



Saskatchewan Multi-Jurisdictional Search and Rescue (SAR) Exercise 2008

Planning Guide



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This document contains confidential information that should not be distributed to any potential participants until after the multi-jurisdictional exercise has been concluded. Doing so may decrease the effectiveness of the exercise.

A JOINT SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE WITH THE PARTICIPATION AND COOPERATION OF THE FOLLOWING PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES



SARSAV



**Saskatchewan
Ministry of
Corrections, Public
Safety and Policing**



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I. Background

SARSAV (Search and Rescue Saskatchewan Association of Volunteers) is the Saskatchewan organization formed as an umbrella group for all civilian ground search and rescue teams in the province. SARSAV works in close cooperation with police and public safety agencies in providing SAR and other emergency services to the people of Saskatchewan.

SARSAV is the recipient of a federal NIF (New Initiatives Fund) grant from the National Search and Rescue Secretariat (NSS), which is an independent federal government agency reporting to the Minister of National Defense. This funding is being administered on SARSAV's behalf by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing (CPSP), specifically Public Safety and Sask911.

One of the conditions upon the disbursement of the grant was that SARSAV is to use a portion of the total monies for training of SAR volunteers in a multi-jurisdictional exercise. The multi-jurisdictional exercise's focal point will be a simulated search and rescue deployment within Saskatchewan, with SARSAV volunteers taking a lead role in the execution of the scenario.

The scenario development, location and date selection, and partner agency involvement are all being developed with a focus on exercising a large variety of resources in a realistic ground search and rescue situation. It is in the spirit of the NIF grant that SARSAV volunteers will be partnered with a multitude of responding agencies and groups.

Specific goals and objectives will be developed by the Steering Committee for each of the major groups participating in the exercise. This should assist with keeping all participants gainfully occupied during the exercise, and leave them with a rewarding and worthwhile training experience.

Each agency or group will be responsible for evaluating their performance both during the exercise and at a post-exercise wrap up. These evaluations will be used to identify lessons-learned and assist to remedy any operational deficiencies that arise.

A final report on the multi-jurisdictional exercise will be jointly prepared by SARSAV and Public Safety, and made available to all participants.

II. Participants

A number of agencies and organizations will be invited to participate in the multi-jurisdictional exercise. They include:

- ***SARSAV***
SARSAV is the recipient of a federal NIF grant (New Initiatives Fund) from the National Search and Rescue Secretariat (NSS) and is a primary stakeholder in holding this multi-jurisdictional search and rescue exercise.
- ***Public Safety and Sask911***
Public Safety and Sask911 is a division of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing (CPSP). CPSP is the primary government liaison for search and rescue in Saskatchewan. CPSP also has disbursement control over the federal NIF grant for SARSAV.
- ***CASARA***
CASARA (Civil Air Search and Rescue Association) is a Canada-wide volunteer aviation organization dedicated to the promotion of aviation safety, and to the provision of air search support services to the National Search and Rescue Program. CASARA volunteers pilot their own aircraft and provide aerial support to ground based search and rescue missions. CASARA aircraft may benefit from FLIR (forward-looking infrared) video camera systems if these can be made available from SERM.
- ***RCMP***
In Canada, outside of federally owned National Parks, the RCMP is the default police force of jurisdiction and has primary responsibility for land and inland-water search and rescue. In SAR deployments, an RCMP trained incident commander (also called a Search Commander) is appointed. The RCMP will also supply Search Managers, in concert with civilian Search Managers from groups such as SARSAV.
- ***SERM / Local Park Management***
Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management is the primary stakeholder in maintaining the operations of Saskatchewan's Provincial Parks. SERM personnel will typically have advanced knowledge of local features and topography and would be of great assistance in local logistical support within a Provincial Park.

- ***Local EMO / RM Council***

Local representatives from the Rural Municipality of Wawken (#93) will have primary jurisdiction over local logistical and support issues. The multi-jurisdictional exercise will present the Local EMO coordinator with a unique opportunity to test operational readiness in the event of a large scale emergency deployment.

- ***Wawota EMS***

Local EMS from Wawota will provide medical support for the exercise, both for the participants, as well as an active role in the simulation.

- ***ARES – Amateur Radio Emergency Service***

The ARES is composed of licensed radio amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service. Regina ARES is a core and founding component of SAR Regina, and assists with the provision of radio communications at a large number of SAR related events. The Regina ARES group has access to a mobile communications relay truck, which is frequently deployed to emergency scenes.

- ***SaskTel***

SaskTel is the crown corporation tasked with provision of telephony and other communication services to Saskatchewan. This includes landlines, cellular and trunked radio communications. SaskTel has at its disposal a portable cellular communications tower/repeater station, and would be willing to deploy it concurrent with a major public safety training exercise. However, for the September, 2008 date, the tower will not be available. Soonest availability is 2nd quarter, 2009.

II.I Participation Levels by Group (Estimated)

Agency/Organization/Group	Number of Personnel (estimated)
SARSAV	25
Steering Committee	7
Public Safety and Sask911	3
ARES	2
CASARA	8 (only 1 for debrief)
RCMP	12
Wawota EMS	3
SERM	2
Local EMO/RM/Village Council	2
Estimated Total Number of Exercise Participants	~ 60

III. Steering Committee

Representatives from the major stakeholder organizations will be invited to have a representative on the MJE Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will have jurisdiction over setting the parameters of the search exercise, including time/date, location, participants, and scenarios.

<i>Org.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Email</i>	<i>Office #</i>	<i>Cell #</i>	<i>Home #</i>
CPSP	Yvette Wright	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
SARSAV	Jody Herperger	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
	Scott Wright	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
RCMP	Cpl. Greg Groff	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
	Alan Laughlin	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
ARES	Terry White	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
CASARA	Frank Schuurmans	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
	Clarence Demchuk	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>

Other Important Contacts

<i>Org.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Email</i>	<i>Office #</i>	<i>Cell #</i>	<i>Home #</i>
Carlyle Fire Dept	Trent Lee, Fire Chief	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
Kenosee Fire Dept	Stewart Balfour, Fire Chief	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
Carlyle Airport	Sunrise Aviation	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
	Erik Steffenson,	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
Estevan Airport	Sunrise Aviation	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
Park Manager	Gordon Locke	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
Local EMO	Barry Gall, Coordinator	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
Wawota EMS	Diane Bunz, Coordinator	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
Carlyle RCMP	St. Sgt. Karen Wilcox	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
Kenosee Lake Council	Lyle Basken, Mayor	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
SERM	Joan Adams	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>
CPSP Office	Wendy Walter, Sr. Admin Assistant	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>	<sanitized>

IV. Funding / Expenses

It is anticipated that most out-of-pocket expenses for SAR volunteers attending the multi-jurisdictional exercise (such as food and mileage expenses) will be covered by the NIF grant.

For SARSAV personnel, SARSAV will serve as the collection point for expenses and for reimbursement. For non-SARSAV personnel, Public Safety and Sask911 will assume responsibility for expense collection and reimbursement.

Subject to Public Safety and Sask911 approval, other expenses (non-SARSAV) related to the multi-jurisdictional exercise may be reimbursable. Participants and stakeholders are encouraged to get clarification from CPSP (Corrections, Public Safety and Policing) on the particulars of expense reimbursement prior to any expenditure being made.

Participating groups and agencies are encouraged to utilize their own training budgets wherever possible to minimize the burden on the SARSAV NIF grant. In-kind contributions should be recorded and sent to the Public Safety designated financial contact person.

Worker's Compensation Board Coverage

Discussions are ongoing with WCB to provide coverage for volunteers. However, during this exercise, such coverage is not in place.

V. Dates and Scheduling

The date of the exercise is Saturday, September 20th, 2008. Debriefing and wrap-up will follow the evening meal on the 20th. Attendees are invited to remain overnight in their own private accommodations/camping sites.

Lockout Dates:

- Can-Am Police-Fire Games, July 13th-20th
- SVFFA Training Symposium, April 11th-13th
- CASARA – April 11th-14th, May 24th-25th, and August 8th-10th
- SAFC (Saskatchewan Association of Fire Chiefs) Conference, April 3rd-5th
- SEPA (Saskatchewan Emergency Planners Association) Conference, March 18th-20th
- SARSCENE 2008 – October 15th-18th
- Saskatoon EMO Exercise – August 24th
- Moose Jaw SAR has a golf tournament on Sept. 6th-7th

Factors affecting a spring exercise date

- Canada's national "Emergency Preparedness Week" (<http://www.epweek.ca/>) is being held May 4th-10th in 2008. A search and rescue exercise is an excellent tie-in to the national program.
- Historically, springtime flood relief operations would be concluded before May 1st, freeing up CPSP and SERM personnel who may be occupied during March and April.
- Forest fire season will not yet have begun, if regular seasonal conditions exist. Again, this will assist with availability of CPSP and SERM personnel.
- This is prior to the busy Victoria Day camping weekend, which will affect SERM personnel. The timing is also beneficial to SERM in that their personnel will have had a very important training exercise just prior to their normally busy summer season.
- School summer vacation season has not yet started, which means higher availability for responding personnel.
- The Regina SARSAV chapter is hosting an interprovincial SAR conference the previous weekend (May 2nd-4th), removing this particular date from eligibility. However, the SAR Regina conference will serve as an excellent platform to promote the multi-jurisdictional exercise.
- One negative scheduling implication arises from the May 10th weekend – that of availability of agriculturally affected personnel. Spring seeding operations may be full swing at that date, pending weather variability. This should not affect a

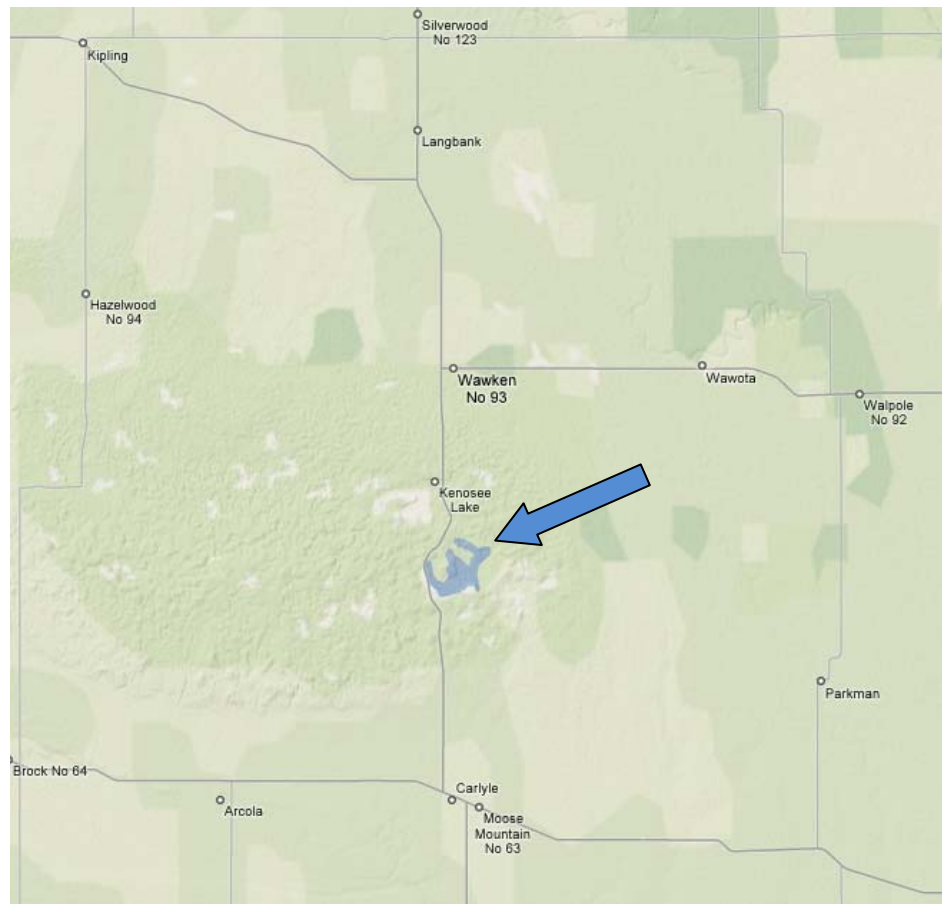
substantial number of the full-time responder agency personnel, but may have some effect on some of the responding volunteer resources (those with a rural base), as well as local EMO personnel.

