



2.12 ANNEX

Created: 2020 May 30
Revised: 2024 April 30

2.12 ANNEX Revision History

Rev	Section	Description of Change	Effective Date
0	Initial Release		May 30, 2020
1	Wilderness Canine Capability	Stand alone Wilderness Canine capability has been removed. Wilderness Canine capability has been added to the GSAR capability as an option.	April 30, 2024
2	Tracking Capability	Tracking has been removed from the Tracking capability and added to the GSAR capability as an option.	April 30, 2024
3	Avalanche Canine Capability	Avalanche Search Canine has been added to the Winter Response capability as an option.	April 30, 2024

Capability	Description	Capability Level	Capability Level Definition	Operational Requirements of Note
Ground Search and Rescue	A group of registered Public Safety Lifeline Volunteers (PSLVs) located in a community who may undertake Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR) activities as defined in EMCR Policy 2.12 Search and Rescue under a Task Number when requested by an authorized Requesting Agency.	Ground SAR 1	At least 6 members with: -EMRG-1700 Ground Search and Rescue training -Incident Command System (ICS) level 100 training -EMCR Swiftwater/Flood Awareness training -Current certification of a 7 hour or higher first aid course -At least 1 Ground Search Team Leader	P.O.G 1.11 First Aid P.O.G. 2.04 Helicopter Operations Policy 2.11 SAR Helicopter Usage P.O.G 3.01 Ground Search and Rescue P.O.G. 3.02 Wildland Rope Rescue



2.12 ANNEX

Created: 2020 May 30

Revised: 2024 April 30

			<p>RECOMMENDED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Helicopter Operations Training Program (HOTP) Level 1 – Awareness - Track Aware as recognized by the BC Tracking Association - Rope Rescue Aware EMRG-1735 <p>OPTIONAL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tracker or Advanced Tracker as recognized by the BC Tracking Association - Civilian Search Dog and handler validated by the RCMP in either a wilderness search and/or tracking profile and with membership with the BC Search Dog Association 	<p>P.O.G 3.03 Swiftwater P.O.G. 3.12 Canine Search and Rescue</p>
		Ground SAR 2	<p>As per Level 1 GSAR above, EXCEPT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Able to effect searches - At least 8 GSAR members - At least 2 GSTL - At least 1 SAR Manager, Level 1 or higher 	As above



2.12 ANNEX

Created: 2020 May 30

Revised: 2024 April 30

		Ground SAR 3	As per Level 2 GSAR above EXCEPT: -At least 12 GSAR members -At least 3 GSTL -At least 2 SAR Managers, Level 1 or higher PLUS: -At least one capability as defined in the following designations.	As above
Comments	<p>A Ground SAR Group 1 without a SAR Manager may respond in a limited capacity under a qualified responding SAR Manager.</p> <p>GSAR Groups may engage in activities related to the capabilities listed below with approval from EMCR; initial approval to gain the capability requires completion of a needs analysis and written support from Requesting Agencies. To apply for approval, contact the appropriate EMCR Regional Office. Conditional approval may be provided to allow GSAR Groups to participate in training in the proposed capability, with full approval granted when the minimum requirements listed below are achieved. The appropriate EMCR office is to be contacted should the GSAR Group not be able to meet the requirements listed for the approved capability; conditional approval with timelines to meet the minimum requirements may be granted. Note: <i>two or more adjoining GSAR Groups may seek EMCR approval to form a 'Regional Speciality Team', pursuant to the Procedure 2.12 provisions. In accordance with Section 2.12.5, GSAR Groups will only engage in activities related to a capability they are trained and equipped in, or in training under supervision of an approved trainer.</i></p>			



2.12 ANNEX

Created: 2020 May 30
Revised: 2024 April 30

Capability	Description	Capability Level	Capability Level Definition	Operational Requirements of Note
Helicopter Hover Exit	A GSAR Group with members trained to safely exit/enter a helicopter while it is in the hover mode above the ground	Helicopter Hover Exit 1	A GSAR Group with: - at least 4 members trained in EMCR Level 2 Helicopter Operations Training Program - Heli-Hover Exit and Entry	P.O.G. #2.04 Helicopter Operations
Comments				

