

Pincher Creek Search & Rescue
Operating Profile - Water

This document describes what PCSAR is asked to do and can do in and around water.

Definitions:

The following terms are used in this document:

Optimum Minimum - If we're at this level we can do the job. Below this level, we will be struggling to do the job and there's significant likelihood it will not be accomplished.

Situation:

<i>Situation</i>	<i>Details</i>	
<p>[Situation 1 – split activity into probable situations that require different types or amounts of skills and equipment. E.g. Wilderness Search]</p>	<i>Description</i>	[Describe the situation. E.g. “Search wilderness, often hazardous and mountainous areas for missing snowmobilers.”]
	<i>PCSAR experience</i>	[How many situations of this type has PCSAR been in over it's history. Have any incidents been simultaneous? If there's not too many, name them. E.g. “Approximately a dozen searches of this type.”]
	<i>Forecast</i>	[How many incidents of this type will PCSAR likely see? How long do they last? Are simultaneous incidents likely? Be realistic, but cautious – if uncertain, choose the higher range. E.g. “2 incidents of 1 or 2 op periods every year”]
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	[What is the minimum level of preparedness PCSAR needs to be at to meet the forecast need? Identify the quantity and types of skills or equipment that exceed other situation you will outline. E.g. “2 op periods with 1 team of 3 expert-level sledders, at least one of which has Basic SAR Skills. (At least 3 team members are needed to dig out equipment.)”]
	<i>PCSAR role</i>	[Is this situation one which PCSAR has identified as a role for itself? If uncertain, may require decision from Board. E.g. “PCSAR normally provides” or “ Not PCSAR mandate. PCSAR provides when possible but does not prepare for this role”]
<i>Need met?</i>	[Is PCSAR currently operating at the Optimum Minimum? If not, what is it short on? E.g. “ Yes ” or “ No – short on personnel” or “ Yes (not required)”].	

<i>Situation</i>	<i>Details</i>	
Bank and Shore Activities	<i>Description</i>	In support of other SAR activities, work along river and creek banks and lake shores to water's edge in the region where there's a possibility of someone falling into the water. Search for subjects who may have fallen into water and reached shore. Risks include unstable banks.
	<i>PCSAR experience</i>	Oldman river lethbridge, Pincher Creek east of town, Blood reserve after fire, mud flats in Blood Reserve
	<i>Forecast</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	Throw bags, PFDs, Swift Water Operations training
	<i>PCSAR role</i>	PCSAR normally provides
	<i>Need met?</i>	
Crossing Shallow Water	<i>Description</i>	In support of other SAR activities, cross shallow still or moving water, by foot, quad, snowmobile or off road vehicle.
	<i>PCSAR experience</i>	
	<i>Forecast</i>	frequent
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	Training – appropriate depth, time of year, judging flow. Moving stretcher across river. High risk b/c believe we are rescuers.
	<i>PCSAR role</i>	PCSAR normally provides
	<i>Need met?</i>	
Still Water Rescue from Shore	<i>Description</i>	Rescue individuals in still open water from shore. Subject could be member of search team.
	<i>PCSAR experience</i>	Never happened
	<i>Forecast</i>	Hard to see how would arise if not one of our members
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	Throw bags, PFDs,
	<i>PCSAR role</i>	PCSAR would provide
	<i>Need met?</i>	

<i>Situation</i>	<i>Details</i>	
Still Water Surface Activities	<i>Description</i>	Operate on the surface of still water, in order to perform search, rescue, transport, etc. Access to the surface could be by swimming, kayak, canoe, raft, or boat. Searching shoreline from lake surface. Wind surfer. Boat overturns.
	<i>PCSAR experience</i>	Oldman Reservoir, Beaver Mines Lake
	<i>Forecast</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	Need boating training. Rescue training with boat. Small boat operator certification. Need equipment: boat. Response time is very slow.
	<i>PCSAR role</i>	PCSAR plans to provide
	<i>Need met?</i>	
Swift Water Rescue from Shore	<i>Description</i>	Rescue individuals in moving water from shore. Subject could be member of search team.
	<i>PCSAR experience</i>	Never has happened
	<i>Forecast</i>	possible
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	Swift Water Operations – Level 1, throw bags, PFDs, rope, rigging equipment.
	<i>PCSAR role</i>	PCSAR plans to provide
	<i>Need met?</i>	
Rescue in Swift Water	<i>Description</i>	Rescue individuals in moving water by using techniques that enter the water. Subject could be member of search team.
	<i>PCSAR experience</i>	Lundbreck falls
	<i>Forecast</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	Dry or wet suits.
	<i>PCSAR role</i>	Not PCSAR mandate.
	<i>Need met?</i>	