Factors affecting a later (autumn) exercise date

- Prior to September 1st: This is near to the busy Labor Day camping weekend, which will affect SERM personnel. The timing is also beneficial to SERM in that their personnel will have had a very important training exercise just prior to a traditionally busy camping weekend.
- School summer vacation season has effectively ended, with most vacations concluded. This should mean higher availability for responding personnel.
- As in the spring, a late summer date may affect the availability of agriculturally affected personnel (harvest operations). By mid-September, some harvest operations will have concluded.
- Forest fire season should be winding down, possibly increasing the availability of CPSP and SERM personnel.
- Fire Prevention Week in October usually is a period when Saskatchewan Volunteer Firefighter Association (SVFFA) training schools are held
- Weather conditions at this time of year will generally be more favorable for late night and overnight deployments.

VI. Location

The proposed location for the 2008 multi-jurisdictional exercise is the Moose Mountain Provincial Park, located at Kenosee Lake between Carlyle and Whitewood on Highway #9.



Considerations in the selection of the search area include:

- Reasonable accommodations for responding personnel (most are from out-of-area)
- Use of a Provincial Park assures involvement of SERM personnel in a realistic setting
- Moose Mountain Provincial Park has a large variety of terrain, which will help with a realistic SAR scenario (inland water, forested areas, hills, populated campground areas, etc).
- Reasonable travel requirements for SARSAV chapters in South Saskatchewan. There is an expectation that the southern SARSAV chapters will have a higher rate of participation in the multi-jurisdictional exercise.

VII. Scenario

VII.I Overview

The proposed scenario is a 45 year old male and his 11 year old son taking a motorboat ride on Kenosee Lake on the morning of Friday, September 19th, 2008. Weather conditions are calm and sunny, although the forecast is for overcast later in the day. During the excursion, at a location remote from the inhabited portions of the lake, there is a mechanical malfunction and the occupants are forced to paddle to shore.

They tether the boat to a tree, concealed from view from the boat launch. They eat some of their food, leaving some wrappers and fruit peelings on shore, and pack the rest into their jackets, including the soda pop. Two empty soda cans are left inside the water craft. The wife/mother is not entirely sure how much food and liquids were originally packed for the trip. No note or any other personalized communication is left at the boat.

They decide to walk back to the boat launch (a variable distance, depending on the lake physical conditions and the actual insertion point for the exercise LKP). Their plan is to stay near the shore, and proceed along this path for a number of hours, enjoying the experience and proceeding at a relatively slow rate. But extremely dense vegetation forces them to proceed inland some distance. At this point, they lose their bearings with respect to the shore and are unable to get visual position checks from the now clouded-over sun. They are unable to find any of the paths that cross the area.

Their expected return time to their residence in Carlyle was at 17:00 hours. They failed to meet that return time, and the man's 44 year old wife began to get concerned. She contacts various people at the park, but no one available either can assist or does not know her husband.

The woman travels to the Kenosee boat launch and sees her husband's truck and boat trailer at the launch, parked. After scouting the water for a few minutes, she approaches SERM personnel on site and asks if they have seen any sign of her husband and son. The time is approximately 18:30 hours. After a short discussion, local residents and SERM coordinate two search boats to go out and look for the overdue craft.

After proceeding around the perimeter of the lake, one of the search parties discovers the missing craft tied up to a tree at approximately 19:00 hours. A quick search and some shouting yield no results. Inside the boat, wedged between the seat and boat wall, is an

asthma inhaler. The lifejackets are still in place. The key is missing. There is fuel in the tank. Nothing else unusual is noted. The boat remains tied to the tree.

This search party then returns to the boat launch and the information is passed on to SERM senior personnel at about 19:30 hours – near darkness. Local sunset time is approximately 18:52 hours at this time of year, with twilight at 19:24 hours.

The wife/mother is quick to point out the inhaler would have belonged to her son, and that if he was outside without it, his medical condition may act up in the cool night air.

SERM personnel made a call to the RCMP at 19:45 hours. The RCMP discussed the situation with the mother, and agreed that:

- Darkness has settled in before the first responding units could arrive
- Further searching by SERM personnel or civilians this evening may run the risk of destroying crucial evidence – and be very detrimental to search efforts the next day
- Spending the night outside would be uncomfortable for her husband and son, but survivable. They agreed that the medical risk of the son's asthma was not life threatening with the supplied information. The fact that the pair is likely travelling together is comforting to the mother, and she agrees that no extraordinary measures should begin that evening.
- A full scale search would begin the next morning. A command post will be setup at the former detention camp site (1.5km from the end of the road to Pickerel Point).

The local RCMP notifies RCMP "F" Division of the incident. RCMP "F" Division in turn requests SARSAV and CASARA to deploy resources to the area, to be onsite at 08:00 hours and prepared for deployment at 09:00 hours. Given travel times for responders and for the "F" Division hasty team, this is a reasonable request. K-9 units will be alerted and requested to respond.

The RCMP also alerts SERM, Conservation Officers, and local EMO personnel that a full scale search and rescue effort will be occurring the next morning within their jurisdiction, and that there will be logistical requirements for accommodation, food, water, fuel, and possibly aircraft support.

The local RCMP arrange with SERM for personnel to monitor the boat launch area in case the missing man and son return during the night. SERM personnel will also ensure that vehicular traffic leaving the park is checked prior to being allowed to leave.

The local RCMP conduct the background portion of the missing person's questionnaire, and patrol roads surrounding Kenosee Lake in case the man and son have walked clear to one of them. Nothing is found.

Local RCMP's final act of the evening is to work with the local EMO coordinator to find a facility to serve as the command post for the search resources that will be arriving in the morning.

The RCMP Hasty team callout will initiate at 06:00 the day of the exercise, and the first units should be responding onsite between 08:30 and 09:00.

After initial setup of a command post, the first search teams should be deployed by 09:30 hrs. Additional SARSAV teams will be deployed in an ongoing manner as they arrive.

Note: depending on the "degree of realism" desired for events that fictionally occur on September 20th, the option exists for the local RCMP detachment members to actually go through the interview process with a member of the steering committee on the evening of the 19th. The steering committee member would only provide details during the interview/questioning process that were within the stated parameters of this document (missing person's profile and medical histories), and only upon specific questions from the investigating officer.

VII.II Events “During” the Search Exercise

The man and son spend the night safely, and arise early in the morning and resume their quest for returning to the boat launch. Real-world weather conditions will now be the rule – the scenario is unable to predict the visibility of the sun.

Regardless, the man and son continue their journey making some progress in the correct direction of the boat launch – attempting to make contact with hiking trails they know are in the area. An hour or so in, however, the father trips and twists his ankle to a serious degree. He is unable to travel any further. Upon discussion, they agree that the shore is not too far away and decide the son should make his way back to the shore and either signal for help from passing boats if possible, or continue on his way to the boat launch.

The man and son will drop “clues” (pop cans, wrappers, etc) at regular intervals, with particular attention paid to leaving them on or near any game trails or cut-lines they cross.

Presumably, the son will be quickly discovered by SAR personnel upon his return to the shoreline. However, in this scenario, the “son” must be prepared to walk for some distance, perhaps all the way back to the boat launch. CASARA should easily spot him from the air.

Once discovered (presumably before the father), the son will provide more accurate information (within 500 metres) on the location of his father, and help guide the search commander in getting teams to the correct location. EMS will verify that the son is in good medical condition. The son will also provide information on the injury his father has suffered, so that a proper medical treatment and evacuation plan can be formed.

The scenario will be deemed complete when the father has been placed into the custody of the responding EMS personnel at their ambulance, all response personnel have returned to base and been accounted for, and the Incident Commander reports a conclusion to the incident.

See section VII.VI for a variation to the scenario where the father and son are joined by the son’s friend. Both the son and the son’s friend will leave the injured father’s location at different times in slightly different directions – both attempting to go for help.

Schedule of Events

- 0700-0830** Preparation of scenario elements and placement of clues/victims.
- Seeding of clues
 - Deployment of victims (and shadows) via watercraft
- 0900** Initial scenario Search and Rescue operations will begin
- Incident Command will be allowed to be established
 - Steering committee will brief on safety procedures (see Appendix #4 for handout for all participants)
 - Steering committee will answer any questions that fall within the scenario parameters, using the information provided in this planning guide
- 1100-1400** All teams and planning section should be in full action. This time period would be optimal for the media to observe the exercise participants. Saskatchewan's Corrections, Public Safety and Policing Minister the Honourable Darryl Hickie should be available during this time for Q&A.
- 1130-1300** Lunch will provided to participants
- Scenario "modification" envelopes will be distributed in the lunch bags on a purely random basis (see *VII.VI Variations to Scenario*)
- 1600** Exercise is anticipated to conclude around 1600 hrs.
- Steering committee will monitor progress of exercise and may decide to provide the Incident Commander with appropriate assistance to ensure the scenario is resolved within the allotted time
- 1800-1900** Supper for participants
- 1900-2000** Debriefing session for all exercise participants.

VII.III Contingencies

- If there is no substantive progress in the search by 16:00 hours, the steering committee will confer as to provide appropriate clues to the incident commander to keep the exercise moving so as to complete before sunset.
- The subjects should make no efforts to avoid detection, even if found early in the scenario evolution. However, if responding to aural signals (calls or whistles), they should wait until the signal is relatively close – not just at the very edge of hearing detection. A judgment call will need to be made by the “missing” volunteers, dependent upon the time of day.
- Both of the volunteers who play the roles of the “man” and “son” in the scenario will be accompanied by trained SAR personnel who are equipped with multiple communication tools and SAR medical/survival packs. This will allow some “company” to keep the exercise from becoming tedious, as well as allow the “victims” to be kept abreast of the search. In the absence of any other radio communication to the team, each team will be expected to complete a “welfare” radio-check to a steering committee member at no greater than 60 minute intervals.
- Any real-world medical or other emergency will be relayed to the steering committee, who will decide if it is serious enough to call a halt to the exercise. If the steering committee desires to call an end to the exercise, they will advise the Incident Command to place a call to all teams, with the code phrase “**Zulu-Zulu-Zulu – The exercise has now been terminated.**” Following that, any special instructions for the emergent situation will be disseminated. All participants will be briefed on this code phrase prior to deployment to the field, and should understand that it will only be invoked if a serious condition or situation has developed that is a risk to personnel or materiel safety.
- CASARA has developed a contingency plan if the Trenton Joint Rescue Command Centre (JRCC) retasks them to an actual SAR mission in Zone 8. Call-sign “CASARA C-GONE” will change to “Rescue C-GONE” and call-sign “CASARA Base” will change from the ARES communications post to the Carlyle Flying Club shack (normally known by call-sign “Carlyle Unicom 122.8 MHz” during the exercise).
- Wawota EMS is attending the exercise on the understanding that should a real-world emergency call come in, they will be leaving the exercise to attend the call.

VII.IV Missing Person's Profile / Medical Histories

The following information will be made available to the RCMP for them to develop their missing person's report from.

Man

- Mailing/residential address and phone number will be Carlyle, SK, based.
- Relatively healthy condition, no known chronic illnesses. Allergic to poison ivy and bee stings (history of anaphylactic shock). Does not carry epinephrine injector (EpiPen).
- Outdoorsman type. Has hunted in the past.
- Dressed in layered clothing, weatherproof layer on outside. Blue jeans and $\frac{3}{4}$ ankle work shoes (not boots). Clothing is of relatively low visibility, and blends into the bush/landscape (seasonally appropriate).
- Wears glasses.
- Non smoker.
- English speaking
- No known marital or financial difficulties. No criminal history.
- Interested in fishing, NASCAR, and the Saskatchewan Roughriders
- Owns cell phone, found in truck at boat launch.
- The following will be made available and personalized according to the man volunteering for the exercise: photograph, foot-print, height, weight, age, eye colour, hair colour, hair style, complexion, distinguishing marks, and any other unique physical descriptors.

Son

- Mailing/residential address and phone number will be Carlyle, SK, based.
- Asthmatic, otherwise in good health.
- Carries asthma medication (inhaler) with him. He frequently misplaces it and is not known to suffer extreme asthma.
- Wears glasses.
- Non smoker.
- English speaking.
- No cell phone.
- Son has recently been acting-out at home, and the wife is aware that the father wanted to go fishing with his son as a "bonding experience".
- If the son's friends are interviewed, they will not be aware of any personal or behavioral abnormalities.

- The son is interested in the Internet, and is known to surf weapons related websites. The mother is not overly concerned about his behavior – that is, until she provides these answers to the RCMP during the questionnaire.
- Dressed in blue jeans, cotton t-shirt, and has a windbreaker on over a sweatshirt. Has a common athletic runner for footwear. Clothing is of relatively low visibility, and blends into the bush/landscape (seasonally appropriate).
- Sports-team hat (preferably Saskatchewan Roughriders).
- The following will be made available and personalized according to the man volunteering for the exercise: photograph, foot-print, height, weight, age, eye colour, hair colour, hair style, complexion, distinguishing marks, and any other unique physical descriptors.