Capability	Description	Capability Level	Capability Level Definition	Operational Requirements of Note
Rope Rescue	A GSAR Group with members trained in specialized techniques including use of ropes and associated apparatus to provide safe access to and/or transport of trapped or injured persons, or to allow safe top-down access to challenging terrain during a search.	Rope Rescue 1	A GSAR group with: - at least 8 members trained and equipped at the Rope Rescue Technician 1 level, - at least 1 member trained at Rope Rescue Team Leader (RRTL) or RRTL with Transition Course (equivalent to limited scope of practice as RRTL)	P.O.G. #3.02 & 3.02a Rope Rescue Training Manual
		Rope Rescue 2	As above PLUS:	As above



2.12 ANNEX

Created: 2020 May 30

Revised: 2024 April 30

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - at least 2 members trained at Rope Rescue Technician 2 Fundamentals level or higher. - at least 2 additional members trained at Rope Rescue Team Leader level 	
Comments	Rope Rescue Aware EMRG-1735 is a prerequisite for RRT1 and RRT2 Rope Rescue Team Member with Transition Course (equivalent to limited scope of practice as RRT2).			

Capability	Description	Capability Level	Capability Level Definition	Operational Requirements of Note
Mountain Rescue	A GSAR Group with members trained in the skills of Mountain Rescue as defined in the EMCR/JIBC Mountain Rescue course manual.	Mountain Rescue 1	A GSAR group with: - at least 3 members trained to a Mountain Rescue 1 standard	P.O.G #3.06 Mountain Rescue
		Mountain Rescue 2	As above PLUS: - a GSAR group with at least 3 members trained to a Mountain Rescue 2 standard	As above
		Mountain Rescue 3	As above PLUS: - a GSAR group with at least 3 members trained to a Mountain Rescue 3 standard	As above
Comments	Mountain Rescue 3 standards are still to be determined.			



2.12 ANNEX

Created: 2020 May 30

Revised: 2024 April 30

Capability	Description	Capability Level	Capability Level Definition	Operational Requirements of Note
Class 'D' Helicopter Rescue	A GSAR Group with members trained in the use of Helicopter Class D External Load or Helicopter Hoist/Winch Rescue system and a current EMCR approved MOU with a Transport Canada certified aviation provider.	Helicopter Class D External Load 1	A GSAR Group with: - at least 4 members trained in EMCR Level 3 Helicopter Operations Training Program - Class 'D' Rescue Technician	As above Policy 2.10 Class 'D' Helicopter Rescue P.O.G. #3.09 Class 'D' Fixed Line
		Helicopter Hoist/Winch Rescue 1	A GSAR Group with: - at least 4 members trained in Helicopter Hoist/Winch Rescue Operations	As above
Comments				

Capability	Description	Capability Level	Capability Level Definition	Operational Requirements of Note
Helicopter Night Vision	A GSAR Group with members trained in the use of Night Vision Imaging Systems (NVIS, NVG, FLIR, etc.) and a current EMCR approved MOU with a Transport Canada certified aviation provider.	Helicopter Night Operations 1	A GSAR Group with: - at least 4 members trained in the use of Night Vision Imaging Systems as well as training in searching from the air, reconnaissance, and EMCR Level 2 Helicopter Operations Training Program - Heli-Hover Exit and Entry.	P.O.G. #2.04 Helicopter Operations P.O.G. 2.13 Night Vision Imaging Systems



2.12 ANNEX

Created: 2020 May 30

Revised: 2024 April 30

Comments Helicopter Night Vision Policy is currently in a Pilot phase

Capability	Description	Capability Level	Capability Level Definition	Operational Requirements of Note
Winter Response	A GSAR Group with trained members equipped to respond in the winter mountain environment.	Winter Response 1	A GSAR Group with: - at least 6 members trained to at least an Introductory* level and equipped to travel through Avalanche terrain under supervision of a leader trained to EMCR Policy.	EMCR Policy 2.08 Avalanche Search and Rescue P.O.G. #3.08 Avalanche Response
		Winter Response 2	A GSAR Group with: - at least 4 members trained and equipped at the Organized Avalanche Response (OAR) Team Member level and - at least 1 member trained to the OAR Team Leader level OPTIONAL: - Civilian Search Dog and handler validated by the RCMP in an avalanche search profile and with membership with the Canadian Avalanche Rescue Dog Association.	As above



2.12 ANNEX

Created: 2020 May 30

Revised: 2024 April 30

Comments	These are additional requirements within the referenced policy and POG that must be met for response. <i>*As defined in the PSLV Avalanche Safety Plan</i>
-----------------	---

