GSAR Qualifications Matrix
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Ground Search and Rescue
Qualifications Matrix
Revision History

Rev	Section	Description of Change	Effective Date
0	Initial release of document		February 2023
1	Rope Rescue	Updated list of recognized Wildland Rope Rescue Training Providers	May 2023
2	Flat Ice Rescue	Updated training providers	May 2024
2	Leadership	Updated GSTL to new GSARTL	May 2024
2	Core Training	Updated Wilderness Canine	May 2024
2	Core Training	Updated Tracker reference in Track Aware	May 2024
2	Winter Response	Updated Avalanche Canine	May 2024
2	All Sections	Updated content to address Accessibility Act requirements	May 2024

EMCR GSAR Qualifications Matrix - Read Me

This document is locked for editing by anyone other than EMCR SAR Unit staff.

All links imbedded in this document will take you directly to the corresponding page of relevant information - if any link is broken or misdirects you, please email EMBC.SAR@gov.bc.ca so that changes can be made quickly.

Purpose:
- **This Qualification Matrix identifies EMCR recognized training required for recognized capabilities in SAR in BC**
- The GSAR Qualifications Matrix has been developed to provide direction to all GSAR Volunteers, regardless of your length of service, and Training Officers in their training plans and development of GSAR Skills
- EMCR expects that all GSAR Groups will utilize this matrix to plan and execute training for the skills they wish to achieve, or work towards within the recognized capabilities of their Groups. GSAR Groups may exceed the training described, where applicable.
- Pre-Requisites - in some cases you will note that EMCR has listed a pre-requisite as being the GSAR Program (formerly known as the EMRG 1700, plus ICS 100), this may not reflect the provider's requirement. The intent is that **EMCR strongly recommends** completion of the GSAR Program prior to undertaking that training. We recognize some volunteers may have this training prior to joining GSAR.

Document Lifecycle:
- This is intended to be a living document. Training Standards are not static and are expected to change. Updates will be required, and dates within the document will assist you in knowing how recent the document or section is.
- I.e. Wildland Rope Rescue POG is released on January 18, 2022, and the links on that tab are dated February 24, 2022 - this indicates the POG updates have been incorporated into the update.
- It is **strongly recommended not** to print this document, but rather to bookmark it to ensure you always have the most up to date information when reviewing.

Training Cost Responsibility:
- Training Cost Responsibility has been identified for courses, where indicated as EMCR, this indicates that the training provider (i.e. JIBC) invoices EMCR for those courses. Where GSAR Groups are indicated as responsible for training costs, please remember this is a GSAR Group level decision as to whether your group will reimburse you. EMCR does not require training costs to be reimbursed and leaves those decisions to the discretion of the Group.
- Some specialty or professional development courses will indicate GSAR volunteer. This identification of individual expenses does not overrule any GSAR Group decisions to reimburse their members for training costs, at their discretion.

Document Locations:
- EMCR Website
- D4H – will be a link to EMCR Website
- BCSARA Members Page – will be a link to EMCR Website

Important to note:
- You will see some training marked as mandatory, and others as recommendations. To assist with ease, mandatory will be indicated in text with **red bold font**, and recommended will be indicated in font with **black bold underlined font.**

Feedback:

- EMCR welcomes all feedback on the content contained, or readability, in this Qualifications Matrix.
- Because training can be dynamic due to updates to courses, pre-requisites (academic and operational) please share your thoughts with:
- EMCR SAR Training EMBC.SAR@gov.bc.ca

This document was developed with consultation of the following:

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Reviewed for nomenclature and readability:

BCSARA Board
BC SAR Joint Training Committee

CORE GSAR Training

Skill	Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle *(if applicable)*	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
Ground Search and Rescue Program *Formerly EMRG-1700*	EMRG-1703 Introduction to Search and Rescue in British Columbia	• Wise Practices indicate this should be the 1st course in the GSAR Program a new MiT takes prior to the GSAR Group training. • This enrolls the MiT into the JIBC records system also, and is a great foundational start for all new GSAR Volunteers	Course provides a valuable overview of the GSAR model used in BC, and the roles and responsibilities of each component in GSAR structure. This course complements the Ground Search and Rescue volunteer training modules currently provided through the JIBC, and includes examples of typical GSAR responses. JIBC - EMRG 1703 - Introduction to Search and Rescue in British Columbia	• Successful completion of course exam, with a passing grade.	none	JIBC: e-Learning Register here	Course: EMCR Travel: N/A
	EMRG-1200 Incident Command System Level 100 (ICS 100)	Enrollment into GSAR Program is required to have costs captured by EMCR.	Introduction to the Incident Command System, introduces the Incident Command System (ICS) and provides the foundation for higher level ICS training. This course describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System.	• Successful completion of the course with a passing grade.	none	JIBC: Correspondence Textbook provided, mail test to JIBC for marking	Course: EMCR (when included as part of GSAR Program) Costs are not captured if previously obtained. Travel: N/A
	EMRG-1701 GSAR Volunteer Orientation and Safety Guidelines	Enrollment into GSAR Program is required to have costs paid by EMCR.	• What it means to be a GSAR Volunteer • Types of activities you may be engaged in • Safety and worker care provisions • Supports that may be available to you as a volunteer • Intro to provincial GSAR Safety Program and SAR Provincial Operating Guidelines as primary resources for safety measures required in the performance of specific GSAR activities • Learn how to assess your response readiness • Learn how to maintain a 24-hr ready pack JIBC - EMRG 1701 - GSAR Volunteer Orientation Safety Guidelines	• Successful completion of course exam and practical evaluation(s), with a passing grade.	none	JIBC: In-Class training delivered by GSAR Groups	Course: EMCR Travel: N/A
	EMRG-1702 Introduction to Search Management	EMRG 1701	• Learn the structure and components of a GSAR response, from pre-plan to incident review • Learn BCEMS as it relates to GSAR • Necessary planning activities, key strategies & tactics used by SAR Management before & during a search • Overview of roles & responsibilities in technical rescue operations • Gain knowledge & basic skills required to communicate with a two-way radio used in GSAR response • Develop awareness of other forms of communication used in the field, including alerting devices JIBC - EMRG 1702 - Introduction to Search Management	• Successful completion of EMRG 1701 - GSAR Volunteer Orientation & Safety Guidelines, • Successful completion of course exam and practical evaluation(s), with a passing grade.	none	JIBC: In-Class training delivered by GSAR Groups	Course: EMCR Travel: N/A
	EMRG-1704 GSAR Skills	EMRG - 1702	• Learn search techniques used for wilderness GSAR operations • Procedures for conducting urban searches & evidence searches • How to assist the first aid attendant in stabilizing and securing the subject for transport • How to maneuver a stretcher over rough terrain • How to use basic rope assist techniques to move stretcher over gentle slopes • Basic ties used in GSAR applications, also care and maintenance of ropes and associated equipment • Gain awareness of how to protect clues • Work with tracking teams & other resources used in GSAR responses JIBC - EMRG 1704 - Ground Search and Rescue Skills	• Successful completion of EMRG 1701 - GSAR Volunteer Orientation & Safety Guidelines, • Successful completion of course exam, with a passing grade, • Successful completion of practical evaluation(s).	none	JIBC: In-Class training delivered by GSAR Groups	Course: EMCR Travel: N/A
	EMRG-1705 Navigation Skills	EMRG - 1704	• Navigate with confidence using the traditional, but essential, map & compass • Basics of GPS navigation JIBC - EMRG-1705 - Navigation Skills	• Successful completion of EMRG 1701 - GSAR Volunteer Orientation & Safety Guidelines, • Successful completion of course exam, with a passing grade, • Successful completion of practical evaluation(s).	none	JIBC: In-Class training delivered by GSAR Groups	Course: EMCR Travel: N/A