Common

- The father and son carry a variety of lunch food for their journey in the boat, including snack bars, juice boxes, pop cans, and fruit. However, there will be no information provided to the searchers as to how much of this supply is taken by the two missing subjects after they leave the boat. The same brand of pop, snacks, etc., will be in place in both the boat and in the possession of the father and son.

Son's Friend (optional missing person)

- Mailing/residential address and phone number will be Carlyle, SK, based.
- Good health.
- Does not wear glasses.
- Non smoker.
- English speaking.
- Does not have cell phone.
- Dressed in blue jeans, black cotton t-shirt, and has a light summer jacket. Has a common athletic runner for footwear. Clothing is of relatively low visibility, and blends into the bush/landscape (seasonally appropriate).
- The following will be made available and personalized according to the boy volunteering for the exercise: photograph, foot-print, height, weight, age, eye colour, hair colour, hair style, complexion, distinguishing marks, and any other unique physical descriptors.

VII.V Environmental Conditions

Weather

- Friday, September 19th – sunny in morning, winds SW 20km/hr.
- Temperature September 19th was 26°C. Expected low that evening is 9°C.

Topography

- Various wooded and densely vegetated areas surround Kenosee Lake. Some hilled areas combined with open clearings.

Sunrise/Sunset

- Sunrise around 06:36 hours, sunset at 18:52 hours. Civilian twilight at 19:24 hours.
- Moonrise is 21:00 hours, and is at waning crescent. New Moon is on September 29th.

Other

- The area is known to be host to small black bears, moose, and deer.
- The area may also be host to cougars (one was killed in 2007 in the park perimeter).
- SERM personnel should be consulted for unique local hazards (for example: wells, quicksand, etc).

VII.VI Variations to Scenario

Several options to augment the realism or degree of difficulty for the scenario may be implemented in the scenario. Some lend themselves to being introduced at the time of deployment; others are available as options that may be deployed during the scenario in response to changing conditions.

Some variations to consider are:

Profile of Missing Persons

- Introduction of evidence indicating animosity/hostility between the missing son and his father.
- Evidence of sabotage of the boat (i.e. cut fuel line, etc) that may indicate criminal activity.

Scenario Fundamentals

- An option exists to introduce a third missing person into the search scenario. The pretence could be that the parent of a friend of the missing son finds out that a massive search is underway, and reports that their child was last in the company of the missing pair – ostensibly to spend an evening fishing on the lake. The wife of the original missing father and son would be unaware of the presence of a third person. The parents of this second child would have been under the assumption their child had simply spent the night at the friend's house – until news of the search for the first two missing persons reaches them. The introduction of this scenario can be made anytime between 2 and 4 hours after the initiation of the search.
- The son will leave his father in the care of his friend, and start heading back to civilization by following the shoreline. After an hour, the friend decides to take a chance and also leave the injured father, and he tries to find the road to Pickerel Point (via snowmobile trails in the area). He is slow moving in the bush.

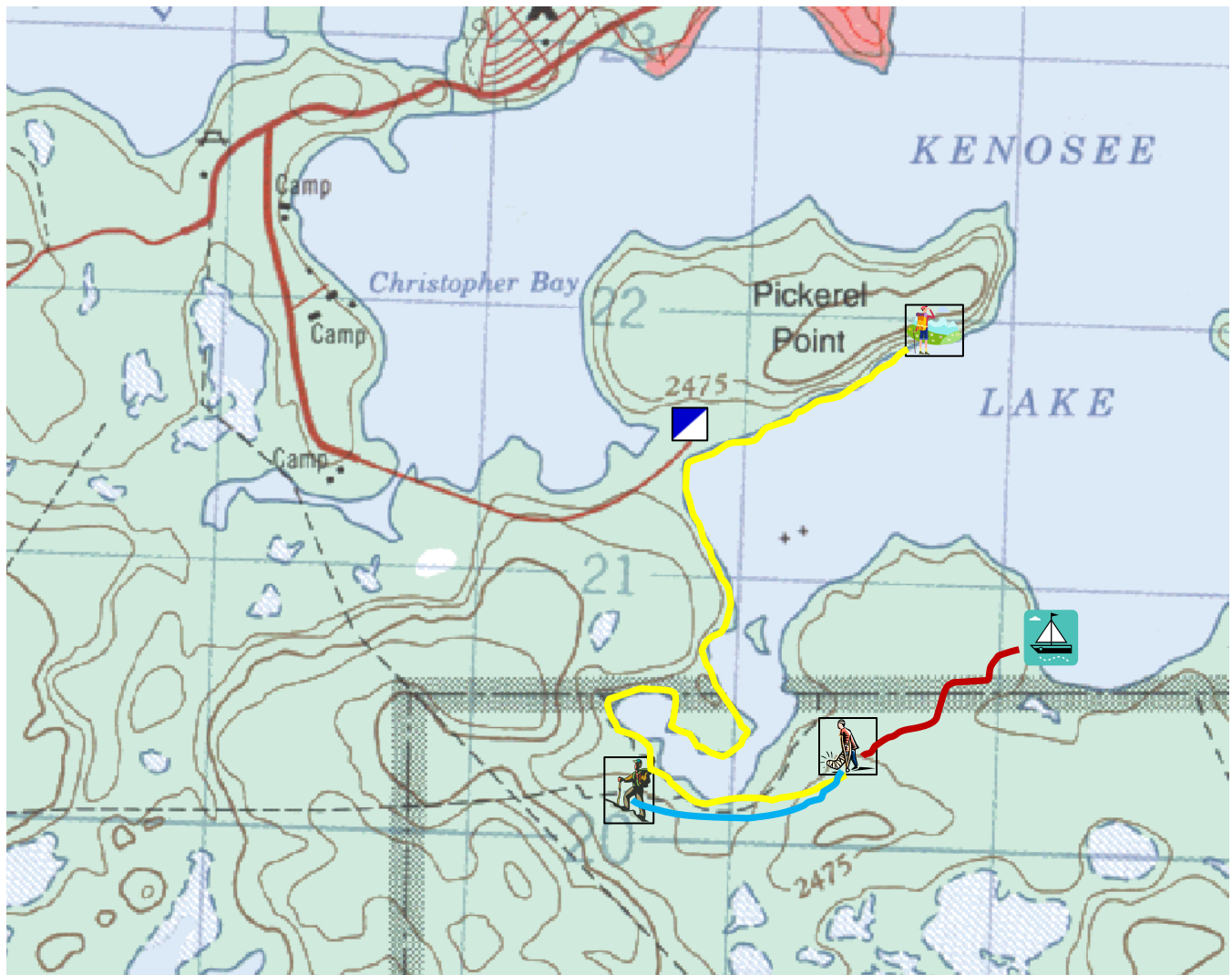
Environment

- Purposeful contamination of search areas to confuse/mislead SAR resources (i.e. tracking dogs)
- Other non-related simulated medical emergency occurring in a search area by a member of the “general public” – requiring the Incident Commander to divert resources. This may give EMS an opportunity to participate to a higher degree.

Medical/Family Emergencies – Scenario Modification Envelopes

- Insert one or more “scenario” envelopes into the lunch bags of the participants. The envelope would contain a scenario modify for that individual.
- Some ideas are: medical injury (such as a sprained ankle combined with a forehead laceration suffered during the subsequent fall), or family crisis (close family member in accident that requires the participant to leave the scene immediately).

VII.VII Map of Victim Locations (Confidential)



KEY

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| | - Incident Command Post (13U FR 92942 21524) | | - Location of missing boat |
| | - Son's path (left father first, follows shoreline) | | - Common path (father, son, and friend) |
| | - Friend's path (left later, trying to intersect a snowmobile path – does not quite reach it but would be able to respond to nearby whistle calls/yelling) | | |
| | - Father's location (injured leg – immobile) | | |
| | - Son (mobile, and walking around shorelines back to civilization) | | |
| | - Friend (mobile, and heading west to intersect trails he knows to be in the area) | | |

VII.VIII Post-Deployment Social Event

A social event will be held near to the exercise area (banquet hall or other suitable facility). This will take place following the debriefing session after supper. This event would be open to all participants in the exercise and serve as an informal meeting, debriefing, and networking forum.

It is anticipated that the event would run from roughly 20:00 to 22:00 hrs on the day of the exercise.

VIII. Communications

VIII.I Technologies Available to Exercise Participants

A number of communications technologies will be in use during the exercise. One of the objectives of the exercise is indeed to test out various methods of communication, and observe where each one has difficulty.

GMRS Radios

These will typically be used for intra-team communications by the SARSAV responders. If ranges are short enough, then it is conceivable that GMRS will also serve as a main link between the command post and the field teams.

Benefits

- Most SARSAV members have these radios as part of their basic equipment.
- CASARA pilots may be issued a GMRS radio to communicate, as well as serve as a radio-relay for ground personnel.
- ARES can support GMRS and provide interface to other users/groups.

Drawbacks

- GMRS radios operate in the UHF band and are restricted to 2W radiated power, which may make them ineffectual in wooded areas.
- Normal CASARA radio communications are not GMRS compatible.

VHF Handheld Radios

These are an option for base→team communications. Public Safety and Sask911 has access to a number of VHF radios on the provincial EMO frequency.

Benefits

- The EMO-equipped radios would operate on a relatively private frequency and the radios have a full 5W radiated power, which in wooded areas will assist with better range.
- EMS has access to the provincial ambulance frequency 158.760MHz.
- ARES can support land/mobile VHF and provide interface to other users/groups.

Drawbacks

- These are additional radios that may require some in-field training in their proper use.
- Unless specially programmed, these radios will not be able to communicate with CASARA aircraft (123.30MHz AM).

FleetNet / Trunked 800MHz Radios (administered by SaskTel)

FleetNet is commonly used by ambulance services. Most responding personnel from these agencies will have a vehicle mounted FleetNet radio.

Benefits

- FleetNet maps show that Kenosee is in a good coverage area. Local testimonials from Wawota EMS appear to validate this claimed coverage.
- These radios allow cross-Saskatchewan communication when users are in a coverage area.

Drawbacks

- Very few responders will have access to a FleetNet compatible radio.

Provincial Public Safety Technical Network (PPSTN) / Trunked VHF Radios

The PPSTN is the new digital (P25 compliant) M/A-Com VHF trunked radio system that is the latest communications standard for the RCMP. It is available for all detachments south of Saskatoon (the northern portion of the province is currently migrating, with full availability by 2010). The PPSTN has interoperability with Regina and Saskatoon city police services through communications consoles in the Operational Communication Centre.

Benefits

- PPSTN will provide province-wide RCMP communications ability.

Drawbacks

- Only the RCMP will have access to a PPSTN-compatible radio.

Cellular Telephone Communications

Cellular telephones may be a very viable option for team communications in the field. They are very likely to be in possession of most, if not all responders.

Benefits

- SaskTel's coverage maps indicate that Kenosee is in a good coverage area for both analog and digital CDMA cellular phones. Local experience shows fair to good coverage in the park perimeter.
- Minimal training required.

Drawbacks

- Signal dropout may occur in some localized rugged topography.
- Tracking of a large number of telephone numbers will be required, adding to administrative duties of the Incident Command Post.

Satellite Telephone Communications

Satellite telephones are available from the RCMP Search Team, as well as Public Safety and Sask911. They operate similar to a cellular telephone, except that they use always-in-view satellites instead of cell towers.

Benefits

- Complete coverage is possible, providing a clear view of the sky can be found (typically they do not work that well indoors).
- Minimal training required.

Drawbacks

- Limited availability.
- Very expensive to use (sometimes several dollars/minute)
- Tracking of a large number of telephone numbers will be required, adding to administrative duties of the Incident Command Post.

Landline Telephone Communications

Landline (wired) telephones are a highly reliable means of communications where available. Very rarely are they available outside of the command post, and hence of little use in communicating with field-deployed resources. But the landline telephone is invaluable in assisting with logistical support and all efforts should be made to ensure the command post has at least one, preferably more, landline telephones available.

Benefits

- Highly reliable.
- Ubiquitous in fixed residences and businesses.

Drawbacks

- Only available at fixed locations, not suitable for communication with field personnel.

VIII.II Challenges

There are a number of communications challenges anticipated during this exercise. They include:

- Communication between the various responding agencies, even while in “good coverage areas”. A variety of different technologies will be present, leading to possible confusion.
- Radio range, both for VHF and GMRS, may be inadequate given some of the distances and terrain the search teams will be asked to explore.
- There are unknown variables with regard to cellular and FleetNet signal coverage.
- The availability of Public Safety’s supply of handheld VHF radios is not yet known.
- Communications with CASARA aircraft may require special consideration.
- The ability of radio support groups who may be able to provide cross-technology communication support, such as ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services) is not fully known.

