

## Scenario #1 - **GROUND SEARCH**

An elderly male dementia patient has walked away from a residence in a rural area. He has done this before. It is now 1900hrs. He has been missing for four hours and needs medication. He is physically capable of walking several kilometres, but is not dressed to be outdoors.

### Situation A

- Tuesday evening, mid-August
- Weather is dry, with an overnight low of 10 degrees C
- Rural properties, many with acreage
- Few hazards identified
- Family and neighbours have been searching for two hours
- 12 GSAR searchers on site at 2000hrs
- Generic pre-plan in place
- Good communications

### Situation B

- 0500hrs Wednesday morning (next day), mid-August
- Weather is raining, with a daytime high of 12 degrees C
- Some farm properties with aggressive dogs encountered
- Suspected 'grow ops' on at least one property
- Family and neighbours have been searching all night and are frantic and exhausted
- Convergent volunteers are expected to arrive due to media and family requests
- Local media has arrived, with TV crews expected shortly
- Still same 12 GSAR searchers on site. They are exhausted, but willing to continue after discussions with SAR Management Team re POA's
- Calls for mutual assistance have not yielded much help due to weekday availability
- Steps called for in pre-plan have not yielded any results
- Fears that subject has travelled far enough to encounter a main rail line and a river that is not passable
- Radio batteries need charging and one team has had problems with their transmissions due to high-tension power lines above

### Situation C

- 0900hrs Wednesday morning (next day), mid-August
- Weather is raining, with a daytime high of 12 degrees C. Low cloud ceiling
- 2 Family members have located a body, face-down in the river. They believe it to be the subject
- Body is not accessible from the shore and is lodged against a deadhead in strong current
- Family members insist that they swim out and retrieve the subject

- One SAR team (of three) arrives at river and two team members want to swim out to retrieve the body
- Still same 12 GSAR searchers on site
- There is no SRT equipment or trained members on the incident. Appropriate resources are at least two hours away
- Media want access to the recovery site

## Scenario #2 - **ROPE RESCUE**

An elderly female hiker has fallen down a 100' steep embankment in a canyon. Her partner is unable to reach her, but has voice contact. He has relayed that he thinks she has a leg fracture and undetermined internal and/or spinal injuries. It is now 2200hrs. The accident happened at 1930hrs. The location is accessible via a rough 2Km walking trail.

### Situation A

- Sunday evening, mid-October
- Weather is overcast, with an overnight low of 6 degrees C forecast
- Subject is accessible by top-down rope system, but may not be secure
- Many substantial anchors available
- Partner on scene
- 8-member rope rescue team on scene at 2330hrs
- Good communications

### Situation B

- 0015hrs Monday morning (next day), mid-October
- Weather is raining, with a temperature of 3 degrees C in the canyon
- One SAR member has accessed the subject
- Subject has slid further down the embankment and is now close to the water
- Subject is no longer responsive
- Subject's partner is on scene and is agitated
- Only 5 of the 8-member rope rescue team have Rope Rescue Team Member certification
- There is a Rope Rescue Team Leader on scene, but this is their first rescue
- Mutual assistance has been requested, but is still at least an hour away
- Good communications, although intelligibility is adversely affected by noise of river
- Concerns about ability to negotiate the trail in order to evacuate the subject

### Scenario #3 - **MOUNTAIN RESCUE**

A group of three hikers are four hours overdue due to one of them sustaining a suspected sprained ankle. They have become lost due to failing light. It is now 2100hrs and they have no flashlights. Elevation is at treeline and into sub-alpine. Hikers had submitted a trip plan and potential location is high probability.

#### Situation A

- Sunday evening, mid-September
- Weather is overcast, with an overnight low forecast of 3 degrees C at elevation
- Several hazards identified (talus slopes, drainages, cliff bands)
- 15 GSAR searchers at staging area at 2230hrs
- 5 SAR members have some MR training and 2 are experienced recreational mountaineers
- Mutual Assistance has been requested, but yet to arrive
- Generic pre-plan in place, but nothing specific
- No friends or family present at this time, although phone calls have been received
- Good communications via a repeater

#### Situation B

- 0200hrs Monday morning (next day), mid-September
- Weather system has developed, with light snow and -1 degree C at elevation
- Several severe hazards encountered (talus slopes, drainages, cliff bands) resulting in large gaps in coverage
- 12 SAR members (4 teams) on assignments
- Mutual Assistance has finally arrived, but out of 8 SAR members, only 5 are qualified to be in the field. Few resources are available for OP2 and initial search teams will need to be replaced
- Command is planning for OP2, but is relying on current team leaders to coordinate their activities in the field
- 3 Friends and family members have arrived and are requesting updates
- At least one TV crew is expected to arrive at first light
- Most communications are feasible although some relaying is required

#### Situation C

- 0500hrs Monday morning (next day), mid-September
- Weather system has passed through. 2 degrees C at elevation
- One team has located subjects below tree line
- Two other teams have just met up with them

- 2 of the hikers are in fair condition, but the third cannot walk
- Fourth SAR team is trapped in a steep drainage and cannot exit safely
- Still same 12 SAR members (4 teams) on assignments
- CDFL (HETS) is available at first light if ceiling permits
- More mutual assistance is due to arrive at 0900hrs, with 6 qualified and experienced (MR) resources
- 6 Friends and family members are now at the command post and are anxious to know what's happening
- 2 TV crews are setting up and another one is on their way
- Communications with the team in the ravine have now been lost

## Scenario #4 - SWIFTWATER RESCUE

At 2030hrs a passing motorist has reported seeing a vehicle on its side, 90% submerged in a swollen river. Initial reports did not confirm any survivors, but no-one has been reported missing or overdue to police so far. Police on scene at 2100hrs locate and evacuate one unresponsive subject on a rock within safe distance from shore. Subject regains consciousness, but is impaired (alcohol). Subject is barely coherent but is able to describe one other subject who they believe may be trapped in the vehicle.

### Situation A

- Saturday evening, mid-July
- Weather is overcast, with an overnight low forecast of 18 degrees C
- 8 GSAR members arrive on scene at 2200hrs and begin a shoreline search, but have limited access and only to one shoreline.
- 5 SAR members have SSO and 2 have SRT 2 certification
- 1 SAR Manager is running Command
- There has only been one previous similar incident in this area and not at this site
- Water is estimated as class 4+, with log-jams/strainers less than 50m downstream
- Vehicle is against a rock, but cannot be confirmed as secure, with no downstream access
- Mutual Assistance has been requested, but yet to arrive
- Generic pre-plan in place, but nothing specific
- Some passers-by are gathering to watch
- Good communications

### Situation B

- 0130hrs Sunday morning (next day), mid-July
- Heavy rain showers now occurring, making visibility poor
- Shoreline search has been completed on one shore, but with several gaps in coverage
- Water level is rising
- Vehicle is still against a rock, but has moved slightly
- Mutual Assistance has not arrived, but may not be suitable to deploy given their training and/or experience for the current situation
- Planning is being done as the situation arises
- Command is in place, but only one person is on the management team due to insufficient resources
- One TV crew on scene
- Media focus is on safety of the road due to high accident rate and lack of improvements by government
- Police have confirmed that one person is missing and are anxious to confirm if subject is in the vehicle
- Good communications, although intelligibility is adversely affected by noise of river