CORE GSAR Training

Skill	Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle (if applicable)	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
Ground Search and Rescue Program **Formerly EMRG-1700** **continued**	EMRG-1706 Wilderness Survival for GSAR	EMRG - 1705	• Fundamental survival skills necessary for GSAR volunteers working in a wilderness environment • Hands on experience: ◦ fire starting ◦ signaling techniques ◦ shelter building techniques, using resources found in the wilderness • Psychology of survival • Wildlife and botanical threat awareness • Food & water collection • Waste disposal • Overnight component provides opportunity for students to practice & experience wilderness survival scenario JIBC - EMRG-1706 - Wilderness Survival Ground Search and Rescue	• Successful completion of EMRG 1701 - GSAR Volunteer Orientation & Safety Guidelines, • Successful completion of course exam, with a passing grade, • Successful completion of overnight practical evaluation. • Final GSAR Certificate to be printed or received via mail for your training records and a copy to be supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	JIBC: In-Class training delivered by GSAR Groups	Course: EMCR Travel: N/A
First Aid	• Minimum 7 hour First Aid Course **Mandatory minimum for all GSAR Members**	none	SAR POG 1.11 First Aid • Identification of & performing appropriate interventions for minor soft tissue injuries, including the need for medical referral, providing follow-up care & be able to accurately complete the First Aid Record • Identification & management of respiratory & circulatory critical interventions for responsive & non responsive patients • Identification & management of bleeding critical interventions & describe how to identify & manage various medical emergencies	• Certificate as provided by Provider. • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	As per certificate expiry Renewed before expiry, or scheduled to renew within 6 months of expiry.	Local Provider in Community	Course: GSAR Volunteer/ Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/ Group Note: 7hr First Aid funding included in annual BCSARA disbursements
Swiftwater Awareness	Swiftwater Awareness Online Training **Mandatory minimum for all GSAR Members**	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	SAR POG 3.03 Swiftwater	• Successful completion of Swiftwater Awareness Online Training. • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	Recurrency Cycle: 3 years as per POG 3.03 Retain certificate from provider for 3 years from date of course completion	Rescue Canada • Registration Information and Agency Keys provided annually by EMCR Regional Offices, please contact your EMCR Regional Office for details.	Course: EMCR Travel: N/A Online
Rope Rescue Awareness	EMRG 1735 - Search and Rescue Rope Rescue Awareness **Recommended for all GSAR Members**	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	SAR POG 3.02 Wildland Rope Rescue	• Successful completion of Rope Rescue Awareness Online Training. • Letter of Completion to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	JIBC Register here	Course: EMCR Travel: N/A Online
Helicopter Operations Training Program (HOTP) Level 1 - Awareness **This is required for all GSAR Members who will be using Helicopters.**	Level 1: Helicopter Operations Awareness (PowerPoint & Exam)	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	• Policy 2.11 Search and Rescue Helicopter Usage Mandatory Approvals and Certification Requirements • SAR POG 2.04 Helicopter Operations	• Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer • Knowledge Base: PowerPoint presentation for Level 1 is available to all GSAR Volunteers on the BCSARA Website as a PowerPoint presentation. This is intended to provide the pre-requisite knowledge for training of skills necessary for use of helicopters in GSAR Operations. It is recommended that the PowerPoint presentations are facilitated by, or in unison with each Team's air carrier or designated representative. **Members are advised against taking the course on their own without proper instruction** • Skills Competency: Level 1 requires proficiency in and around helicopters and as such these skills can only be taught under the direction of the air carrier in accordance with federal aviation legislation	Annual recertification, unless higher recurrent level of Helicopter Operations Training is obtained.	• Examination of Level 1 Knowledge Base will be the responsibility of the **GSAR Training Officer.** Exam questions will be available on the BCSARA website in a password protected format. • Certification of Skills Competency is an **Air Carrier** responsibility and successful trainees will be examined and results documented in accordance with each GSAR Groups Helicopter Operations Pre-Plan	Course: GSAR Group Travel: GSAR Group
Track Aware For all other Tracking training, please see the Tracking Page	Required: Member of GSAR Group Preferred: Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100) **Recommended for all GSAR Members**	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	• Full awareness of how tracking skills can be employed on GSAR tasks • Awareness of how this training makes a GSAR Volunteer a better and more effective searcher	• Successful completion of this level of training typically requires about 60 hours of training. • Will learn: history of tracking, concepts and applications of GSAR tracking. Identify clues, signs of passage, footprint cards, set up a tracking stick, direction of travel, follow a single line of sign in most weather conditions. • Certification is not solely based on the number of hours of tracker training achieved or the number of courses taken, it is based on the demonstrated performance during a course	none	BC Tracking Assn	Course: GSAR Volunteer/ Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/ Group
Canine Search Dog - Wilderness		Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	SAR POG 3.12 Canine Search and Rescue	• Permission from your GSAR Group • Successful completion of your GSAR Training • RCMP Validation • BCSDA Member • Active member of a GSAR Group	Annual Validation	• RCMP - Civilian Search Dog Team • Prior to obtaining validation recommend discussing with EMCR SAR Specialist.	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group