VIII.III Communications Plan

The goal of the steering committee in developing a communications plan is to ensure that certain basic communications are in place ahead of the exercise to allow the exercise to proceed. This is especially true with the presence of CASARA aircraft and their unique requirements.

The majority of ground communications decisions will be left up to the Incident Commander – including whether or not to use EMO radios, GMRS, etc. The steering committee will ensure that the Incident Commander is made aware of the options available. This will be done even though it is acknowledged that pre-planning has occurred, which would not normally have been done in an emergent scenario.

With this in mind, the steering committee has directed that the following radio communications frequencies and allocations will be used during the exercise:

- Air-to-Ground: 123.30MHz AM (CASARA)
- Ground-to-Ground:
 - 144.390MHz FM (amateur radio APRS Frequency)
 - 149.080MHz FM (National SAR Frequency)
 - 156.915MHz FM (Saskatchewan EMO Frequency)
 - 158.760MHz FM (Saskatchewan EMS Frequency)
- Field teams will communicate via VHF frequencies listed above, or on FRS/GMRS (UHF) frequencies, as determined by the Incident Commander based on available VHF/UHF radio resources for the field teams.
- Cellular phones will be used as backup for all teams, air and ground.
- Pre-designated call-signs:
 - CASARA Aircraft Base at Carlyle Flying Club Shack: “Carlyle Unicom 122.8MHz”
 - Alternate: CASARA Aircraft Base at Estevan airport: “Estevan Unicom 123.0MHz”
 - ARES Mobile Truck: “Command”, “CASARA Base 123.3MHz”
 - In the event of a JRCC (Joint Rescue Command Center) retasking for CASARA on a real-life SAR mission:
 - Aircraft call-sign “CASARA C-GONE” changes to “Rescue C-GONE”
 - Call-sign “CASARA Base” duties will transfer from the ARES truck to the Carlyle Flying Club Shack.

VIII.IV APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System) Trials

APRS is an amateur radio position location system trademarked by Bob Bruniga. In SAR applications, APRS can be used to transmit the exact location of field resources back to the Incident Command Post in real-time.

During this exercise, two different portable APRS tracking devices will be trialed (given to field teams to carry on the top of their ready-packs). Both are provided by amateur radio equipment suppliers. Both units are in weather resistant cases, are handheld, battery operated, and have built-in GPS receivers and VHF radio transmitters.

- 1) The Byonics (www.byonics.com) unit provides up to 10W of transmitting power on the 144.390 VHF FM standard APRS frequency. It runs on 8-AA batteries.



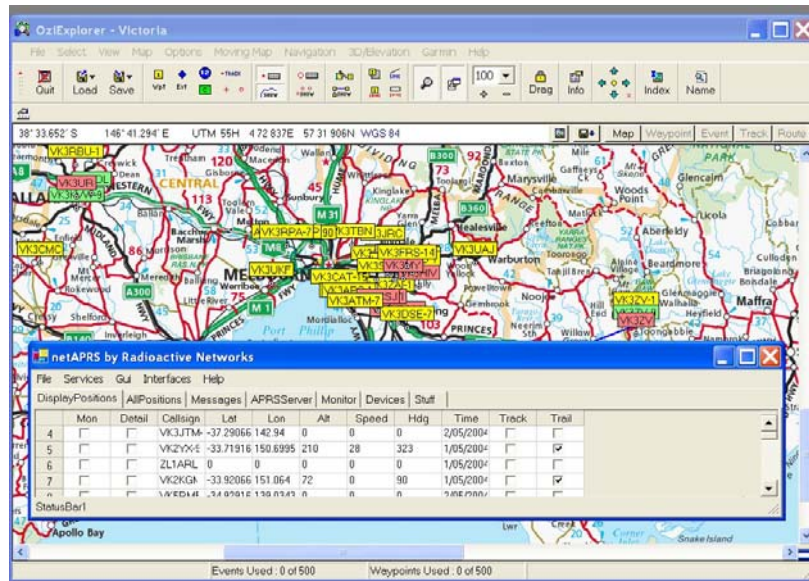
- 2) The second unit is provided by BigRedBee (www.bigredbee.com) and provides 5W of transmitting power using only 6-AA batteries. It is slightly smaller and therefore easier to pack. However, it has less transmitting power than the Byonics unit.



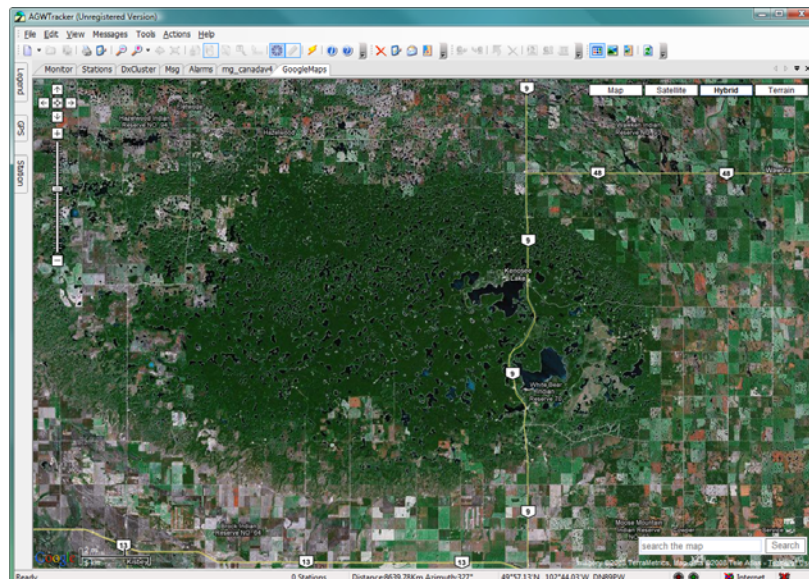
The base station will consist of a Dell Latitude laptop running a variety of software that will be trialed for effectiveness. The laptop will receive APRS transmissions via a VHF scanner radio connected directly to the laptop via audio patch cables, and using the AWGPE software decoder (<http://www.sv2agw.com/ham/agwpe.htm>).

Mapping software that will be demonstrated:

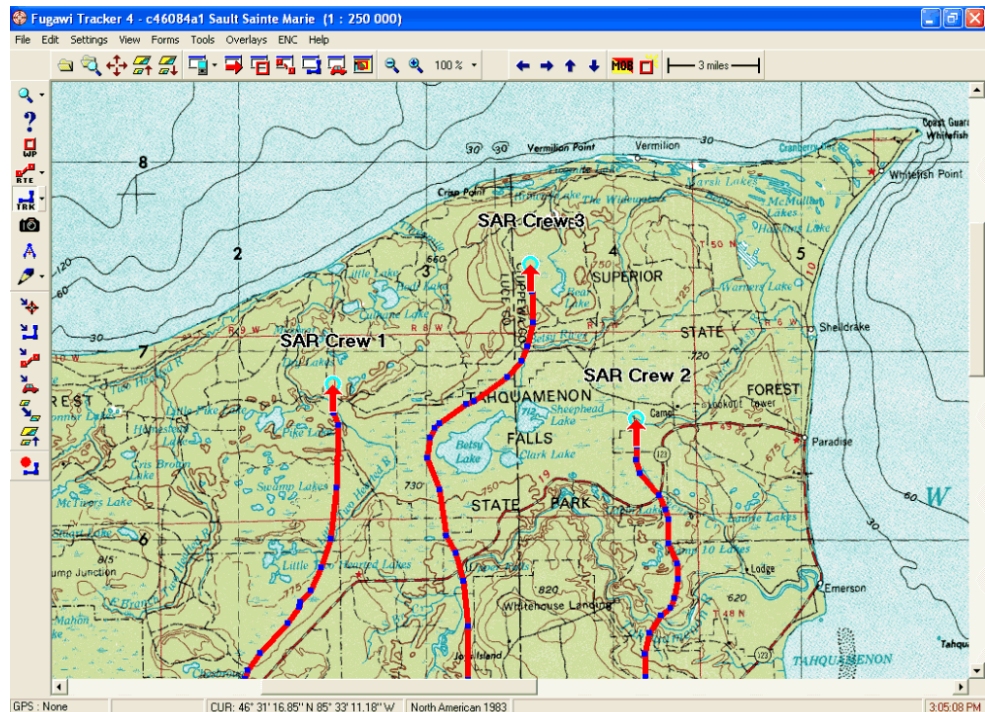
- 1) OziExplorer (<http://www.ozieplorer.com/>) using netAPRS (<http://www.radio-active.net.au/web/tracking/netaprs.html>) to transfer APRS data from the AWGPE packet decoder into OziExplorer.



- 2) AGWTracker (<http://www.agwtracker.com/>) with built-in support for AWGPE.



- 3) Fugawi's Tracker 4 (http://www.fugawi.com/web/products/fugawi_tracker_4.htm) will also be used, although this software has been discontinued for commercial distribution.



- 4) XASTIR (<http://www.xastir.org/>) will not be evaluated, due to an unduly complicated implementation on the common Microsoft Windows operating system.

Key Goals for Field Trials

- 1) Determine wear-ability and convenience of the handheld transmitters. Gather feedback from end users who were asked to carry the units.
- 2) Find the effective range of both of the units. During this trial, no repeaters (known as digipeaters) will be in use. Range will be a direct unit-to-base function.
- 3) Determine the battery life of both transmitters. If possible, try and determine decreasing range as a function of declining battery power.
- 4) Evaluate the usefulness and ease of operation of all of the software solutions.
- 5) Determine overall value to the SAR Management team.

IX. Objectives

Objectives will be developed for each stakeholder group participating in the multi-jurisdictional exercise. Each participant group will designate one or more individuals who are responsible for scoring their group's achievements throughout the exercise.

These same individuals will then be responsible for presenting their observations at the wrap-up/debriefing meeting to be held following the exercise. Further to that, these individuals shall forward their observations to SARSAV and Public Safety for inclusion in the final report.

Objectives may be made up of either go/no-go type objectives, or may consist of scalable-type objectives (rated on a scale of 1 to 10, for example).

Identified exercise objectives of the various groups are listed on the following pages by incident evolution phase (Callout, Orientation/Briefing, Deployment/Operations, and Wrap up).

SARSAV

- Callout
 - Attendance of at least 20 trained SARSAV resources to respond.
 - Response of SARSAV resources in a field-deployment-ready state.
- Orientation / Briefing
 - Will perform its tasks in a safe manner to promote a successful conclusion to the exercise without any injuries to the participants or public, or environment.
 - Work with the Search Manager to organize into team-sized units of no more than 8 individuals per team.
 - Team leaders will be evaluated on their team management skills, including proper rest and rehydration monitoring of their reports.
- Deployment / Operations
 - SARSAV's main objective is to find the missing subject.
 - To implement field search tactics as requested by the search manager, including hasty search, grid search, and sign cutting techniques as required.
 - To verify that each team member can operate autonomously in the field with minimal logistical support from the command post (SAR volunteers are expected to be self-sufficient for the initial 24 hours of deployment).
 - To practice effective and efficient radio communications, both intra- and inter-team, as well as from team to base.
 - To give accurate and timely position and information reports to the command post upon request or upon agreed upon schedules.
 - Teams whose tasking carries them in the vicinity of either the missing subject or of clues left behind in the area will be evaluated on their ability to find, detect, and report these clues.
- Wrap Up
 - Every SARSAV team will present final (written) briefing reports to the Incident Commander upon their field mission's conclusion.
 - GPS tracks from ground teams to be collected by either the Incident Commander or, failing that, a Steering Committee member, for use in post-exercise analysis.
 - SARSAV personnel will attend the incident debriefing session and present any comments or observations in a positive and constructive manner.

Public Safety and Sask911

○ Callout

- The scenario does not call for the callout of Public Safety personnel. However, as members of the steering committee, the attendance of Public Safety personnel is considered essential to the exercise.
- Will perform its tasks in a safe manner to promote a successful conclusion to the exercise without any injuries to the participants or public, or environment.
- Public Safety personnel will have the responsibility of documentation of the exercise, including maintaining the required data to both evaluate the objectives of each participant group (the objectives being described in this section of the planning document), but also to keep this data as a resource for the post-exercise report.

○ Orientation / Briefing

- Has primary goal of ensuring the multi-jurisdictional exercise operates smoothly, and that all participants receive adequate information in a timely manner to ensure a worthwhile exercise.
- Have primary liaison duties with local EMO resources, acting on behalf of the Incident Commander.

○ Deployment / Operations

- Will perform its tasks in a safe manner to promote a successful conclusion to the exercise without any injuries to the participants or public, or environment.
- Along with other members of the steering committee, has the task of making observations, notes, and recordings of the exercise from invocation to conclusion.

