

National Incident Management System (NIMS)

and

MRA Policy 105.1

Personnel Guidelines

The MRA National Compliance Guideline



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Department of Homeland Security

... to provide the unifying core for the vast national network of organizations and institutions involved in efforts to secure our nation.





Federal Emergency Management System (FEMA)

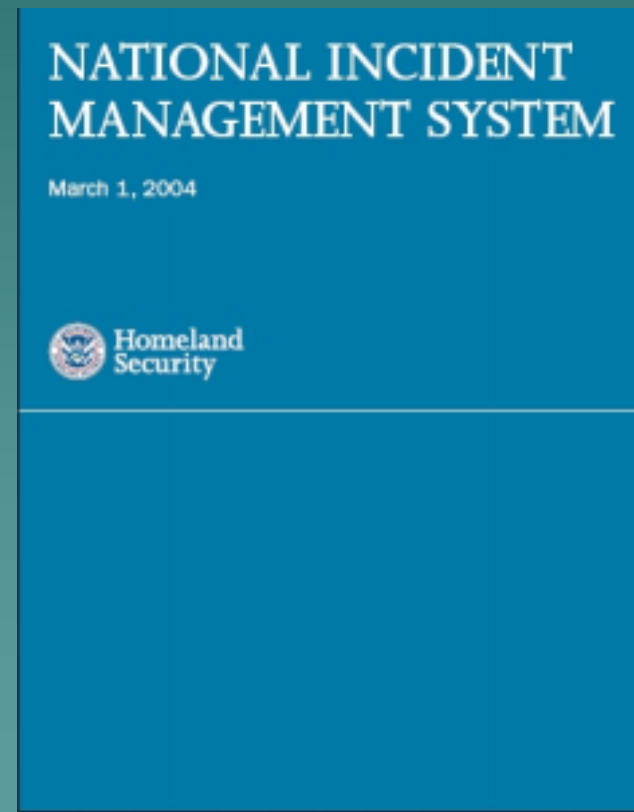
... to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident.





National Incident Management System (NIMS)

- ◆ From FEMA - Based on the wildland fire interagency response system and using the Incident Command System to develop and manage disaster and SAR response systems in the U.S.





NIMS Background

- ◆ FEMA NIMS Integration Center (NIC) calls for all emergency responders to be trained in and to use the National Incident Management System
www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/index.shtm
- ◆ NIMS is an overall system for managing the training for, pre-planning and response infrastructure of national and local disaster and SAR response.
- ◆ NIMS requires that all emergency responders be trained in and use the Incident Command System (ICS) and certain other courses.



The NIC

The NIMS Integration Center (NIC) is the FEMA section that oversees the whole process for Resource Typing (RT) and SAR Credentialing.

www.fema.gov/pdf/nims/credent_faq.pdf



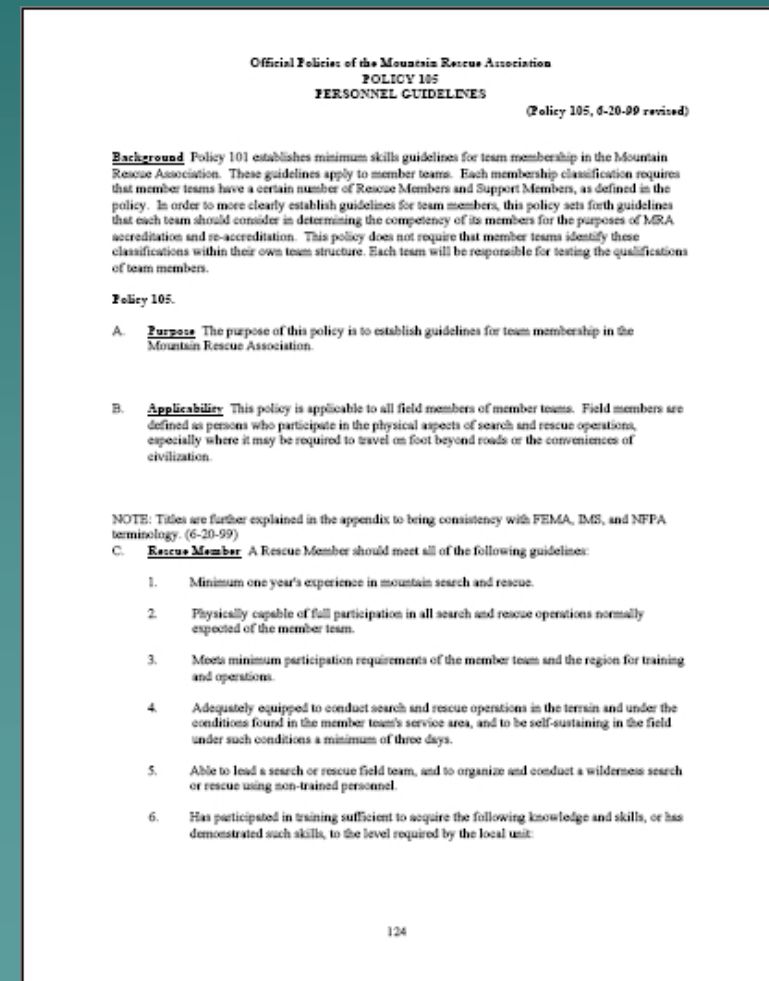
Users of Resource Typing and SAR Credentialing