All links updated: May 14, 2024

Professional Development

Skill	Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
ICS 200	EMRG-1220 Incident Command System Level 200	Incident Command System Level 100	Basic ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents is designed to enable personnel to operate efficiently during an incident or event within the Incident Command System (ICS). ICS 200 provides training on and resources for personnel who are likely to assume a supervisory position within the ICS	• Successful completion of the course with a passing grade. • Certificate can be printed for your training records and supplied to your GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	JIBC Register Here	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group Note: ICS 200 is provided to SAR Management Level 1 participants at no cost
ICS 300	EMRG-1230 Incident Command System Level 300	Incident Command System Level 200	Intermediate ICS, ICS for Expanding Incidents, defines the unique qualities of ICS as an event or incident management system in an expanding situation. The course is designed to enable personnel to operate efficiently using the ICS in a supervisory roles on expanding incidents. The course units and lessons provide a review of ICS fundamentals, assessing incidents and setting objectives, Unified Command, Resource Management, the planning process, demobilization, transfer and termination of command of an incident.	• Successful completion of the course with a passing grade. • Certificate can be printed for your training records and supplied to your GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	JIBC Register Here	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
ICS 400	EMRG-1240 Incident Command System Level 400	Incident Command System Level 300	Advanced ICS is designed to enable personnel to operate efficiently in the advanced application of the Incident Command System. This course provides training for personnel who are expected to perform in a management capacity in a complex incident environment	• Successful completion of the course with a passing grade. • Certificate can be printed for your training records and supplied to your GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	JIBC Register Here	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
RADeMS	Introduction to RADeMS **Recommended for all GSAR Members**	Member of a GSAR Group	Course is designed to provide an overview of what the RADeMS is, how to access it and why, how and when it is used during operations and training exercises.	• Successful completion of the online course. • Certificate can be printed for your training records and supplied to your GSAR Group's Training Officer	• As per your GSAR Groups Training Plans AND/OR • When RADeMS updates or revisions are communicated	BCSARA Members Site - Courses	Course: BCSARA Travel: N/A Online
WHMIS	WHMIS for BCSARA Groups and Volunteers **Recommended for all GSAR Members** if not previously completed elsewhere	Member of a GSAR Group	Course is designed to provider BCSARA Groups and Volunteers with the information they need to know about hazardous products used as Search and Rescue Volunteers	• Successful completion of the online course. • Certificate can be printed for your training records and supplied to your GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	BCSARA Members Site - Courses	Course: BCSARA Travel: N/A Online

All links updated: March 30, 2024

First Aid

Skill	Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
First Aid All GSAR volunteers require minimum of a 7-hour First Aid course certification prior to completion of the Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR) Course and maintain at least that level of certification while a registered GSAR volunteer. Familiarize yourself with the requirements described in POG 1.11 for teams of 4 or more members, or when the number of responders outside the ICP is greater than 25, or when a response includes specialised rescue, or when transportation to Hospital or Primary Health Centre exceeds 20 minutes.	• Minimum 7 hour First Aid Course **Mandatory minimum for all GSAR Members**	none	SAR POG 1.11 First Aid • Identification of & performing appropriate interventions for minor soft tissue injuries, including the need for medical referral, providing follow-up care & be able to accurately complete the First Aid Record • Identification & management of respiratory & circulatory critical interventions for responsive & non responsive patients • Identification & management of bleeding critical interventions & describe how to identify & manage various medical emergencies	• Certificate as provided by Provider • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	As per certificate expiry Renewed before expiry, or scheduled to renew within 6 months of expiry.	Local Provider in Community	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group Note: 7hr First Aid funding included in annual BCSARA disbursements
	Advanced First Aid 70+ hours	none	SAR POG 1.11 First Aid Appendix C •List of minimum course competencies can be located in POG 1.11 Appendix C	• Certificate as provided by Provider • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	As per certificate expiry Renewed before expiry, or scheduled to renew within 6 months of expiry.	Local Provider in Community	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group

All links updated: March 30, 2024

Activity Specific Training Requirements

Activity	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
GSAR Program Instructor (MiT Training)	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	•Prepares individuals to deliver the Ground Search and Rescue Program training program at the team level throughout the Province. • Course includes GSAR course lesson plans, classroom management and provides an opportunity for the practical application of the skills learned. • A review of adult learning principles will help facilitate the instruction of the GSAR course using learner centered approaches that incorporate research on how adults learn best. • Provides access to JIBC's Instructor Portal which houses instructional aids and activities to assist GSAR Instructors with their training program.	• GSAR Program Certificate or successful completion of EMRG 1700, plus ICS 100 • Recommended participants have good communication and organization skills for classroom preparation and delivery • Successful completion of course EMRG 1790 GSAR Train the Trainer	none	JIBC Visit JIBC Website for SAR Training Schedule and Application Intakes based on deadlines identified in the schedule.	Course: EMCR Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) (Includes, ATV, UTV, Snowmobiles, Motorcycles & Tracked Vehicles)	GSAR Program preferred, however training may be obtained outside of GSAR membership	SAR POG 2.02 Off-Road Vehicle Operations ORV Competence may be gained through training, education or experience (or a combination thereof) for the specific ORV	• GSAR Groups and GSAR leaders and/or managers will ensure that GSAR Volunteers are competent in the use of, and provided with, appropriate protective equipment before participating in any activities involving the operation of, or transport by ORVs during training, response or practice • The GSAR group may develop a skills checklist that each authorized member would be evaluated against prior to operating any group ORVs.	None	3rd Party Training Course or GSAR Group	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Chainsaw	GSAR Program preferred, however training may be obtained outside of GSAR membership	SAR POG 2.06 Chainsaw Bucking Operations	Successful demonstration of the following competencies: • PPE Competency • Hand tools and Equipment • Chainsaw Safe Use Operations • Identify & Understand Safe Bucking Operations See SAR POG 2.06 Chainsaw Bucking Operations for **detailed breakdown of competencies required in each category listed above** Training in the use of the chainsaw will be provided before a GSAR Volunteer participates in any activity which may require use or operation	none	•A Recognized, commercially available training course for basic operation may be used, OR • GSAR Group may develop a skills checklist that each authorized member would be evaluated prior to operating any group chainsaws	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group