○ Wrap Up

- Responsible for all financial tracking mechanisms regarding exercise expenditures and reimbursement.
- Responsible for preparation of the final exercise report.
- Public Safety personnel will attend the incident debriefing session and present any comments or observations in a positive and constructive manner.

CASARA

- Callout
 - Two CASARA aircraft and crews will be available for the exercise.
 - The aircraft will be available starting at 10:00hrs to the Incident Commander.
 - Aircraft will be dispatched via internal CASARA procedures.
 - Initial communications contact will be arranged with ARES prior to dispatch, and include both VHF (AM) communication and cellular telephone backup procedures.
- Orientation / Briefing
 - Will perform its tasks in a safe manner to promote a successful conclusion to the exercise without any injuries to the participants or public.
 - This is a unique opportunity for CASARA pilots to test logistical readiness for operating out of south-east Saskatchewan, using municipal airports. CASARA's pre-mission planning indicates operating out of either Carlyle or possibly Estevan.
 - Identifying any logistical support issues and rectifying them in cooperation with the local EMO resources.
- Deployment / Operations
 - To have effective communications with the Incident Command post.
 - Upon direction of the Search Manager, fly standard CASARA search patterns in support of mission objectives (finding subject or clues, in addition to supporting communications with ground search personnel).
- Wrap Up
 - CASARA teams will present final briefing reports to the Incident Commander upon their mission's conclusion.
 - GPS tracks from the CASARA aircraft to be collected by either the Incident Commander or, failing that, a Steering Committee member, for use in post-exercise analysis.
 - CASARA will be responsible for making a short presentation at the debriefing on their operations planning and any logistical challenges they encounter during the exercise.
 - CASARA personnel will attend the incident debriefing session and present any comments or observations in a positive and constructive manner.

RCMP○ Callout

- The RCMP callout will begin at 06:00hrs the day of the exercise, and be evaluated by the availability of SAR team members to be prepared to search on site at 09:00hrs.
- The RCMP will have the task of implementing a command post with an RCMP Incident Commander. This objective will be scored on the ability to have the command post operational and ready to deploy initial teams to the field by 10:00hrs.

○ Orientation / Briefing

- The RCMP's main objective is to find the missing subject.
- Will perform its tasks in a safe manner to promote a successful conclusion to the exercise without any injuries to the participants or public, or environment.
- The RCMP Incident Commander will direct the SARSAV, CASARA, RCMP, and other resources in an effectual effort to find the subject(s).
- The RCMP Incident Commander shall assess RCMP and civilian "search manager" skills and capabilities, and utilize personnel effectively.

○ Deployment / Operations

- The RCMP Incident Commander will be responsible for delegating duties in an ICS command structure, including logistical support.
- The Incident Commander must, at a minimum, ensure there are written contingency plans in place for:
 - Medical emergency amongst the responding personnel
 - Missing subject extrication/evacuation

○ Wrap Up

- All written contingency plans should be ready for presentation at the debriefing meeting. These will also be collected by a representative from Public Safety for inclusion in the final report.
- RCMP ground / dog teams will present final briefing reports to the Incident Commander upon their mission's conclusion.
- GPS tracks from the RCMP members to be collected by either the Incident Commander or, failing that, a Steering Committee member, for use in post-exercise analysis.
- RCMP personnel will attend the incident debriefing session and present any comments or observations in a positive and constructive manner.

SERM / Local RCMP Detachment / Local Park Management

- Callout
 - Both SERM and Local RCMP will be utilized in an as-available capacity. Both will have similar task assignments, increasing in scope dependent upon their availability.
- Orientation / Briefing
 - Will perform its tasks in a safe manner to promote a successful conclusion to the exercise without any injuries to the participants or public, or environment.
 - SERM/Local RCMP will have primary responsibility of providing security and access control to the Provincial Park, including the command post area and search areas.
 - SERM will be called upon to provide accurate and adequate supplies of maps for the search area.
 - The RCMP local detachment Commander will be tasked with an orderly transfer of Incident Command duties to the Hasty Team Incident Commander upon his/her arrival.
- Deployment / Operations
 - SERM/Local RCMP will be tasked with questioning park patrons at the entrance/exit to the park, and generating public awareness of the search mission/missing subject.
 - SERM and Local RCMP personnel will be called upon to participate in the search, especially where specialized local knowledge will be beneficial.
 - SERM material resources, such as water craft, may be called into service to provide transportation to other search personnel.
- Wrap Up
 - SERM and Local RCMP personnel will attend the incident debriefing session and present any comments or observations in a positive and constructive manner.

Local EMO / RM Council

- Callout
 - Local EMO personnel will not be participating in a call-out scenario. After discussions with local EMO, they have decided to participate in all pre-planning activities. Local EMO may have representatives in attendance during the day of the exercise for observation purposes.
- Orientation / Briefing
 - Will perform its tasks in a safe manner to promote a successful conclusion to the exercise without any injuries to the participants or public, or environment.
 - Local EMO will be primary contact for the Incident Commander in garnering local “experts” who may be able to provide advanced topographical knowledge of the search area.
 - Local EMO will be primary contact for arranging EMS support, including both “real-world” support for the exercise as well as “simulation” support for the exercise.
- Deployment / Operations
 - Local EMO resources will be called upon to coordinate transportation requirements for volunteer civilian resources to their field deployment positions. This may include both land and water craft.
 - Local EMO will be responsible for logistical support including:
 - Food and water
 - Waste disposal (latrines and garbage)
 - Fuel (for aircraft, requirements are 100 octane low lead – 100LL)
 - Accommodations (although most accommodation requirements will be made prior to the exercise).
- Wrap Up
 - Submit their documentation to the Public Safety representative for inclusion in the final report.
 - Local EMO personnel will attend the incident debriefing session and present any comments or observations in a positive and constructive manner.

Local EMS – Emergency Medical Services (Wawota Ambulance Service)○ Callout

- Wawota EMS will respond with one ambulance unit, and at least two staff (one EMT or higher, one first responder or higher)
- Wawota EMS is attending the exercise on the understanding that should a real-world emergency call come in, they will be leaving the exercise to attend the call.

○ Orientation / Briefing

- Will perform its tasks in a safe manner to promote a successful conclusion to the exercise without any injuries to the participants or public, or environment.
- Develop and document their contingency plans for treatment of the “victim” within the scenario.

○ Deployment / Operations

- Provide in-situ medical support for missing subject, if required.
- Provide in-situ medical support for searchers/incident staff, if required.
- Assist with extrication of missing subject to a road-accessible location.
- Extrication of missing subject to nearest medical treatment facility.
- Provide stand-by EMS support for the exercise, as pre-arranged with EMO/MJE Steering Committee.

○ Wrap Up

- Submit their documentation to the Public Safety representative for inclusion in the final report.
- Local EMS personnel will attend the incident debriefing session and present any comments or observations in a positive and constructive manner.

ARES – Amateur Radio Emergency Services

○ Callout

- ARES will initiate its callout via a general email, radio call on local and nearby repeaters or telephone (cellular) call to the general membership. Depending on how urgent the situation, will determine the method of notification.
- The number of ARES members called, to respond, will be of a larger number than initially determined to be required, as it is easier to downsize in an expedited manner than increase if required.
- ARES resources for the exercise will be the ARES mobile communications vehicle (MCV), which can serve as a command post. As well, three to four ARES members for radio communications within the command post and/or deployed with ground teams. The MCV contains radio equipment capable of communications on amateur radio frequencies in the HF, VHF & UHF bands. Air/ground, FRS, GMRS and other VHF & UHF, such as SERM, RCMP. Ambulance (VHF) is also available.

○ Orientation / Briefing

- Will perform its tasks in a safe manner to promote a successful conclusion to the exercise without any injuries to the participants or public, or environment.

○ Deployment / Operations

- ARES communication truck will be used to assist the Incident Commander in maintaining radio communications with field resources, including volunteer ground teams, RCMP ground teams, and CASARA air resources.
- Beyond providing radio connectivity services, will also serve as required in message transport and central dispatch duties.

○ Wrap Up

- Submit their documentation to the Public Safety representative for inclusion in the final report.
- ARES personnel will attend the incident debriefing session and present any comments or observations in a positive and constructive manner.

X. Debriefing

At the debriefing session held after the supper meal following the exercise, the Steering Committee will organize the following:

- Initial overview and goals of this process
- Review of the need to provide a written record of the training event, including lessons learned and techniques proven
- Each participant group (RCMP, SARSAV, CASARA, SERM, EMS, ARES, EMO, etc) will break into its own area for 20 minutes to meet and discuss internally. A written record of this internal discussion will be submitted by EACH GROUP to the Public Safety member in charge of document collection.
- Following the 20 minute meeting, all the groups will get together and a representative from each participant group will make their presentation to the entire group. Public Safety will be in charge of documenting this meeting. Each group would be expected to take 5-10 minutes, depending on the depth of their involvement in the exercise.

All GPS tracks that have not yet been collected will be given to the Public Safety member in charge of document collection at this time, or arrangements made to email them as soon as possible.

Following the exercise, Public Safety will be tasked with preparation of a final written report documenting the exercise. This report will be available for all participating organizations in the exercise within 60 days of the exercise.

The location of the debriefing will be the same as for the supper meal – the Kenossee Inn Resort Hotel convention centre.

XI. Media / Public Relations

A formal press release will be issued to local and provincial media outlets three weeks prior to the SAR exercise. This release will provide limited details on the exercise, including the expected geographical region of the province that will be involved, as well as a short description of the personnel and materiel resources that may be invoked during the exercise.

Guidelines will accompany the press release on expected behavior of any on-site media resources during the exercise and how their respect of the goals of the simulation would be appreciated. No details of the scenario will be provided that may compromise the integrity of the simulation's confidentiality.

During the actual timeframe of the execution of the scenario, a media liaison (Sgt. Carole Raymond, RCMP) will be made available from the steering committee to address any questions regarding the exercise. The media should be encouraged to cover the exercise "in-simulation" – meaning they would be able to provide coverage of the simulated search by getting information from the exercise's Incident Commander or their ICS system designate. It is up to the exercise Incident Commander as to whether media will be allowed any further access to the search area or personnel during the period of the exercise. At all times, the Incident Commander should remember that this is an exercise in realism. As in a real-life situation, the media may not always have unconditional access to the search area or personnel.

CASARA has offered the availability of one of their aircraft for use by the overhead team to get an aerial perspective on the exercise, and also to provide media a means to provide aerial photography. Access to the aircraft (likely from Carlyle airport) will be coordinated during the day of the exercise.

One or more self-supporting ground signs will also be posted at the main highway entrance to the Kenosee Park stating that a "Search and Rescue Exercise is being Conducted today". This will help orient the public to the extra activity in the area and minimize confusion and anxiety.

Media/Press Release

>>> RCMP Saskatchewan Media Relations 2008-09-09 13:36 >>>
2008-09-09 12:30 PM
INVITATION TO ALL MEDIA TO SASKATCHEWAN SAR EXERCISE

The SAR (Search and Rescue) planning committee would like to extend an invitation to all media to attend the largest Multi-Jurisdictional Exercise in Saskatchewan history. This event will take place September 20th at the Kenosee Lake resort area of Moose Mountain Provincial Park, 15 km north of Carlyle on Highway #9 between the times of 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The optimal time period for media to observe the exercise participants are between 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. This is a multi-jurisdictional exercise consisting of over 100 personnel, numerous water and land vehicles and two aircraft that will be participating in this simulated search and rescue deployment.

Expected participants and attendees include: RCMP Saskatchewan, SARSAV (Search and Rescue Saskatchewan Association of Volunteers), CASARA (Civil Air Search and Rescue Association), SERM (Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management), EMS (Wawota Emergency Medical Service), ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service), CPSP (Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing) as well as representatives from White Bear First Nations Council. The Honourable Darryl Hickie will be attending the exercise between the hours of 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM and will also be available for questions from the media (time to be determined).

One CASARA aircraft will have limited availability on a first-come-first-serve basis for media to obtain aerial coverage of the simulation exercise.

During the actual execution of the training scenario, RCMP Media Relations Officer Sgt. Carole Raymond will be available to provide the press release for the simulated exercise. RCMP Saskatchewan members Supt. Craig Gibson and Cpl. Greg Groff will be available to address media questions in relation to the exercise.

The media is encouraged to cover the exercise "in-simulation" - meaning they would be able to provide coverage of the simulated search by getting information from the exercise's Incident Commander or designated individual. An important part of search management is how the Search Manager handles inquiries from the media. The steering committee acknowledges that the media has a unique opportunity here to assist in the training process.

There will be directions at the front entrance of the Kenosee Lake Resort upon arrival to advise media of the gathering location. Please find attached a summary of each participating group and organization.