- ◆ NIMS/FEMA uses them for disaster and related responses, including the use of SAR teams for things like the shuttle recovery, etc.
- ◆ EMAC, the Emergency Mutual Aid Compact, which is the primary method by which non-FEMA teams/assets are deployed state to state in order to be covered and reimbursed



The Existing MRA Policy 105

- ◆ Defines minimum skills guidelines for team membership in the MRA.
- ◆ Each membership classification requires that member teams have a certain number of Rescue Members and Support Members, as defined in Policy 105





The Existing MRA Policy 105

- ◆ This policy sets forth guidelines that each team should consider in determining the competency of its members for the purposes of MRA accreditation and re-accreditation.
- ◆ This policy does not require that member teams identify these classifications within their own team structure. Each team will be responsible for testing the qualifications of team members.



The Existing MRA Policy 105

Example

- c. Rescue Member: A Rescue Member should meet all of the following guidelines:
1. Minimum one year's experience in mountain SAR.
 2. Physically capable of full participation in all SAR operations normally expected of the member team.
 3. Meets minimum participation requirements of the member team and the region for training and operations.
 4. etc., etc., etc.



Purpose of new Policy 105.1

- ◆ To provide a national accreditation category that is consistent with the established and emerging National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Emergency Mutual Aid Compact (EMAC) requirements.
- ◆ “We are not developing a standard, we are trying to meet what is coming.”



The MRA's Perspective on Local Impact

- ◆ We are not inventing a standard. We are proactively addressing what is coming and having an impact on it.
- ◆ An increasing number of county and state emergency managers and SAR managers are incorporating these resource typing documents locally and advising their SAR personnel, paid and unpaid, to comply.
- ◆ It is only a matter of time for it to reach all of us.



Impact of 105.1 on MRA units

- ◆ Our old-existing Policy 105 will remain intact for existing MRA accredited units.
- ◆ 105.1 will be used *for only those units that wish to be NIMS/EMAC compliant, or that wish to accredit to a higher level than 105.*
- ◆ Without MRA 105.1, the NIMS, et al, would have developed something else to which we would be held.



Language in 105.1

"Based on the needs of...." means that the unit will ensure the item is complied with *only if the local area or circumstances has the condition described.*

"If performed" means that the unit will ensure the item is complied with *only if the unit performs the action described.*

"Local, agency or jurisdiction requirements" that the unit will ensure the item is complied with *only if the agency or jurisdiction requires the item.*



Language in 105.1

Examples:

105.1 I f xxiv

- ◆ f. (K-Knowledge) Introduction to External Loads and/ or Higher Risk Methods. *Means general classroom knowledge of these is required.*
- ◆ g. (K, S, A- Knowledge, Skills, Abilities) Performance of External Load operations and higher risk methods, if performed by local team. *Means knowledge, skills and abilities only if the unit actually performs these techniques*



MRA Policy 105.1

- ◆ Scope
 - 105.1 was made as generic as possible, thereby empowering the local team and region to develop their own specifics.
- ◆ Applicability
 - 105.1 is applicable to all field members of accredited member teams seeking this accreditation distinction.
 - MRA will develop training aids to help units comply with the new FEMA-NIMS requirements.



