



References

- SAR Field Certification Study Guide, published by NM DPS

http://www.nmsarc.org/resources/FieldCert_docs/StudyGuide.pdf

Objectives

- Identify general safety concerns related to a SAR mission
- Describe possible health concerns that could develop during a SAR mission
- Identify natural, man-made, and weather related hazards that could be encountered on SAR missions
- Identify safety concerns associated with helicopter operations on SAR missions

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Overview

- General Safety
- Health Concerns
- Natural and Man-Made Hazards
- Weather Hazards
- Helicopter Safety
- The Team's Responsibility and Right of Refusal

General Safety

- Safety is Paramount!
 - Your safety is #1 Priority
 - 2nd Priority to your team and subject
- Know your Limitations
- Have the proper Equipment

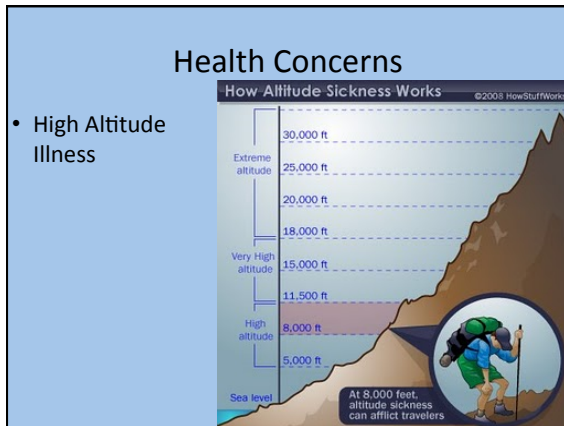


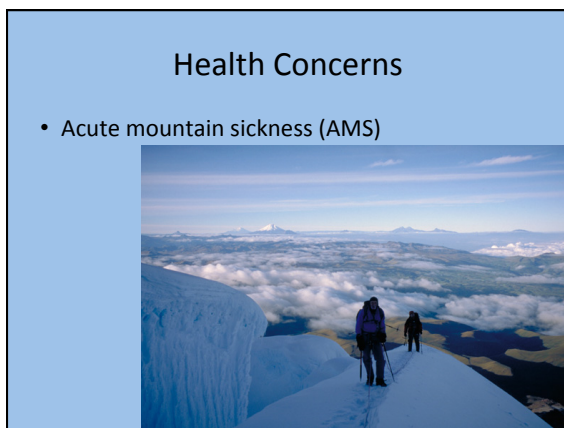
Health Concerns

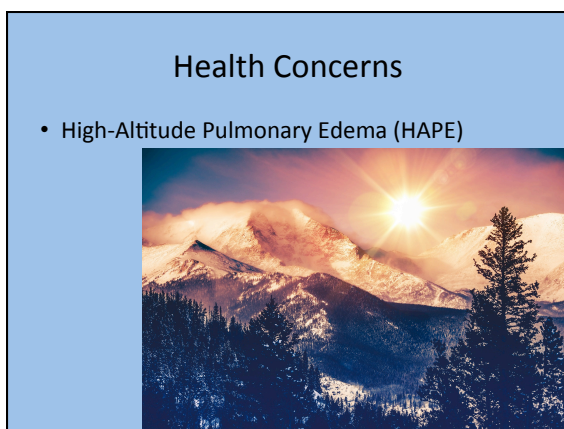
- High Altitude Illness
- Acute mountain sickness (AMS)
- High altitude pulmonary edema (HAPE)
- High altitude cerebral edema (HACE)

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Health Concerns

- High-Altitude Cerebral Edema (HACE)



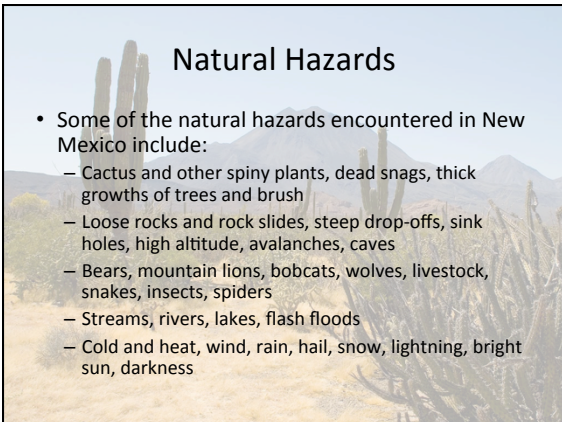
Natural and Man-Made Hazards

- Many Types of Terrain
 - Desert
 - Mountains
 - Plains
 - Rivers
- Man-Made



Natural Hazards

- Some of the natural hazards encountered in New Mexico include:
 - Cactus and other spiny plants, dead snags, thick growths of trees and brush
 - Loose rocks and rock slides, steep drop-offs, sink holes, high altitude, avalanches, caves
 - Bears, mountain lions, bobcats, wolves, livestock, snakes, insects, spiders
 - Streams, rivers, lakes, flash floods
 - Cold and heat, wind, rain, hail, snow, lightning, bright sun, darkness