Activity Specific Training Requirements

Activity	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
Code 3 Driving	Must have permission from GSAR Group prior to obtaining. Valid Drivers License, and adequate insurance on GSAR owned Vehicle.	Policy 2.05 Red Flashing Lights and Siren Permits SAR POG 2.01 Vehicle Response Safety • Understanding legislative requirements and guidelines for operating emergency vehicle. • Demonstrate working knowledge of provisions of the Motor Vehicle Act, Regulations and departmental policy regarding emergency vehicle operation.	Motor Vehicle Act - Emergency Vehicle Driving Regulation **Driver's license and training course requirements** •Section 8 Commencing on a date specified by the Solicitor General, the privileges granted by section 122 (1) of the Motor Vehicle Act may not be exercised by a member of a group unless the member has successfully completed training approved for the group by the Director of Police Services in the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General for the purposes of this regulation. [am. B.C. Regs. 27/2013, Sch. 2, s. 2; 99/2018, Sch. 2, ss. 4 and 5.] As per MVA R.S.B.C 1996, including update May 18, 2018 •Equipment/Vehicle **must** also meet the standards of Policy 2.05, CVSE and ICBC	none	Contact CVSE for training options	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Traffic Control The information included on this topic, is for awareness only. This is to be led by the Requesting Agency or contact ECC to request provision to be provided. **It is expected that if a GSAR Group must perform "Temporary Emergency Traffic Control" it will be until appropriate resources arrive to take over Traffic Control.** The intent isn't to encourage training in Emergency Scene Traffic Control, however this doesn't preclude from using previously obtained training.		SAR POG 1.07 Traffic Control	**• Traffic Control is not a GSAR function** • It is recognized that in some responses, such as assistance to local governments and Police during evacuations or Rope Rescue beside roadway, GSAR volunteers may need to be involved • Roles & Responsibilities for traffic control during evacuations are outlined in the Civil Emergency POG 3.11 and the RCMP Evacuations Protocols Unit 1 – Legal Guidelines and Responsibilities Unit 2 – Scene Equipment Unit 3 – Setting Up the Scene Unit 4 – Directing Traffic Safety Unit 5 – Review and Exam Practical application in on-road situation	none	Commercially available training course for Emergency Scene Traffic Control	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Canine Search Dog - Avalanche	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	SAR POG 3.12 Canine Search and Rescue	• Permission from your GSAR Group • Successful completion of GSAR Training • RCMP Validation • CARDA Validation • Active Member of a Winter Response GSAR Group • 80 hour First Aid with CPR • CAA Level 1 for Ski Operations	Annual Validation	• RCMP - Civilian Search Dog Team • Prior to obtaining validation recommend discussing with EMCR SAR Specialist.	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Canine Search Dog - Wilderness	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	SAR POG 3.12 Canine Search and Rescue	• Permission from your GSAR Group • Successful completion of your GSAR Training • RCMP Validation • BCSDA Member • Active member of a GSAR Group	Annual Validation	• RCMP - Civilian Search Dog Team • Prior to obtaining validation recommend discussing with EMCR SAR Specialist.	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Mounted Search	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	SAR POG 3.13 Mounted Search and Rescue	• Successful completion of GSAR Training, • Must be able to adequately demonstrate all listed competencies within POG 3.13 within the validation process and certification process	Every 2 years	Prior to obtaining validation or certification, recommend discussing with EMCR SAR Specialist.	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group

All links updated: March 30, 2024

Swiftwater Training

SAR POG 3.03 Swiftwater Rescue

Qualification Level	Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements and Maintenance for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
Swiftwater Awareness	Swiftwater Awareness Online Training **Mandatory minimum for all GSAR Members**	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	SAR POG 3.03a Swiftwater	• Successful completion of Swiftwater Awareness Online Training • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	Recurrency Cycle: 3 years as per POG 3.03 Retain certificate from provider for 3 years from date of course completion	Rescue Canada • Registration Information and Agency Keys provided annually by EMCR Regional Offices, please contact your EMCR Regional Office for details.	Course: EMCR Travel: N/A Online
Swiftwater Operations	POG 3.03b Courses meeting Qualification Level Competencies	Swiftwater Awareness Online Course (must be current)	SAR POG 3.03a Swiftwater	• Successful completion of BC Swiftwater Rescue Operations Course • Practice 6 hours per year in Swiftwater Environment using BC Swiftwater Qualifications Competency Matrix (includes task hours, as well as 50% of the practice hours can be with approval of GSAR Group, training/practicing done for raft/kayak/fishing guiding within swiftwater environment) • Familiar with Hazard Identification/Risk Assessment/Safety Procedures • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	As per the expiry date of your certificate. (All certificates must have an expiry date)	• POG 3.03b Courses meeting Qualification Level Competencies • Dive Rescue International • Dynamic Rescue Systems • Raven Rescue • Rescue Canada	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Swiftwater Technician (SRT)	POG 3.03b Courses meeting Qualification Level Competencies	Swiftwater Awareness Online Course (must be current)	SAR POG 3.03a Swiftwater	• Successful completion of BC Swiftwater Rescue Technician • Practice at least 20 hours per year in the swiftwater environment, utilizing the skills outlined in the BC Swiftwater Course Competency Matrix (includes task hours, as well 50% of the practice hours can be, with approval of the GSAR Group, training/practicing done for raft/kayak/fishing guiding within the swiftwater environment) • Familiar with Hazard Identification/Risk Assessment/Safety Procedures • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	As per the expiry date of your certificate. (All certificates must have an expiry date)	• POG 3.03b Courses meeting Qualification Level Competencies • Dive Rescue International • Dynamic Rescue Systems • Raven Rescue • Rescue Canada	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Swiftwater Technician Advanced	POG 3.03b Courses meeting Qualification Level Competencies	Swiftwater Technician Course	SAR POG 3.03a Swiftwater	• Successful completion of BC Swiftwater Rescue Technician Advanced • Practice at least 20 hours per year in the swiftwater environment, utilizing the skills outlined in the BC Swiftwater Course Competency Matrix (includes task hours, as well 50% of the practice hours can be, with approval of the GSAR Group, training/practicing done for raft/kayak/fishing guiding within the swiftwater environment • BC Swiftwater Rescue Technician Advanced (must be current) • For Technician Advanced Teams conducting technical Rope Rescue in the swiftwater environment at least one member of the Technician Advanced team is a Rope Rescue Team Leader • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	As per the expiry date of your certificate. (All certificates must have an expiry date)	• POG 3.03b Courses meeting Qualification Level Competencies • Dive Rescue International • Dynamic Rescue Systems • Raven Rescue • Rescue Canada	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Swiftwater Rescue Team Leader (SRTL)	Not applicable	• Team leaders require Leadership Course if not provided in the Tech Advanced course, ideally GSTL or RRTL • Swiftwater Technician (SRT)	As per SAR POG Swiftwater 3.03 Recognized Courses Table Page 119	• Until a SRTL course is developed and available the responding Swiftwater Rescue team will appoint the team leader based on training, skill and experience. • Team Leader will, at minimum, be a SRT, ideally a Swiftwater Technician Advanced and preferably with leadership training such as GSTL or RRTL, or completion of a course at the Swiftwater Technician Advanced level which includes a leadership component.	As per the expiry date of your certificate. (All certificates must have an expiry date)		Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group

