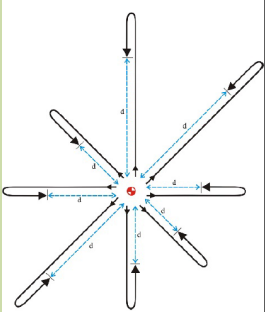
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# INFORMATION ONLY

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**SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS**

- Efficiency vs. Thoroughness
- Average maximum detection range (AMDR)



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**SEARCH CONSIDERATIONS**

- Effective Sweep Width (ESW)
  - Affected by many factors
    - Terrain
    - Environmental conditions
    - Search object
    - Searcher speed
    - Type of search sensor

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**SEARCH TECHNIQUES**

- Passive Search Approach
  - Fact-finding/Investigation

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# INFORMATION ONLY

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**SEARCH TECHNIQUES**

- Passive Search Tactics
  - Fact-finding/Investigation
  - Attraction

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**SEARCH TECHNIQUES**

- Passive Search Tactics
  - Fact-finding/Investigation
  - Attraction
  - Containment/Confinement

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**Break**

- Please be back in 15 minutes

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**INFORMATION ONLY**

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**SEARCH TECHNIQUES**

- Active Search Approach
  - Hasty Search
    - rapid deployment
    - Last Known Point (LKP)
    - Point Last Seen (PLS)
    - Checking Immediate Area

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**SEARCH TECHNIQUES**

- Active Search Tactics
  - Hasty Search
    - rapid deployment
    - Last Known Point (LKP)
    - Point Last Seen (PLS)
    - Checking Immediate Area
  - Hiking Trails
  - Checking attractive features

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**SEARCH TECHNIQUES**

- Segment Search

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**INFORMATION ONLY**

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**SEARCH TECHNIQUES**

- Segment Search Tactics
  - Route Search

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**SEARCH TECHNIQUES**

- Segment Search Tactics
  - Route Search
  - Grid Search
  - Loose Grid Search

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**SEARCH TECHNIQUES**

- Segment Search Tactics
  - Route Search
  - Grid Search
  - Loose Grid Search
  - Tight Grid Search
  - Evidence Search

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## SEARCH TECHNIQUES

- Segment Search Tactics
  - Route Search
  - Grid Search
  - Loose Grid Search
  - Tight Grid Search
  - Evidence Search
  - Expanding Circle
  - Sound Sweep
  - Purposeful Wandering

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## SEARCH TECHNIQUES

- Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELT) Searches

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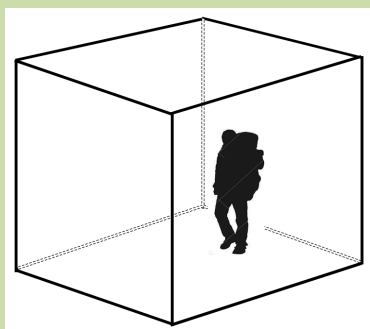
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## FINDING AND HANDLING CLUES 'Searcher Cube'



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# INFORMATION ONLY



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**FINDING AND HANDLING CLUES**

- Clue Awareness and Basic Tracking

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**FINDING AND HANDLING CLUES**

- Clue Awareness and Basic Tracking
- Handling Clues

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**Death Scene**

- Handling a death scene

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**DEBRIEFING AND SIGN-OUT**

- Debriefing
  - Assignment
  - Suggestions for future searches
  - Hazards
- Sign-out (NMSAR Form 211)

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**Summary**

- Fundamentals of Search Planning
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- Death Scene
- Team Debriefing and Sign-out
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