For further information, contact:

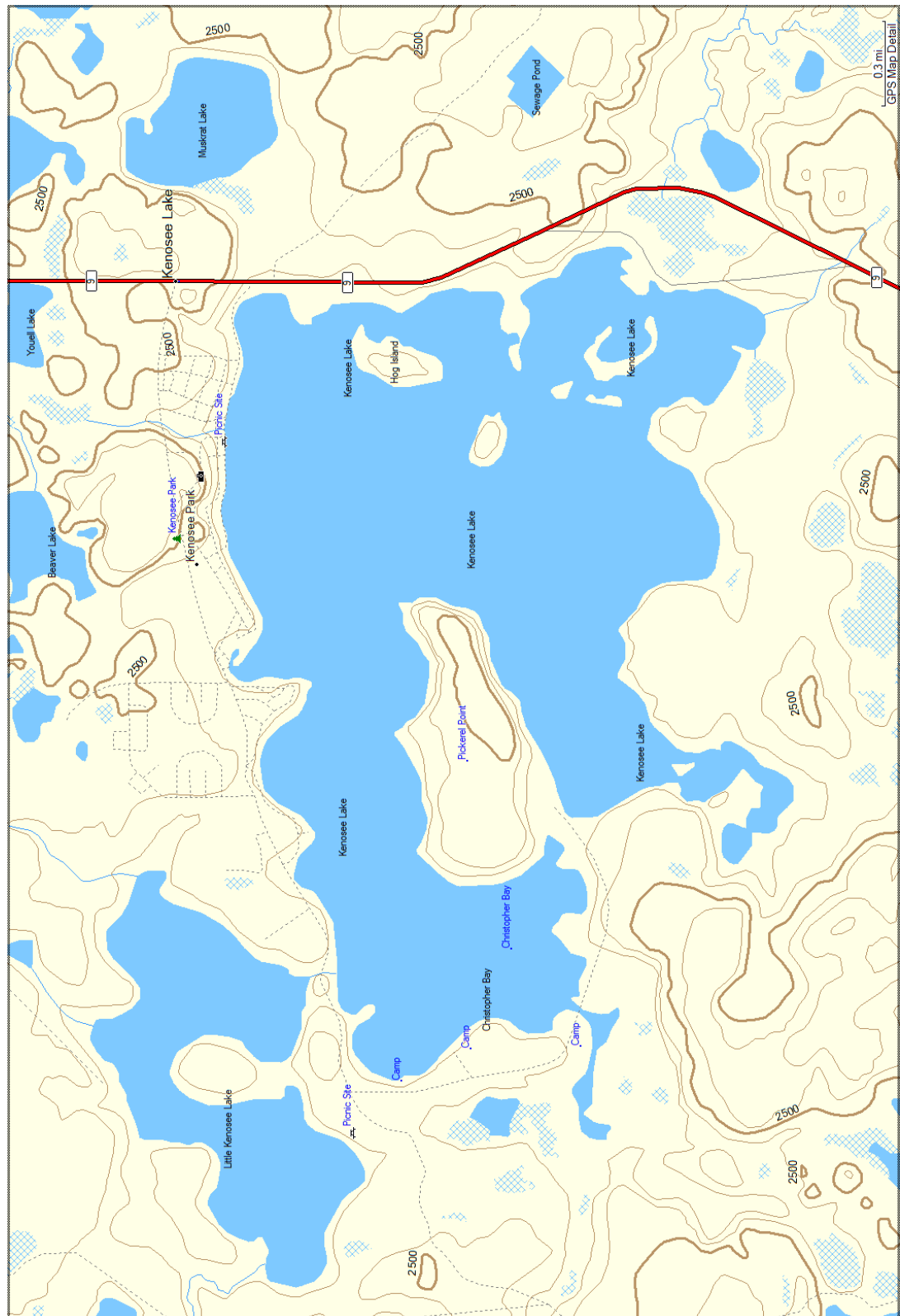
Sgt. Carole Raymond
RCMP Media Relations Officer
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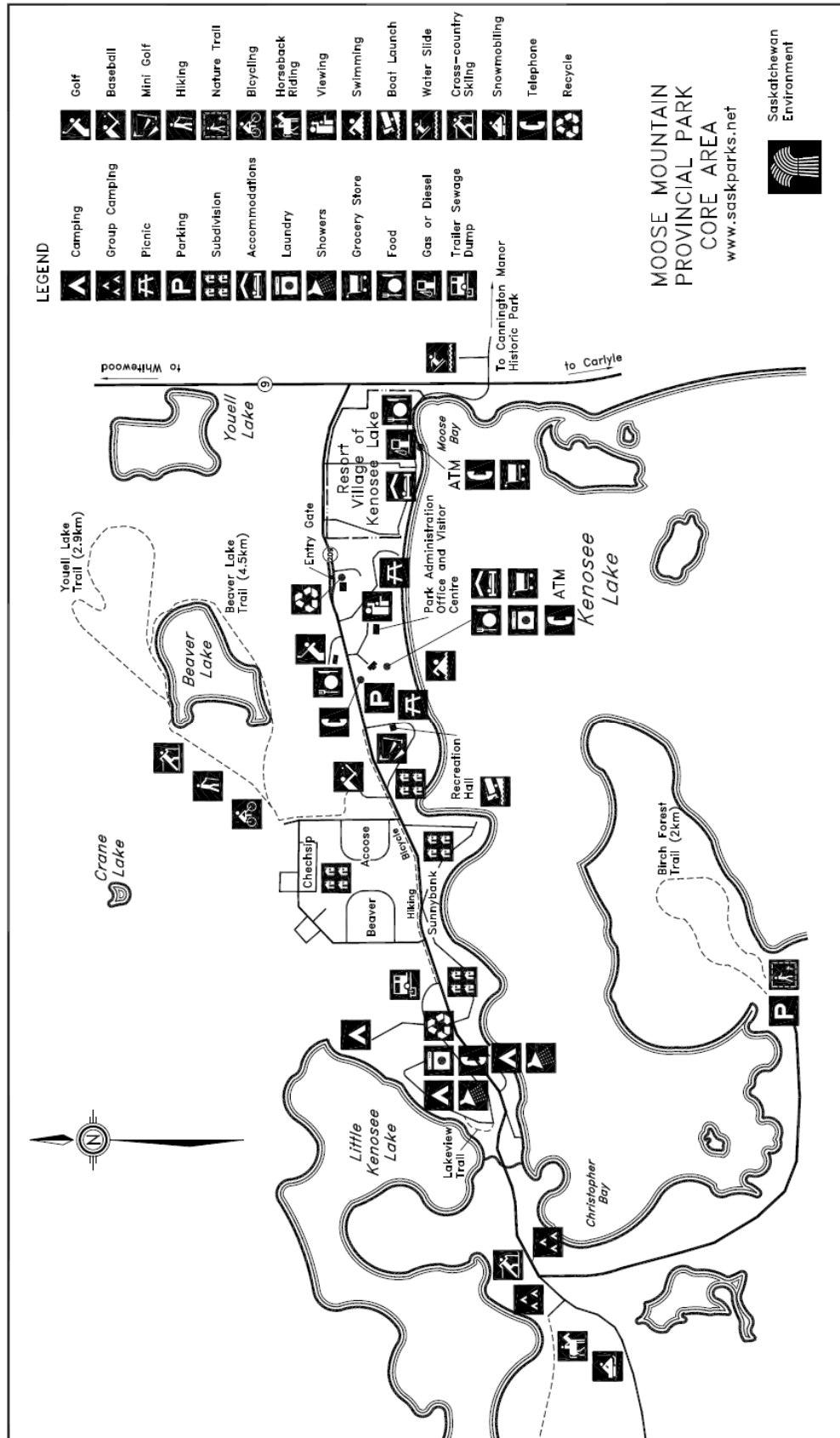
Cpl. Greg Groff
RCMP "F" Division Headquarters
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Dr. Scott Wright
SARSAV
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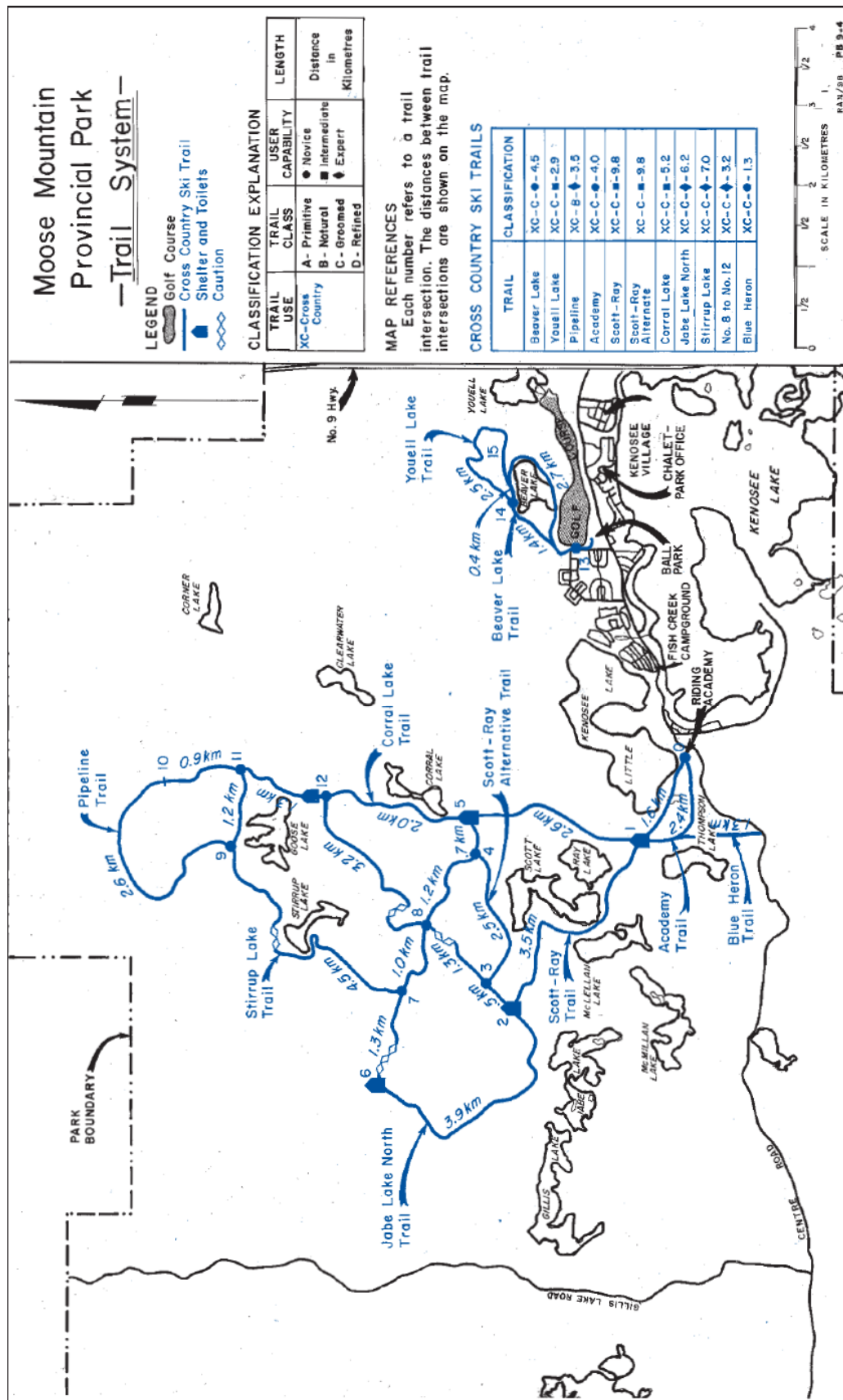
- **SARSAV**
SARSAV (Search and Rescue Saskatchewan Association of Volunteers) is the Saskatchewan organization formed as an umbrella group for all civilian ground search and rescue teams in the province. SARSAV works in close cooperation with police and public safety agencies in providing SAR and other emergency services to the people of Saskatchewan.
- **Public Safety and Sask911**
Public Safety and Sask911 is a division of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety, and Policing (CPSP). CPSP is the primary government liaison for search and rescue in Saskatchewan. CPSP also has disbursement control over the federal NIF grant for SARSAV.
- **CASARA**
CASARA (Civil Air Search and Rescue Association) is a Canada-wide volunteer aviation organization dedicated to the promotion of aviation safety, and to the provision of air search support services to the National Search and Rescue Program. CASARA volunteers pilot their own aircraft and provide aerial support to ground based search and rescue missions.
- **RCMP**
In Canada, outside of federally owned National Parks, the RCMP is the default police force of jurisdiction that has primary responsibility for land and inland-water search and rescue. In SAR deployments, an RCMP trained incident commander (also called a Search Commander) is appointed. The RCMP will also supply Search Managers, in concert with civilian Search Managers from groups such as SARSAV.
- **SERM**
Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management is the primary stakeholder in maintaining the operations of Saskatchewan's Provincial Parks. SERM personnel will typically have advanced knowledge of local features and topography and would be of great assistance in local logistical support within a Provincial Park.
- **Local EMO / RM Council**
Local representatives from the Rural Municipality of Wawken (#93) will have primary jurisdiction over local logistical and support issues. The multi-jurisdictional exercise will present the Local EMO coordinator with a unique opportunity to test operational readiness in the event of a large scale emergency deployment.
- **Wawota EMS**
Local EMS personnel and equipment from Wawota will provide medical support for the exercise, both for the participants, as well as an active role in the simulation.
- **ARES - Amateur Radio Emergency Service**
The ARES is composed of licensed radio amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service. Regina ARES is a core and founding component of SAR Regina, and assists with the provision of radio communications at a large number of SAR related events.