Capability	Description	Capability Level	Capability Level Definition	Operational Requirements of Note
Swiftwater Rescue	A GSAR Group with trained members equipped to respond to incidents in and around the swiftwater environment.	Swiftwater 1	A GSAR Group with: - at least 6 members trained and equipped at the B.C. Swiftwater Rescue Operations Level.	P.O.G. #3.03 Swiftwater Rescue
		Swiftwater 2	A GSAR Group with: - at least 6 members trained and equipped at the B.C. Swiftwater Rescue Technician Level.	As above
		Swiftwater 3	Swiftwater 2 PLUS: - at least 2 members trained and equipped at the B.C. Swiftwater Rescue Advanced Technician Level.	As above
Comments	SRTL = Swiftwater Advanced Technician with Leadership training or evaluation. Swiftwater Awareness is required by all GSAR Volunteers unless they hold a current higher level of training.			



2.12 ANNEX

Created: 2020 May 30

Revised: 2024 April 30

Capability	Description	Capability Level	Capability Level Definition	Operational Requirements of Note
Flat Ice Rescue	A GSAR Group with members trained and equipped to respond to flat ice related emergencies.	Flat Ice rescue 1	A GSAR Group with: - at least 6 members trained and equipped in Flat Ice rescue	P.O.G. #3.04 Flat Ice Rescue
Comments	<p>Flat ice on moving water: - In 2017 the <i>Ontario Coroner recommended placing in abeyance all training exercises for ice/cold water rescue in location where any current is deemed to be "swift" and thereby presents an increased level of risk unless and until a committee of subject matter experts feels that the available equipment, techniques, locations and standards are such that the training can be conducted in a manner that minimizes risk to a level deemed safe for training.</i></p> <p>Flat ice includes both Ice on large still bodies of water (lakes, ponds, reservoirs, etc.) as well as ice on large slow-moving water (<.5M/sec).</p>			

Capability	Description	Capability Level	Capability Level Definition	Operational Requirements of Note
Flatwater Search and Rescue	A GSAR Group with trained members equipped to respond to flatwater search and rescue operations.	Flatwater 1	Equipment may include: - canoes, kayaks, rafts, paddleboards Training includes: - use of Personal Protection Equipment such as Personal Flotation Devices (PFD)	P.O.G #2.05 Watercraft Operations



2.12 ANNEX

Created: 2020 May 30

Revised: 2024 April 30

			use of flares and other distress signalling devices	
		Flatwater 2	<p>Equipment may include powered vessels not more than 8 metres in length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ships, boats, barges, hovercraft, amphibious vehicles, catamarans, personal watercraft (e.g. Jet-Skis) <p>Training includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pleasure Craft Operator's Certificate (PCOC) - Proper procedures or safe vessel operation - Orientation on procedures in response to emergencies that may arise, such as fires on board and - Frequency/channel selection and emergency communication protocols for radio equipment on board 	<p>P.O.G #2.05 Watercraft Operations</p> <p>Transport Canada Small Vessel Compliance Program TP 15111E</p>
		Flatwater 3	<p>Equipment may include powered vessels greater than 8 metres in length:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ships, boats, barges, hovercraft, amphibious vehicles, catamarans <p>Training includes as above PLUS:</p>	As above



2.12 ANNEX

Created: 2020 May 30
Revised: 2024 April 30

			- Small Vessel Operator Proficiency (SVOP) training	
Comments	Flatwater is defined as non-moving water including lakes and ponds, or very slow-moving water (< 0.5 M/sec).			

Capability	Description	Capability Level	Capability Level Definition	Operational Requirements of Note
LUSAR	<p>Local Government volunteers who may be trained and organized to perform a variety of tasks such as light urban search and rescue, damage evaluation of structures, evacuation, communications, shelter, and first aid during and following a natural disaster. Not recognized as a GSAR Group activity although members of a GSAR Group may participate on a LUSAR team.</p> <p>When deployed operationally, they receive WCB and liability coverage only.</p>	Light Urban Search and Rescue	As defined by the local government authority	<p>P.O.G. #3.11 Civil Emergency</p> <p>EMCR Policy 2.12 SAR (Eligible activities)</p> <p>Canadian Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) classification guide</p>
Comments	LUSAR is NOT an EMCR recognized GSAR activity. GSAR groups participating in LUSAR activities are not covered by EMCR WorkSafe and Liability but should seek coverage under Local Government.			