<i>Situation</i>	<i>Details</i>	
Crossing Ice	<i>Description</i>	In support of other SAR activities, cross solid ice, by foot or snowmobile.
	<i>PCSAR experience</i>	often
	<i>Forecast</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	Ice picks, training on judging safe ice (depth, type, water supplies), PFD or floater jackets; self rescue training
	<i>PCSAR role</i>	PCSAR normally provides
	<i>Need met?</i>	
Ice Rescue from Shore	<i>Description</i>	From shore, rescue individuals who have fallen through ice. Subject could be member of search team.
	<i>PCSAR experience</i>	
	<i>Forecast</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	Throw bags, balast, rope launcher. PFD
	<i>PCSAR role</i>	PCSAR would provide
	<i>Need met?</i>	
Ice Rescue from Surface	<i>Description</i>	From the frozen and unfrozen surface, rescue individuals who have fallen through ice. Subject could be member of search team.
	<i>PCSAR experience</i>	
	<i>Forecast</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>PCSAR role</i>	Not PCSAR mandate.
	<i>Need met?</i>	

<i>Situation</i>	<i>Details</i>	
Dive Response	<i>Description</i>	In support of other SAR activities, work beneath the surface of water.
	<i>PCSAR experience</i>	
	<i>Forecast</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>PCSAR role</i>	Not PCSAR mandate.
	<i>Need met?</i>	

Personnel Required (for above situations):

<i>Skill</i>	<i>Details</i>	
<p>[Skill 1 List all skills that are needed for this activity and which PCSAR might be short on. Combine skills into one description if they're commonly needed or found together. Consider certifications as a skill. E.g. Expert-Level Mountain Sledders]</p>	<i>Description</i>	<p>[Describe the skill in sufficient detail that a Search Manager who doesn't have that skill will be able to know whether they're dealing with the appropriately skilled people. Outline implications of using the skill that may not be obvious.</p> <p>E.g. “Achieve their skill by aggressively riding off-trail in mountains on a regular basis for at least five years. There is no formal training or certification available. Expert sledders can only be recognized by other expert sledders. Such recognition may require that they be seen operating in the field. Many sledders over-estimate their own skills or under-estimate the terrain. In mountainous heavy snow conditions, 3 sledders need to work together in order to be able to dig out their machines as they become stuck.”]</p>
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	<p>[Which situation makes the greatest demand on this skill? How many people are needed for how long? What is the likely response rate? (be conservative). How many people do we need on a roster of members and non-member with this skill? If appropriate create a roster or resource list as part of a separate preplan document.</p> <p>E.g. “6 responding sledders for worst case role (2 op periods of Wilderness Search). Assuming a 50% availability of a sledder at any given time, a roster of 12 expert-level sledders is needed.”]</p>
	<i>Need Met?</i>	<p>[Does PCSAR along with identified outside resources currently meet this need? If not, what is the gap? Include recommendation to the board on what additional training, recruitment or arrangements with other organizations is needed. In the Roles section, mark the situations that hindered by the shortage of skills.</p> <p>E.g.:</p> <p>“No – 10 expert-level sledders currently on roster.</p> <p>Recommendation to Board: Approach other SAR groups: CNP, Sparwood, Fernie.”</p>
<p>[Skill 2]</p>	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	

<i>Skill</i>	<i>Details</i>	
Swiftwater Operations Certification	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
Swiftwater Tech 1 Certification	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
Swiftwater Tech 2 Certification	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
[Skill 5]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
[Skill 6]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	

Equipment Required (for above roles):

<i>Equipment</i>	<i>Details</i>	
<p>[Equipment 1 List each type of equipment that is needed for this activity and which PCSAR may be short on. Combine equipment into one description if they're mostly needed and found together. E.g. “Mountain Sleds”]</p>	<i>Description</i>	<p>[Describe the equipment in way that an unfamiliar Search Manager, or Board Member can delegate the gathering of appropriate equipment.</p> <p>E.g. “A mountain-ready sled with helmet, for each sledder.”]</p>
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	<p>[Which situation requires the most equipment of this type? How much? If the equipment is not always available, what is the availability? How large of a roster do we need.</p> <p>E.g. “6 sleds” or “A pair of snowshoes for each sledder (6 – Rural Search).” or “Not required. Nice to have.”]</p>
	<i>Need Met?</i>	<p>[Does PCSAR including outside resources, meet the Optimum Minimum? If appropriate, include details of where to access equipment in the separate preplan document. If not, include recommendation to the board to purchase, seek donation or make arrangements to access appropriate equipment. In the Roles section, mark the situations that hindered by the shortage of equipment.</p> <p>E.g. “Yes, sledder supplied”</p> <p>“No</p> <p>Recommendation to Board: Build list of members that have extra transceivers. Ask for donations. Arrange to borrow from ski hill or dealership.”</p> <p>“Yes (because not required)”]</p>
<p>Personal Floatation Devices</p>	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
<p>Throw Bags</p>	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
<p>Dry Suits</p>	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	

<i>Equipment</i>	<i>Details</i>	
Wet Suits	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
Helmets	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
Ice Picks	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
[Equipment 7]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
[Equipment 8]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
[Equipment 9]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
[Equipment 10]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
[Equipment 11]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	

<i>Equipment</i>	<i>Details</i>	
[Equipment 12]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met</i>	
[Equipment 13]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met</i>	
[Equipment 14]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
[Equipment 15]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
[Equipment 16]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	
[Equipment 17]	<i>Description</i>	
	<i>Optimum Minimum</i>	
	<i>Need Met?</i>	