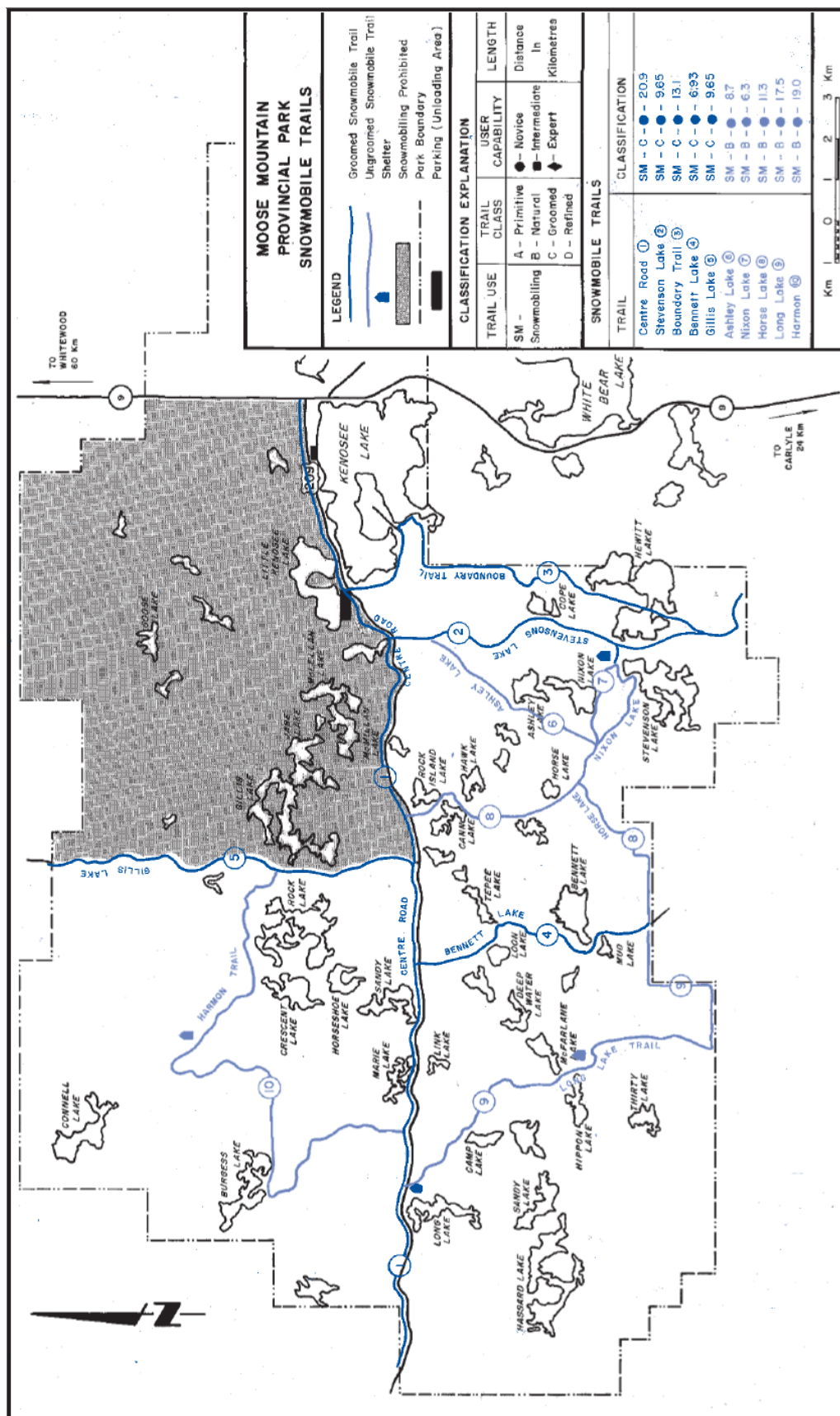
XII. Maps

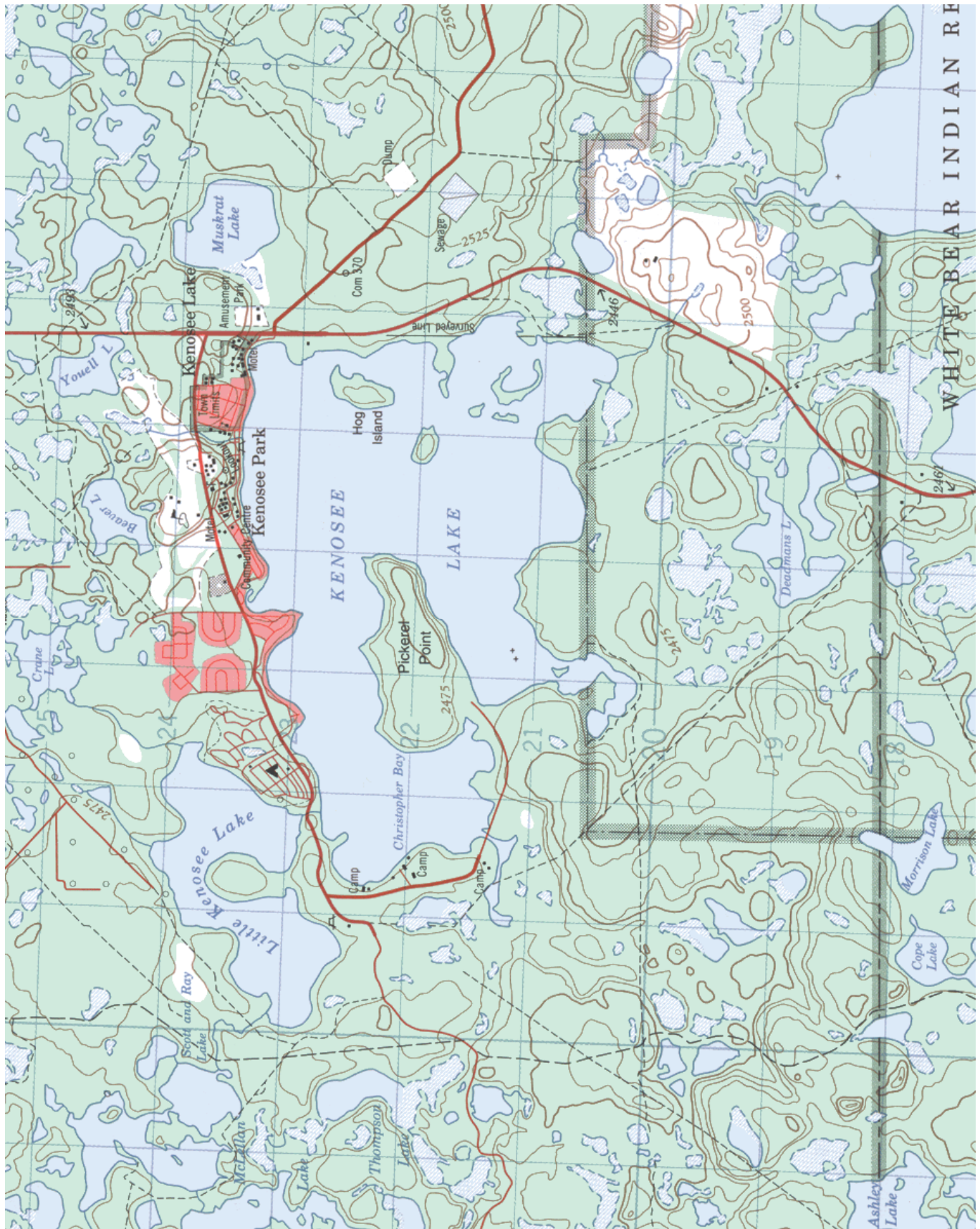












XIII. Moose Mountain History

(*The Encyclopedia of Saskatchewan* -

http://esask.uregina.ca/entry/moose_mountain.html)

(49°47' 102°35'; Map sheet E/15). Moose Mountain is located in southeast Saskatchewan on Highway 9, about 15 km north of Carlyle. It forms a plateau covering approximately 13,000 km². Its maximum elevation is 830 metres, roughly 200 metres higher than the surrounding plains. Before the last continental glaciation, the upland was capped by Tertiary-age gravels. The advancing ice covered Moose Mountain, but once melting began the plateau was exposed as a drift-covered *nunatak* rising above the surrounding ice sheet. A short-lived pro-glacial lake (Lake Arcola) was formed along its southern edge by melt waters trapped between the plateau and the encircling ice. Most of Moose Mountain is wooded with aspen, white birch, balsam poplar and green ash. Designated as a forest reserve under the Forest Reserves Act of 1906, its woods were exploited under the principles of “scientific forestry” and today it is one of only two Provincial Forests south of the Qu’Appelle River. As a wooded island in a prairie ecosystem, Moose Mountain hosts many bird and animal species more commonly found in the eastern deciduous forest or northern mixed-wood forests. It also has a number of rare plant species. The same environment that attracted woodland fauna also appealed to First Nations people, who built a large medicine wheel on the plateau. The White Bear Reserve was established in the southeast corner of Moose Mountain under Treaty 4. Euro-Canadian settlers from the surrounding plains also utilized its natural resources for fuel, construction materials, hay and pasture.

Much of the area is now part of Moose Mountain Provincial Park, one of five original provincial parks designated by the province in 1931. However, as far back as the 1880s settlers from the surrounding areas would come to Moose Mountain for recreation. Kenosee Lake, on the eastern side of the park, is the core area for recreational activities that include fishing, water sports, and hiking. This shallow lake, fed mainly by groundwater, fluctuates considerably in depth. South of the park boundary the area around White Bear Lake, in the White Bear Indian Reserve, has also been developed for more profit-oriented recreational ventures including a resort village, casino and golf course. Its proximity to Regina makes the park a favourite destination, and it is one of the most heavily used of all provincial parks. Named for wildlife sometimes found in the area, the “mountain” designation is clearly an exaggeration for this area of low hills rising above the Saskatchewan Plain.

Marilyn Lewry

Appendix 1. Invitee List

The following organizations and individuals will be extended an invitation to attend the multi-jurisdictional exercise in an observer capacity.

Note: to maintain integrity of the debriefing process, this invitation does not extend to the debriefing session held post-exercise. However, the final report will be publicly available to all interested groups.

- 1) National Search and Rescue Secretariat – SARScene

sarscenemag@nss.gc.ca – Story Ideas

400-275 Slater Street

Ottawa, Ontario

K1A 0K2

- 2) Fire Commissioner Douglas Popowich

Manitoba Office of the Fire Commissioner

1601 VanHorne Avenue East

Brandon, Manitoba

R7A 7K2

Note: July 28th – received confirmation that Mr. David Schafer, Manager of West Operations, will be attending on behalf of the Manitoba OFC.

- 3) Honourable Darryl Hickie

Minister of Corrections, Public Safety, and Policing

Room 38, Legislative Building

2405 Legislative Drive

Regina, Saskatchewan

S4S 0B3

Note: August 22nd – received confirmation from Wendy Walter (Minister Hickie's Executive Assistant, ph. <sanitized>) that Minister Hickie is interested in attending and is awaiting final schedule information from the planning committee. August 28th - sent itinerary to Wendy. Confirmed September 3rd.

- 4) Chief Brian Standingready

White Bear First Nations

P.O. Box 700

Carlyle, Saskatchewan

S0C 0R0

Note: July 15th – received confirmation that Chief Standingready and members of his council will be attending.

Invitation Letter

July 7, 2008

<addressee>

Dear <name>,

Search and Rescue Saskatchewan Association of Volunteers (SARSAV), in cooperation with numerous other public safety partners, will be conducting a large-scale SAR exercise on September 20th at Kenosee Lake. Involved in this exercise will be civilian volunteers, RCMP SAR members, CASARA aircraft, and other public safety agencies and organizations.

