



National Search and Rescue School

U.S. COAST GUARD TRAINING CENTER
YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA 23690-5000
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INLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE PLANNING COURSE

(AFCAT 36-2223 course number E5AZG1C371-AAA)

The National Search & Rescue School was established in 1966 as a facility devoted exclusively to training professionals to conduct search and rescue (SAR). The school is currently located at USCG Training Center Yorktown, Virginia, and teaches a variety of maritime and inland search planning courses. Graduates number over 14,000 men and women, civilian and military, including over 1,400 from 103 foreign nations.

The 5-day Inland SAR Planning course is a comprehensive, graduate-level look at inland search theory and its application to land and air searches for missing persons and aircraft with a focus on wilderness, not urban, searches.

The course consists of classroom lessons and practical, tabletop exercises; the course does not incorporate field training. Emphasis is on the planning necessary for effective area-type searching during an extended search using Probability of Success (POS), rather than just a few elements of POC or POD, to predictively allocate limited resources to their best effect – in essence, what to do after the hasty search and specialty resources have not found the missing person. Additional topics include search area development, effort allocation, an overview of the NIIMS ICS, the federal role in SAR, and related subjects. The course does not teach search tactics or technical procedures, as those are well covered from other readily available sources.

The course is directed toward SAR leaders in federal, state, and local emergency services and law enforcement, as well as Civil Air Patrol, international, and volunteer SAR agencies -- those few people who are responsible for the planning and overall conduct of inland search missions. The target audience includes on-scene incident commanders and their planners, operations leaders, and up-channel reporting chain. The general searcher or search team leader, while arguably the most important part of the SAR team, would likely not find this course useful.

Aiming to "find the objective fast," the course centers on tools to help SAR decision makers determine where to search, how to divide an area between limited search resources, and how to craft the overall search effort to gain the best increases in likelihood of success at each step. The tools are mathematically based and not for the faint of heart; they help quantify the uncertainties of the search problem to allow consistent application throughout a mission.

Classes begin promptly at 0730 on the convening date and graduate by 1530 on the fifth day.

Prior to class, students should review and be conversant on the following from their own agencies in order to make class discussions more useful and help integrate class materials with their own search environments back home:

- o search pre-plans,
- o decision making guidelines for where/when/how to search,
- o agreements and relationships with other SAR agencies,
- o how their agency organizes on scene,
- o recent search missions.

A firm grounding in SAR terminology and employment techniques, practical SAR experience, basic arithmetic and calculators skills, an understanding of local SAR mission management requirements, and an open mind are essential.

Requested Course Dates: _____	NATIONAL SAR SCHOOL COURSE APPLICATION	
	Full Name	_____
Location: _____	Title/Position	_____
E-mail application information to: TCY-PF-InlandSAR@uscg.mil	Organization	_____
Mail and faxes also accepted at: National SAR School (tsar) USCG Training Center Yorktown Yorktown, VA 23690-5000 757-856-2273, fax -2242	Mailing Address	_____ _____ _____
	Phone	_____ fax _____
	E-mail address:	_____

"Always Ready, That Others May Live"