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Man-Made Hazards

- Some of the man-made hazards encountered in New Mexico include:
 - Marijuana fields and Methamphetamine labs (which may be booby trapped)
 - Mines, Indian ruins, old cabins and other buildings
 - Barbed wire
 - White supremacy and other militia groups, other individuals wanting absolute privacy
 - Hunters
 - Wildland fires

Natural and Man-Made Hazards

- Protection
 - Be aware of your surroundings
 - Ask questions
 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - Take charge of your own safety

Weather Hazards

- Lightning
- Flash Floods
- Cold Injuries
- Hot Climate

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Weather Hazards

- Lightning
 - 30-30 Rule
 - Take Shelter
 - Shelter not available:
 - Avoid tall structures (lightning magnets)
 - Separate from team members by at least 20 feet
 - "Lightning Position"

Weather Hazards

- Lightning
 - Lightning Strike Victim

Weather Hazards

- Flash Floods
 - Do not attempt to cross fast moving water
 - It doesn't have to be raining to encounter a flood

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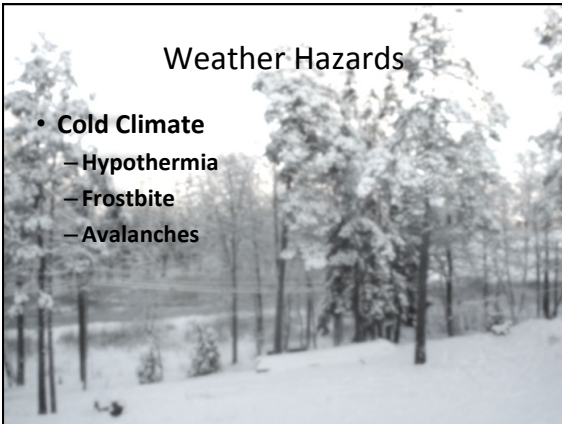
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Break

- Please be back in 15 minutes

Weather Hazards

- Cold Climate
 - Hypothermia
 - Frostbite
 - Avalanches



Weather Hazards

- Hypothermia



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Weather Hazards

- Hypothermia
 - Mild



Weather Hazards

- Hypothermia
 - Mild
 - Moderate



Weather Hazards

- Hypothermia
 - Mild
 - Moderate
 - Severe



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Weather Hazards

- Frostbite
 - Frozen Tissue
 - Tissue & Cell Destruction
 - Vasodilation
 - Rewarming
 - Signs and Symptoms
 - Prevention
 - Intervention



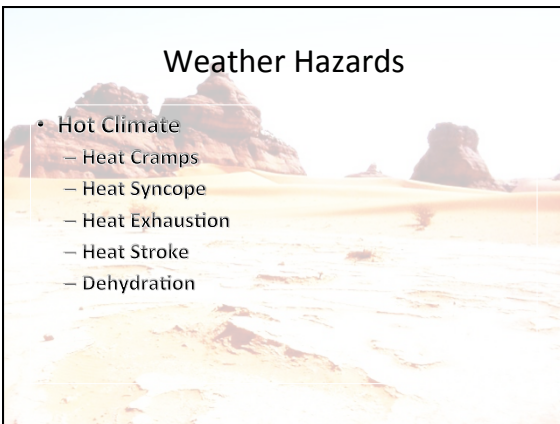
Weather Hazards

- Avalanches
 - Avalanche Awareness
 - Proper Training & Equipment
 - Education
 - Avalanche Victims



Weather Hazards

- Hot Climate
 - Heat Cramps
 - Heat Syncope
 - Heat Exhaustion
 - Heat Stroke
 - Dehydration



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Weather Hazards

- Heat Cramps
 - Cramping & Spasms
 - Rest, Hydration, & Electrolytes

Weather Hazards

- Heat Syncope
 - Syncopal Episode
 - Muscle Spasms

Weather Hazards

- Heat Exhaustion
 - Signs & Symptoms
 - Treatment

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Weather Hazards

- Heat Stroke
 - Life-threatening Emergency
 - Signs & Symptoms
 - Treatment

Weather Hazards

- Dehydration
 - Signs/Symptoms
 - Treatment
 - Can be Serious

Helicopter Safety

- Outside the Aircraft
- Inside the Aircraft
- Helicopter Landing Zone(LZ)
- Other Helicopter Considerations

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Helicopter Safety

- Outside the Aircraft
 - Rotor System
 - Entering/Exiting
 - Noise and Debris



Helicopter Safety

- Inside the Aircraft
 - Secure equipment
 - Passenger interference
 - Communication
 - Seatbelts



Helicopter Safety

- Helicopter Landing Zone(LZ)
 - Wires & Poles
 - Secure the area
 - Protect yourself
 - LZ selection



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Helicopter Safety

- Other Helicopter Considerations
 - Providing information, if requested
 - Wind indicators
 - Refueling operations
 - Safety is priority



The Team's Responsibility and Right of Refusal

- Properly Equipped
- Trained
- Risk management skills
- Right to refuse an assignment



Summary

- General Safety
- Health Concerns
- Natural and Man-Made Hazards
- Weather Hazards
- Helicopter Safety
- The Team's Responsibility and Right of Refusal

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