On behalf of these participant groups, SARSAV would like to extend an invitation to you and/or your representatives to attend the exercise. We encourage your attendance to observe the events unfold, and there will be staff available to answer any questions you may have.

SARSAV is the recipient of a federal NIF (New Initiatives Fund) grant from the National Search and Rescue Secretariat (NSS) - an independent federal government agency reporting to the Minister of National Defense. This funding is being administered on SARSAV's behalf by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing (CPSP). The multi-jurisdictional exercise's focal point will be a simulated search and rescue deployment within Saskatchewan, with SARSAV volunteers taking a lead role in the execution of the training scenario. Over 100 ground personnel, numerous water and land vehicles, and two CASARA (Civil Air Search and Rescue Association) aircraft are expected to participate.

Please direct any questions that you may have to me, and I will do my best to address them.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to seeing you at the exercise.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Jody Herperger
Multi-Jurisdictional SAR Exercise Coordinator

Appendix 2. Logistics

Accommodations

Rooms reservations required at the Kenosee Inn Resort Hotel (577-2099, Fax 577-2465). Occupant names to be confirmed by September 13th.

Room #	Name	For Night of September 19 th	For Night of September 20 th
1	Carle Friske, CPSP	√	√
2	Yvette Wright, CPSP	√	√
3	Jody Herperger, SARSAV	√	√
4	Scott Wright, SARSAV	√	√
5	Sgt. Carole Raymond, RCMP	√	√
6	Anne-Marie Pelletier, NSS Director	√	√
7	Cpl. Greg Groff, RCMP	√	√
8	Jocelyn Bishoff, RCMP	√	√
9	Al Laughlin, RCMP	√	√
10	Darrel Treppel, CPSP	√	√

Meals on day of Exercise

Convention Centre at the Kenosee Inn Resort Hotel is booked for September 20th. Supper will be a group BBQ. Numbers need to be confirmed by September 15th.

Lunch on September 20th will be arranged as a bagged field lunch. Numbers were confirmed on September 15th.

Members of the steering committee will coordinate during the day of the exercise with the Honourable Darryl Hickie and other dignitaries to arrange suitable lunch accommodations.

CASARA will plan on getting lunch at the Skyline Motor Inn restaurant near the Carlyle airport.

Appendix 3. Participant Safety Briefing Sheet

This information sheet is being provided to all participants in the exercise to help improve the level of safety. Be sure you are clear on the procedures below, and ask your team leader, search manager, or incident commander for any clarifications you require prior to leaving the command post.

Handling of Emergencies

- Any real-world medical emergency, injury, or other emergency must be relayed to the Incident Commander (available via your communications procedures as established before you went into the field). The Incident Commander will confer with the steering committee which will decide upon an appropriate response to the emergency and also decide if the event is serious enough to call a halt to the exercise.
- When communicating a real-world emergency, injury, etc., to the Incident Commander, **be sure to use the words “real-world”**. The scenario has the possibility of participants being requested to participate in “simulated” emergencies as part of the scenario, and it is very important to differentiate these planned scenario activities from any unintended emergencies that may occur during the exercise.
- If the steering committee should call an end to the exercise, they will advise the Incident Command to place a call to all teams, with the code phrase “**All stations – all stations – zulu – zulu - zulu – The exercise has now been terminated.**” Following that call, any special instructions will be disseminated regarding emergency response or demobilization. All participants (especially team leaders) will be briefed on this code phrase prior to deployment to the field.
- If regular radio communications fail, the following cellular telephone numbers may be used for emergency contact to the steering committee:

<i>Org.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Cell #</i>
CPSP	Yvette Wright	<sanitized>
SARSAV	Jody Herperger	<sanitized>
	Scott Wright	<sanitized>

Appendix 4. CASARA NOCAL Codes

The following radio communication codes are derived from CASARA Form #108. They are used to provide simple encryption against casual eavesdropping on air-to-ground communications. They are allowed to be used in the exercise (despite not being plain-language compliant as required by the ICS management system). However, as they are a standard practice for CASARA, they are being authorized for use in the exercise.

Code Prefix	Code Suffix	Description
Alpha	Affirmative	Positive identification that the object sighted is the search subject.
	Negative	Unable to positively determine that the object sighted is the search object
Bravo		8 or 9 digit group denoting position without North or West being used.
Charlie	Negative	When no survivors or casualties can be seen.
	<Any Number>	To indicate number of survivors or casualties actually seen.
	Undetermined	When the status of the survivors or casualties cannot be determined.
	Red	*Immediate treatment and evacuation (PRIORITY ONE)
	Yellow	*Early treatment and evacuation (PRIORITY TWO)
	Green	*Routine treatment and evacuation (PRIORITY THREE)
	Blue	*Deferred treatment and evacuation (PRIORITY FOUR)
	White	*Uninjured
	Grey	*Missing
	Black	*Dead
Delta	One	Side of hill, plus indicate north, south, east, or west slope
	Two	In valley, plus indicate north, south, east, or west side of floor
	Three	In level country
	Four	Heavily wooded area (can be used with one, two, or three)
	Five – Alpha	In water, near shore.
	Five – Bravo	In water, well offshore.
Echo	One	Request authority to deploy SAR Techs (N/A to CASARA)
	Two	A helicopter will be required.
	Three	A ground party could reach the location in good time.
	Four	A rescue boat will be required.
	Five	A coroner will be required (N/A to CASARA)
Foxtrot	<Remarks>	Free-form detailed description, keeping in mind the transmission is not secure.

Appendix 5. Pre-Exercise Task List

Tasks in White: No risk as of publishing date

Tasks in Green: Complete

Tasks in Yellow: Due

Tasks in Red: Overdue

Task Description		Assigned to?	Task Completed
1	Identify Park Manager contact for overhead team	Ken Snell	August 20
2	Send out media release by August 29 th (Appendix 1 to be sent out by RCMP Media Relations)	Greg Groff	September 9
3	Mail invitations to observer groups by July 20 th	Jody Herperger	July 7
4	Notify SARSAV members of exercise dates and location - by July 8 th	Jody Herperger	June 28
5	Send update to SARSAV members regarding exercise time and location, and the need to bring GPS interface cables by Sept. 10 th	Jody Herperger	September 3
6	Arrange for Kenosee accommodations - 10 berths for September 19 th	Ken Snell	August 20
7	Arrange for Kenosee group meals September 20 th	Ken Snell	August 20
8	Arrange for banquet facility evening of Sept. 20 th	Ken Snell	August 20
9	Notify local RCMP detachment Commander of exercise and duties for detachment personnel	Greg Groff	August 8
10	Arrange for radio migration project engineer to participate as observer on exercise	Ken Snell	August 20
11	Verify 100 octane low lead (100LL avgas) available at Carlyle airport	Jody Herperger	July 26
12	Arrange for boat to be used “in-scenario” for LKP	Gordon Locke	August 28
13	Arrange for onsite EMS coverage for Sept. 20 th	Jody Herperger	August 28
14	Arrange for 6 volunteers (3 victims / 3 shadows)	Scott Wright	September 17

15	Arrange for Carlyle ground vehicle for September 6 th CASARA scouting mission	Jody Herperger	August 11
16	Schedule aircraft and pilot for September 6 th scouting mission to Kenosee area	Frank Schuurmans	June 23
17	Provide schedule/itinerary for the exercise to Minister Hickie's office for September 8 th	Jody Herperger	August 28
18	Clarify Worker's Compensation status for volunteers	Scott Wright	September 9
19	Arrange for CASARA to evaluate SERM's FLIR equipment (Mike Frazer)	Carl Friske	August 20
20	Arrange for onsite media liaison / PR person	Greg Groff	August 8
21	Obtain signage for public notice in exercise area	Jody Herperger	August 22
22	Devise security-conscious radio communications plan for CASARA aircraft to ARES radio operator	Terry White & Frank Schuurmans	August 26
23	Document CASARA "callout" objectives	Jody Herperger	August 16
24	Document local EMS "callout" objectives	Jody Herperger	August 28
25	Document ARES "callout" objectives	Terry White	August 10
26	Identify ARES resources for exercise (as Terry is disqualified from being a participant due to being on the exercise steering committee)	Terry White	August 10
27	Confirm with White Bear First Nations (Chief Brian Standing-ready) how many volunteers would be coming out to the exercise	Jody Herperger	September 16
28	Provide final room count to Kenosee Inn Resort Hotel by September 13 th	Jody Herperger	September 12
29	Provide final meal count for lunch and supper on September 20 th to Kenosee Inn Resort Hotel by September 15 th . Lunch will be bagged (for the field).	Jody Herperger	September 15
30	Ensure Participant's Guide is distributed to all participants by September 13 th	Jody Herperger	September 12
31	Provide printed copies of MJE Planning Guide to steering committee members the day of the exercise.	Jody Herperger	September 17
32	Provide bottled water for participants.	Jody Herperger	September 12

Appendix 6. SARSaV Expense Form

[illegible]

Appendix 7. Scenario Modifier Envelopes

Scenario Modifier #1

Congratulations! You have been chosen randomly to assist with this SAR Exercise! This is a “scenario modifier” and will help test the ability of the Incident Command team to deal with the real-life twists and turns of a field search. The Steering Committee thanks you for your invaluable assistance!

Important: if asked by the Incident Commander or any other person as to whether your situation is real-world or part of the exercise simulation – be SURE to say this is a “scenario modifier that is part of the exercise simulation”. This is important as a real-world emergency may incur extraordinary costs and resource allocations that would interfere with the completion of this training exercise.

Your scenario:

You have just received a cell phone call that a close relative has been involved in a serious accident. You will need to leave the exercise immediately and drive back to your home town/city to be with them.

Your actions:

You will need to notify your team leader / Incident Commander immediately of this situation and also of your requirement to leave. Do this now.

The Goals of this Modifier:

The objective of this scenario modifier is to demonstrate that the Incident Command team has a means to deal with this important situation. Transportation must be arranged for you to your destination, and any required carpooling arrangements must be worked out (i.e. for any people that travelled to the exercise with you, they obviously will require a different arrangement for their ride home now).

Completion of this Modifier:

This scenario modifier may be considered successfully completed when:

- You show a member of the steering committee the vehicle keys you will be using to travel home,
- AND demonstrate that there is a DOCUMENTED plan for all other people (if any) travelling with you to have a means to return home after the exercise.

Witnessed by steering committee member (signature): _____

This form, as well as the documented transport plan, is to be retained by the steering committee member for inclusion in the post-exercise report.

Scenario Modifier #2

Congratulations! You have been chosen randomly to assist with this SAR Exercise! This is a “scenario modifier” and will help test the ability of the Incident Command team to deal with the real-life twists and turns of a field search. The Steering Committee thanks you for your invaluable assistance!

Important: if asked by the Incident Commander or any other person as to whether your situation is real-world or part of the exercise simulation – be SURE to say this is a “scenario modifier that is part of the exercise simulation”. This is important as a real-world emergency may incur extraordinary costs and resource allocations that would interfere with the completion of this training exercise.

Your scenario:

You have just tripped and twisted your left ankle. During your fall, you suffered lacerations to your forehead and are dripping blood. There is a risk of concussion. You are conscious and alert, but unable to walk without assistance – and then only with severe pain. Your forehead wound is bleeding profusely. It stops bleeding under direct pressure, but will require sutures. You will not be able to continue your search duties.

Your actions:

Sit down on the ground now. You will not be able to use your left foot without severe pain for 60 minutes, and after that you will still experience discomfort. During the first 60 minutes, you can walk with assistance from another person, but not on your own. You are in obvious pain and the best option is for you not to walk at all. You will hold your hand against your forehead wound to contain the bleeding until bandages are applied. First aid should be applied from your team mates. No hypothetical first aid – only use what your team mates have on hand. Consumable first aid supplies do NOT have to be opened from their packages, but you must remain in possession of the items until the end of this scenario. Once you have them, you may remove your hand from your forehead.

The Goals of this Modifier:

The objective of this scenario modifier is to demonstrate that the Incident Command team has a viable plan to deal with an injured searcher in the field. It also gives the EMS team a chance to demonstrate their abilities in this situation to extricate the casualty and assess their condition.

Completion of this Modifier:

This scenario modifier may be considered successfully completed when:

- You arrive at the command post
- Receive a written medical assessment and treatment recommendation from the EMS team

Witnessed by steering committee member (signature): _____

The EMS assessment and treatment documentation are to be retained by the steering committee member for inclusion in the post-exercise report.

Appendix 8. Acknowledgments

These organizations contributed greatly to the success of the SAR multi-jurisdictional exercise:

Carlyle Fire Department
Kenosee Lake Fire Department
SERM – Moose Mountain Provincial Park
Kenosee Inn Resort Hotel
Town of Carlyle
Carlyle Flying Club