Team Requirements

- ◆ Maintain records/database of members' individual levels of expertise, and medical and physical fitness status.
- ◆ Maintain some type of recurring physical fitness requirement.
- ◆ Maintain some type of recurring medical fitness requirement.

NOTE:

*We don't say what kind, just that you will have one.
Samples available from MRA and member units.*



Field Members, General

- Background check per requirement of local jurisdiction.
- Identifiable uniform or marker subject to local requirement or environment.
- Minimum age requirement based on local jurisdiction.
- Maintain a policy on drug and alcohol use, dependency and abuse; sexual harassment; and cultural, race, gender and age sensitivity.



Field Members, General

- Re-currency of individual skills and abilities every 3 years.
- Current Basic First Aid training or equivalent for all field responders.
- Current Bloodborne and Airborne Pathogens-Infection Control training for all field responders.



Individual Levels Defined

- ◆ "Awareness" level member; consistent with the federal and NFPA (1006 and 1670) definitions.
"Being aware of risks and hazards and being able to call appropriate resources."
- ◆ "Operational" member is our "Support" category.
"Can respond and act at a minimal level, such as a first responder with general knowledge and basic abilities".
- ◆ "Mountain SAR Technician" is our "Rescue" category.
- ◆ Mountain SAR Operations Chief is our "Ops Leader".
- ◆ Your unit can still use whatever title you wish.



(K)nowledge, (S)kills and (A)bilities

- ◆ The areas of training within our categories of Search, Snow & Ice and Technical Rock are each labeled with any or all of "K, S, A" s (knowledge, skills, abilities), requiring your unit to develop such training and testing. Examples:
 - (K) Incident Command System
 - (K, S, A) Anchors
- ◆ MRA will develop model lesson plans you can use to help.



Technical Rock

- ◆ (K, S, A) Knowledge and use of rescue equipment.
- ◆ (K) Rescue planning and preparations
- ◆ (K, S, A) Knots, ropes, webbing, rope and webbing characteristics and handling
- ◆ (K, S, A) Anchors.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Belaying.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Ascending and descending a rope.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Rock climbing (able to lead fourth class climb).



Technical Rock

- ◆ (K, S, A) Patient packaging and litter rigging.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Rigging and operating raising and lowering systems.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Highline rigging and operating.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Low-angle or scree evacuation.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Improvised rescue techniques.
- ◆ (K) Animal technical rescue awareness, if performed by local team



Snow & Ice

- ◆ (K, S, A) Winter search and rescue equipment and its use.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Travel over snow and ice, and in any winter conditions found in service area.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Self-arrests.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Roped team travel.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Glissading.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Snow and ice anchors and belays.



Snow & Ice

- ◆ (K, S, A) Steep snow climbing with crampons and ice ax.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Patient packaging under winter conditions.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Litter rigging, raising and lowering on steep snow.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Avalanche safety and rescue.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Glacier travel and crevasse rescue.
- ◆ (K, S, A) Winter survival.



Operations Chief

AKA Ops Leader, Field Leader

- ◆ (K) Incident management at the section chief or command level
- ◆ (K) Leadership development, including general knowledge of:
 - Span of control
 - Remaining leadership oriented vs. task oriented
 - Delegation of tasks and duties
 - Group personality dynamics
 - Incident critiques
 - Recognizing defusing and debriefing needs (stress related)
- ◆ (K) General management concepts of search/ lost person incidents
- ◆ (K) Roles of local, state and federal agencies and associations in SAR
- ◆ (K) Effective relationships with local co-responding agencies and units



Operations Chief

AKA Ops Leader, Field Leader

- ◆ (K) Awareness of legal aspects of dealing with suspects and evidence
- ◆ (K) Units' bylaws, policies and procedures
- ◆ (K) Applicable local laws and SAR authority policies and procedures
- ◆ (K) MRA and Regional policies and procedures relating to the field, such as accreditation and personnel guidelines
- ◆ (K) Mission paperwork, including AAC, IKAR and MRA reporting
- ◆ (K) Local unit's field leader duties and responsibilities
- ◆ (K) Risk awareness in the following; mountain SAR operations, helicopters, and rescue methods
- ◆ (K) Integrating effective EMS into SAR operations

Questions?



WILDERNESS SEARCH

TECHNICAL ROCK

SNOW AND ICE



WILDERNESS SEARCH

TECHNICAL ROCK

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