All links updated: March 30, 2024

Wildland Rope Rescue Training

Qualification Level	Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements and Maintenance for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
Rope Awareness	EMRG 1735 Rope Rescue Awareness **Recommended for all GSAR Members** Link for Registration and Course Description: EMRG 1735 - SAR Rope Rescue Awareness	Ground Search and Rescue Program *(Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)*	SAR POG 3.02a Wildland Rope Rescue	• Successful completion of Rope Rescue Awareness Online Training BC SAR Wildland Rope Rescue Competency Matrix • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	• Currently no recurrency cycle	JIBC	Course: EMCR Travel: N/A Online
Rope Rescue Technician 1 (RRT1)	EMCR Wildland Rope Rescue Technician 1 EMRG 1736 Wildland Rope Rescue Tech 1 POG 3.02B for All EMCR Wildland Courses and Recognized Providers	• EMRG 1735 Rope Rescue Awareness OR, • DCTTRS Transition Workshop	SAR POG 3.02a Wildland Rope Rescue	• Must be member of EMCR Recognized Rope Rescue Team • Successful completion of GSAR Rope Rescue Technician 1 Course as per the BC SAR Wildland Rope Rescue Competency Matrix • At least 20 hours of logged rope rescue practice or operations, in any year for all rope rescue team members and rope rescue team leaders • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	• Currently no recurrency cycle	POG 3.02b Courses meeting Qualification Level Competencies • JIBC • Ronin Safety and Rescue • Raven Rescue • Dynamic Rescue Systems • Island Alpine Guides • Basecamp Innovations Ltd.	JIBC Course: EMCR Other Providers: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Rope Rescue Technician 2 (RRT2F)	EMCR Wildland Rope Rescue Technician 2 Fundamentals EMRG 1738 - Wildland Rope Rescue Technician 2 Fundamentals POG 3.02B for All EMCR Wildland Courses and Recognized Providers	• Rope Rescue Technician 1 (RRT1) OR, • DCTTRS Transition Workshop	SAR POG 3.02a Wildland Rope Rescue Rope Rescue Technician 2 Fundamentals • Chapters 3.1, 3.3 and 3.4	• Must be member of EMCR Recognized Rope Rescue Team • Successful completion of GSAR Rope Rescue Technician 2 Fundamentals Course as per the BC SAR Wildland Rope Rescue Competency Matrix • At least 20 hours of logged rope rescue practice or operations, in any year for all rope rescue team members and rope rescue team leaders • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	• Currently no recurrency cycle	POG 3.02b Courses meeting Qualification Level Competencies • JIBC • Ronin Safety and Rescue • Raven Rescue • Dynamic Rescue Systems • Island Alpine Guides • Basecamp Innovations Ltd.	JIBC Course: EMCR Other Providers: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Rope Rescue Team Leader (WRRTL)	EMRG-1740 EMCR Wildland Rope Rescue Team Leader EMRG-1740 Wildland Rope Rescue Team Leader	• EMRG 1660 - Public Safety Lifeline Leadership • Rope Rescue Technician 2 Fundamentals	SAR POG 3.02 Wildland Rope Rescue • Critical Thinking • Leadership in Rope environment • Problem Solving • Ability to lead in-house Rope training program	• Must be member of EMCR Recognized Rope Rescue Team • Successful completion of Public Safety Lifeline Leadership • Successful completion (at a minimum) of GSAR Rope Rescue Technician 2 Fundamentals Course Chapters 3.1, 3.3 and 3.4 • At least 20 hours of logged rope rescue practice or operations, in any year for all rope rescue team members and rope rescue team leaders • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	• Currently no recurrency cycle	JIBC	Course: EMCR Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
DCTTRS Transition Training RRT1	An existing Rope Rescue Team Member (RRTM), or Rope Rescue Team Leader (RRTL) who successfully demonstrates competency and understanding of the Dual Capability Two Tensioned Rope System (DCTTRS) through a formally structured transition training workshop will be recognized as being able to perform the competencies associated with their successfully completed EMCR Rope Rescue certificate courses. While the transition workshop qualifies a GSAR Volunteer to conduct a response on a vertical slope within the scope of their EMCR recognized training, to use the full suite of competencies associated with RRT2F a GSAR Volunteer will be required to have successfully completed the RRT2F evaluation.		SAR POG 3.02 Wildland Rope Rescue	• Must be member of EMCR Recognized Rope Rescue Team • Successful completion of formally structured transition training workshop - GSAR Rope Rescue Transition Workshop EMRG-1734 or Transition Train the Trainer Workshop	No longer offered, was a limited offering to assist in transition to DCTTRS	No longer offered, was a limited offering to assist in transition to DCTTRS	

Wildland Rope Rescue Training

Qualification Level	Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements and Maintenance for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
DCTTRS Transition Training RRT2	An existing Rope Rescue Team Member (RRTM), or Rope Rescue Team Leader (RRTL) who successfully demonstrates competency and understanding of the Dual Capability Two Tensioned Rope System (DCTTRS) through a formally structured transition training workshop will be recognized as being able to perform the competencies associated with their successfully completed EMCR Rope Rescue certificate courses. While the transition workshop qualifies a GSAR Volunteer to conduct a response on a vertical slope within the scope of their EMCR recognized training, to use the full suite of competencies associated with RRT2F a GSAR Volunteer will be required to have successfully completed the RRT2F evaluation.		SAR POG 3.02 Wildland Rope Rescue	• Must be EMCR Recognized Rope Rescue Team • Successful completion of formally structured RRTM/RRTL or RRT1 transition training workshop - GSAR Rope Rescue Transition Workshop EMRG-1734 or Transition Train the Trainer Workshop	No longer offered, was a limited offering to assist in transition to DCTTRS	No longer offered, was a limited offering to assist in transition to DCTTRS	
DCTTRS Transition Training RRTL	**Existing RRTL's** who successfully demonstrate competency and understanding of the Dual Capability Two Tensioned Rope System (DCTTRS) through a formally structured transition training workshop **will be recognized** as a RRTL upon completion of either the Transition Workshop OR completion of RRT2F (including prerequisites)		SAR POG 3.02 Wildland Rope Rescue	• Must be member of EMCR Recognized Rope Rescue Team • Successful completion of Public Safety Lifeline Leadership • Successful completion of formally structured RRTM/RRTL or DCTTRS Transition Training Workshop - GSAR Rope Rescue Transition Workshop EMRG-1734 or Transition Train the Trainer Workshop	No longer offered, was a limited offering to assist in transition to DCTTRS	No longer offered, was a limited offering to assist in transition to DCTTRS	

All links updated: January 3, 2024

*For GSAR Members who started under the old DM/DB system (pre-2016), please follow the path for DM/DB Rope Rescue Team Member, for those who started under the DCTTRS training (post 2018), please follow the path for DCTTRS Rope Rescue Technician

Certificate Level	DCTTRS Transition (Previously offered)	Rope Rescue Aware	Rope Rescue Technician 1	Rope Rescue Technician 2 Fundamentals	Public Safety Lifeline Leadership	Rope Rescue Team Leader	EMCR Operational Capacity*
DCTTRS Rope Rescue Technician 1	N/A	√	√	Not required	Not required	Not required	Rope Rescue Technician 1 Slope Rescue, Top Rope
DCTTRS Rope Rescue Technician 2	N/A	√	√	√	Not required	Not required	Rope Rescue Technician 2 Over the Edge
DCTTRS Rope Rescue Team Leader	N/A	√	√	√	√	√	Rope Rescue Team Leader
DM/DB Rope Rescue Team Member	√	Not required	Required if Transition Workshop not completed	Not required	Not required	Not required	Rope Rescue Team Member Over the Edge *(within scope of training)*
DM/DB Rope Rescue Team Member	√	Not required	Required if Transition Workshop not completed	√	Not required	Not required	Rope Rescue Team Member Over the Edge *(Full Tech 2 Fundamentals Capabilities)*
DM/DB Rope Rescue Team Member wanting TL	√	Not required	Not required	√	√	√	Rope Rescue Team Leader
DM/DB Rope Rescue Team Leader	√	Not required	Required if Transition Workshop not completed	Suggest and/or Required if Transition Workshop not completed	Suggested	Not required	Rope Rescue Team Leader

Helicopter Training - Currently Under Review

Qualification Level	Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
Helicopter Awareness	• Level 1: Helicopter Operations Awareness (PowerPoint & Exam) **Mandatory minimum for all GSAR Members**	Ground Search and Rescue Program *(Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)*	• 2.11 Search and Rescue Helicopter Usage Mandatory Approvals and Certification Requirements • SAR POG 2.04 Helicopter Operations	• Knowledge Base: PowerPoint presentation for Level 1 is available to all GSAR Volunteers on the BCSARA Website as a PowerPoint presentation. This is intended to provide the pre-requisite knowledge for training of skills necessary for use of helicopters in GSAR Operations. It is recommended that the PowerPoint presentations are facilitated by, or in unison with each Team's air carrier or designated representative. ***Members are advised against taking the course on their own without proper instruction*** • Skills Competency: Level 1 requires proficiency in and around helicopters and as such these skills can only be taught under the direction of the air carrier in accordance with federal aviation legislation • Proof of completion to be printed/provided for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	Annual recertification, unless higher recurrent level of Helicopter Operations Training is obtained.	• Examination of Level 1 Knowledge Base will be the responsibility of the **GSAR Training Officer.** Exam questions will be available on the BCSARA website in a password protected format. • Certification of Skills Competency is an **Air Carrier** responsibility and successful trainees will be examined and results documented in accordance with each GSAR Team's Helicopter Operations Pre-Plan	Course: GSAR Group Travel: GSAR Group
Hover Exit/Entry	Helicopter Operations Training Program (HOTP) Level 2 - Hover Exit/Entry (PowerPoint & Exam)	Level 1: Heli-Hover Exit and Entry Training	• 2.11 Search and Rescue Helicopter Usage Mandatory Approvals and Certification Requirements • SAR POG 3.10 Hover Exit/Entry Operations	• Knowledge Base: PowerPoint presentation for Level 2 is available to all GSAR Volunteers on the BCSARA Website as a PowerPoint presentation. This is intended to provide the pre-requisite knowledge for training of skills necessary for use of helicopters in GSAR Operations. It is recommended that the PowerPoint presentations are facilitated by, or in unison with each Team's air carrier or designated representative. ***Members are advised against taking the course on their own without proper instruction*** • Skills Competency: Level 2 requires proficiency in and around helicopters and as such these skills can only be taught under the direction of the air carrier in accordance with federal aviation legislation • Proof of completion to be printed/provided for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	Annual recertification as described in HOTP 2	• Certification of Skills Competency is an **Air Carrier** responsibility and successful trainees will be examined and results documented in accordance with each GSAR Group's Helicopter Operations Pre-Plan	Course: GSAR Group Travel: GSAR Group
Class D Helicopter Rescue Long Line (CDFL/HETS/HEC) and, Hoist	Helicopter Operations Training Program (HOTP) Level 3 - CDFL	Helicopter Operations Training Program (HOTP) Level 2	• 2.11 Search and Rescue Helicopter Usage Mandatory Approvals and Certification Requirements • SAR POG 3.09 Helicopter Class 'D' Fixed Line, Human External Cargo (CDFL)	• Must be a recognized EMCR Approved Class D GSAR Group, or member of a Class D Regional Specialty Team. • A GSAR group or groups who wish to form a Class D Helicopter Rescue capability and are not already approved by EMCR to conduct Class D Helicopter Rescue operations, must complete the Class D helicopter Rescue application/needs analyst form. A joint committee with representation from EMCR, BCSARA and other stakeholders will review applications. EMCR will notify the applicant when the review is complete. • For GSAR Groups authorized to perform Class D rescue operations, there are a series of Continuing Competency Development modules and Standards for Re-currency available. • Proof of completion to be printed/provided for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	Recurrency Cycle as described in Transport Canada's Canadian Aviation Regulations	GSAR Group's Class 'D' certified Air Carrier	Course: GSAR Group Travel: GSAR Group
NVIS	Please see Annex 2.12 - Note: Policy is still in pilot stage						

All links updated: January 3, 2024

Note: Helicopter Operation training currently under review by EMCR, in consultation with BCSARA. Information on this page is current as of March 2024, as some policies are in pilot or trial stages.

Flat Ice Rescue Training

Skill	Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
			SAR POG 3.04 Flat Ice Rescue				
Flat Ice Rescue	Ice Rescue Technician	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	SAR POG 3.04 Flat Ice Rescue	• Training will be provided to all GSAR volunteers, within a GSAR Group who are EMCR recognized for Flat Ice, that are required to approach or to gain access to the surface of flat ice to gain access to a subject who is unable to provide self-rescue from the flat ice emergency. • Training will be provided by a commercially recognized available training course for basic flat ice rescue operation. • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	3 years	A commercially recognized available training course for basic flat ice rescue opertation.	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group

All links updated: January 3, 2024

Winter Response Training

Training Level per Avalanche Safety Plan	Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
			POG 3.08 Winter Response				
Introductory	Avalanche Skills Training 1 (AST 1)		PSLV Avalanche Safety Plan	• Successful completion of Avalanche Skills Training 1 • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	Avalanche Canada or private providers authorized by Avalanche Canada	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
	EMRG 1751 Organized Avalanche Response Team Member (OARTM) EMRG 1751 OARTM Course Description	• GSAR Program including ICS 100, AND • EMRG 1750 Avalanche Skills for SAR (no longer offered), OR, • Avalanche Skills Training Level 1 (AST 1)	PSLV Avalanche Safety Plan	• Successful completion of Organized Avalanche Response Team Member • Trained in avalanche awareness, specialized search and/or rescue techniques, navigation and survival. They are able to participate as part of a multi-disciplinary task force operating in avalanche risk zones • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	JIBC	OARTM Course: EMCR Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Intermediate	Avalanche Skills Training 2 (AST 2)	Avalanche Skills Training 1 (AST 1)	PSLV Avalanche Safety Plan	• Successful completion of Avalanche Skills Training 2 • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	Avalanche Canada or private providers authorized by Avalanche Canada	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
	EMRG 1752 Organized Avalanche Response Team Leader (OARTL) EMRG 1752 OARTL Course Description	• EMRG 1751 Organized Avalanche Team Member	PSLV Avalanche Safety Plan	• Successful completion of Organized Avalanche Response Team Leader • Responsible for organizing, leading, and supervising a Strike Team/Task Force during on-site operations • Snow travel skills • Safe movement on steep terrain • Route selection and track settings • Navigation and slope estimation • Can determine slopes, incline in the field • Train and lead probe line • Weather observations • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	JIBC	OARTL Course: EMCR Travel: EMCR via JIBC
	Avalanche Operations Level 1	• Introduction to Avalanche Operations (Online) • AST 1 (minimum) AST 2 (recommended)	PSLV Avalanche Safety Plan	• Avalanche Operations Level 1 DACUM • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	None	CAA	Course: GSAR Volunteer Travel: GSAR Volunteer
Advanced	Avalanche Operations Level 2	• CAA Avalanche Operations Level 1 • CAA Introduction to Weather • CAA Avalanche Search & Rescue Advanced Skills (formerly called Avalanche Search and Rescue Response/Theory and Practical Skills Assessment)	PSLV Avalanche Safety Plan	• Avalanche Operations Level 2 DACUM • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	None	CAA	Course: GSAR Volunteer Travel: GSAR Volunteer
Avalanche Professional	Avalanche Operations Level 3 - Applied Avalanche Risk Management	• CAA Avalanche Operations Level 2 For additional prerequisite information visit: https://www.avalancheassociation.ca/page/Level_3	PSLV Avalanche Safety Plan	• Avalanche Operations Level 3 DACUM • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	None	CAA	Course: GSAR Volunteer Travel: GSAR Volunteer
Canine Search Dog - Avalanche		Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG 1700 plus ICS 100)	SAR POG 3.12 Canine Search and Rescue	• Permission from your GSAR Group • Successful completion of GSAR Training • RCMP Validation • CARDA Validation • Active Member of a Winter Response GSAR Group • 80 hour First Aid with CPR • CAA Level 1 for Ski Operations	Annual Validation	• RCMP - Civilian Search Dog Team • Prior to obtaining validation recommend discussing with EMCR SAR Specialist.	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group

All links updated: May 14, 2024

PSLV Avalanche Safety Plan Table 1:

Training Level	Required Courses
Introductory	- AST 1 or JIBC Avalanche Skills for SAR - JIBC OAR Team Member
Intermediate	- JIBC OAR Team Leader - AST 2 - CAA Avalanche Operations Level 1
Advanced	- CAA Avalanche Operations Level 2
Avalanche Professional	- Professional member of the CAA or Association of Canadian Mountain Guides (ACMG) or Canadian Ski Guides Association (CSGA) with CAA Avalanche Operations Level 2.

Skill	Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
PSL Leadership							
Public Safety Lifeline Leadership	EMRG 1660 - Public Safety Lifeline Leadership (PSLL) (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100) EMRG 1660 Public Safety Lifeline Leadership Course Description	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	• The focus is on leadership skills that can be applied in any Public Safety Lifeline Leadership Role. • Students will learn to identify and/or demonstrate general leadership skills including conflict management, communication, giving and receiving feedback, motivation, problem solving and decision making. • Course coverage will include the components of successful meetings, briefings and debriefings - important skills for any GSAR team lead.	• Successful completion of course • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	JIBC	Course: EMCR Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
GSARTL Training							
Ground Search and Rescue Team Leader (GSARTL)	EMRG 1712 Ground Search and Rescue Team Leader (Formerly EMRG 1711 Ground Search Team Leader) EMRG 1712 GSARTL Course Description	•Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100) • EMRG-1660 Public Safety Lifeline Leadership (PSLL) **Recommended Operational Experience:** • 2-3 years and/or 10 operations	• Effectively Plan, organize, lead, supervise and execute a Ground Search and Rescue Team mission/assignment · • Critical Thinking • Problem Solving • Leadership and Supervision • Written and Oral GSARTL Mission/Assignment Execcution Briefing	• Sucessful completion of Public Safety Lifeline Leadership Course. • Successful completion of course • Basic leadership skills, safety guidelines, reporting and documentation requirements, team briefing/debriefing, advanced search tactics, liability protection, and an overview of the Incident Command structure • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	JIBC	Course: EMCR Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
SAR Management (SARM) Level 1							
SAR Manager Level 1	EMRG 1783 Search and Rescue Management Level 1 EMRG 1783 SAR Management Level 1 Course Description	• Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100) • ICS 200 (will be provided by JIBC if not previously obtained) • Highly Recommended - GSTL **Recommended Operational Experience:** • minimum of 2-3 years SAR Task Experience	• The skills necessary to fulfill the SAR Manager's responsibilities before, during and after a basic, single operational period response as well as the structures and resources in place to support this role.	• Students who do not already have ICS 200, will be provided access to the ICS 200 online via JIBC, at least 30 days before course starts. Students must successfully complete ICS 200 at least 1 week before the face to face SAR Management Level 1 course starts. • Successful completion of written exam, and exam scenarios • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer **• Successful completion is required by EMCR to be added to the active SAR Managers List for your group at the ECC**	none	JIBC	Course: EMCR/RCMP Travel: EMCR/RCMP via JIBC
SAR Management (SARM) Level 2							
SAR Manager Level 2	EMRG 1784 Search and Rescue Management Level 2	• EMRG 1783 SARM Level 1 **Currently by invitation only**	• Applying management strategies in more complex and complicated search and rescue situations. • In depth knowledge of search and rescue management processes, search theory, logistics, command structures and communications	Must be a current SAR Manager Level 1 with extensive experience managing searches **Currently by invitation only**	none	JIBC	Course: EMCR Travel: EMCR via JIBC

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All links updated: May 13, 2024

Tracker Training

Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
Track Aware **Recommended for all GSAR Members**	Required: Member of GSAR Group Preferred: Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	• Full awareness of how tracking skills can be employed on GSAR tasks • Awareness of how this training makes a GSAR Volunteer a better and more effective searcher	• Successful completion of this level of training typically requires about 60 hours of training. • Will learn: history of tracking, concepts and applications of GSAR tracking. Identify clues, signs of passage, footprint cards, set up a tracking stick, Direction of travel, follow a single line of sign in most weather conditions and at night. • Certification is not solely based on the number of hours of tracker training achieved or the number of courses taken. It is based on the demonstrated performance during a course • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	BC Tracking Assn	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Tracker	Track Aware or equivalent	• Able to present to SAR Management as BCTA certified Tracker Specialist • Ability to respond as a member of tracking or search team in variety of SAR tasks • More advanced skills in tracking and develops basic multi-team sign cutting methods • Introduction to interviewing, note-taking and report writing	• Must be member of EMCR Recognized Tracking Team • Successful completion of this level of training typically requires 40 - 80 hours of training • Tracking through forest not in a straight line sign cutting • Certification is not solely based on the number of hours of tracker training achieved or the number of courses taken. It is based on the demonstrated performance during a course • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	BC Tracking Assn	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Advanced Tracker	Tracker or equivalent	• Able to present to SAR Management as BCTA certified Advanced Tracker • Able to lead tracking teams in variety of search tasks • Analyze the mission • Enhanced communication skills	• Must be member of EMCR Recognized Tracking Team • Working in and with a team • Directing multiple tracking teams • Working with SAR Managers on placement of tracker teams • Certification is not solely based on the number of hours of tracker training achieved or the number of courses taken. It is based on the demonstrated performance during a course • Certificate to be printed for your training records and supplied to GSAR Group's Training Officer	none	BC Tracking Assn	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group

All links updated: February 15, 2024

Refer to Annex 2.12

Contact SAR Specialist for details

WATERCRAFT OPERATIONS

Skill	Course	Prerequisites	Competencies	Requirements for Qualification	Recurrency Cycle	Training Providers	Training Cost Responsibility
UNPOWERED WATERCRAFT							
Flatwater 1 A GSAR member trained to respond in support of a flatwater search and rescue operation using unpowered watercraft such as canoes, kayaks (as described in Annex 2.12)	All operators of watercraft must demonstrate competency with the craft, through education, training and experience, in the environment in which it will be operated. **If unpowered watercraft is used in a swiftwater environment - crewmembers will possess swiftwater certification at the Technician level or higher and be under the direction of a Swiftwater Rescue Team Leader**	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	POG 2.05 Watercraft Operations	The operator of an unpowered watercraft on swiftwater will be trained appropriately to the type of watercraft, such as the British Columbia River Outfitters Association (BCROA) River Guide or SAR specific qualification. Crewmembers will be under the direction of the operator Training Includes: • Use of PFD, use of flares and other distress signaling devices	• None for unpowered watercraft, unless in Swiftwater environment • Swiftwater Technician or higher as per POG 3.03 Swiftwater Rescue	A commercially available training course for basic operation may be used **Swiftwater Providers:** Rescue Canada Raven Rescue Dynamic Rescue Dive Rescue International	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
POWERED WATERCRAFT							
Flatwater 2 A GSAR member trained to respond in support of a flatwater search and rescue operation using powered watercraft not more than 8m in length	**Flat water** - Pleasure Craft Operators Card (PCOC) **Swiftwater** - PCOC and Swiftwater operations level or higher	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	POG 2.05 Watercraft Operations	**Flat Water**: Pleasure Craft Operators Card **Swiftwater:** For operation during a swiftwater rescue or on swiftwater, the operator will be trained at the Swiftwater Operation Level as a minimum or be accompanied by a Swiftwater Technician.	• PCOC's do not expire as per Transport Canada • Swiftwater operations or higher as per POG 3.03 Swiftwater Rescue	Transport Canada for PCOC **Swiftwater Providers:** Rescue Canada Raven Rescue Dynamic Rescue Dive Rescue International	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group
Flatwater 3 A GSAR member trained to respond in support of a flatwater search and rescue operation using powered watercraft greater than 8m in length	**Flat water** - Small Vessel Operator Proficiency Certificate (SVOP) + Small Domestic Vessel - Basic Safety (SDV-BS) **Swiftwater** - SVOP + SDV-BS and Swiftwater operations level or higher	Ground Search and Rescue Program (Formerly EMRG-1700 plus ICS 100)	POG 2.05 Watercraft Operations	Small Vessel Operator Proficiency Certificate (SVOP). **Dependent on the size of your boat.** See Transport Canada's Operator Competency Table 4-1 **Swiftwater:** For operation during a swiftwater rescue or on swiftwater, the operator will be trained at the Swiftwater Operation Level as a minimum or be accompanied by a Swiftwater Technician	• None for SVOP • Swiftwater operations or higher as per POG 3.03 Swiftwater Rescue	Transport Canada - Small Vessel Operator Proficiency Certificate (SVOP) + Small Domestic Vessel - Basic Safety (SDV-BS)	Course: GSAR Volunteer/Group Travel: GSAR Volunteer/Group

All links updated: February 15, 2024