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the source for
search & rescue
research, publications and training

Product Catalog 2009/2010



dbS Productions produces essential texts and tools for search and rescue incident management and instruction. The books we publish are written by experienced SAR personnel, instructors, and researchers. Our products are geared toward searchers, search planners, managers, law enforcement professionals and students at all levels in SAR. Our aim is to provide search and rescue practitioners with tools and information based on current data and best practices in the field of SAR.

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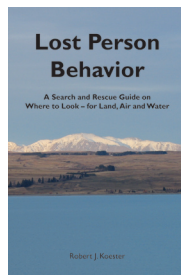
Please call for more information on any of our books, products, training courses, conference presentations and consulting services.

Incident Management

Lost Person Behavior: A Search and Rescue Guide on Where to Look – for Land, Air and Water

Robert J. Koester

Lost person behavior is the cornerstone of search and rescue efforts. This book is the definitive guide to solving the puzzle of where a lost person might be found. It presents new and updated subject categories, behavioral profiles, current statistics, suggested initial tasks, and specialized investigative questions. Whether the subject is underground, underwater, under collapsed rubble, on land or has fallen from the sky, this book delivers what search managers need.



Aimed at law enforcement and SAR personnel responsible for the initial response and subsequent search as well as searchers in the field, this book provides the reader with:

- ✓ An indispensable book that can be used as a field guide (rugged binding allows it to lay flat) and an essential library reference.
- ✓ The latest search and rescue incident statistics from the International Search & Rescue Incident Database, which contains over 50,000 SAR incidents.
- ✓ 41 subject categories and new detailed behavioral profiles that give insight into what drives the basic behaviors of lost people.
- ✓ Urban specific data with results that apply to lost people and those trapped by a natural disaster in an urban environment.
- ✓ Statistics based on ecoregions to best match your specific search area.
- ✓ New types of statistical information: find location, scenario analysis, mobility time, survivability, elevation changes, track offset, dispersion angle. Plus classic statistics such as distance from the initial planning point.
- ✓ Pinpoint the most likely areas to search. Then determine initial tasks quickly using new reflex tasking, the bike wheel model, and quick consensus.

416 pages, paperback, semi-concealed wiro, 5.5 x 8.5

ISBN 978-1-879471-39-9 2008 \$25.00 by the case (32 books) \$640

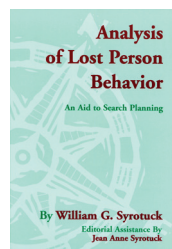
New! Analysis of Lost Person Behavior: An Aid to Search Planning

William G. Syrotuck

This classic text formed the basis of subsequent research on lost person behavior. It is the first book on the subject, which search managers continue to use to inform their strategy, tactics and planning.

63 pages, paperback, 5.5 x 9

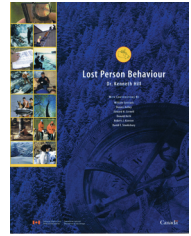
ISBN 978-097004904-7 2000 \$13.00



New! Lost Person Behavior

Dr. Kenneth Hill

A collection of seminal research on lost person behavior, including William Syrotuck, Dennis Kelley, Ken Hill, Donald Heth, Ed Cornell, and Robert Koester, this book brings together landmark papers that provide search managers with the background on behavior and statistics on the most common types of lost persons (Alzheimers, children, hikers, hunters).



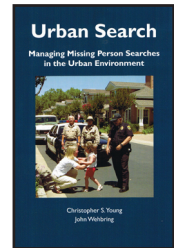
90 pages, paperback 8.5 x 11

ISBN 0-660-17941-5 1999 \$25.00

Urban Search: Managing Missing Person Searches in the Urban Environment

Christopher S. Young and John Wehbring

This book is the first comprehensive guide to urban search. It compares factors of an urban/suburban incident with wilderness search, including preplanning, search management, special investigation considerations, use of resources, and documentation. A few key points you will learn:



- ✓ Understand your urban environment and develop preplans
- ✓ Conduct thorough investigations and interviewing—including training search personnel in door-to-door canvassing, and scenario analysis to prevent wasted effort on a non-search
- ✓ Develop an accurate profile of the missing person using urban specific data
- ✓ Train dogs and ground teams to be effective in the urban environment by identifying problems and safety hazards they may encounter

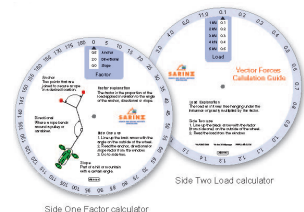
352 pages, paperback 5.5 x 8.5

ISBN 978-1-879471-38-2 2007 \$25.00 by the case (28 books) \$560

Rescue Wheel (Vector Forces Calculation Guide)

A SARINZ product

The Rescue Wheel enhances the safe and efficient engineering of temporary rigging systems by developing your knowledge of what forces are being applied. It uses a whole system methodology, including anchor, directional and slope forces.



User's guide is available online in PDF format at www.sarinz.com.

Lightweight, waterproof, portable plastic wheel, 5.5 dia 2007 \$15.00

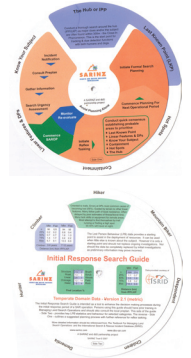
Search Wheel™ (Initial Response Search Guide)

A SARINZ and dbS Productions partnership project

The Initial Response Search Guide (Search Wheel™) leads students or experienced search planners through the initial response phase of a search. *Side One* provides handy information on the steps needed to commit to a search effort and then deploy resources. *Side Two* presents essential information and behavior profiles for the most common lost subject categories. Find the specific information you need—immediately!

The Search Wheel is lightweight, durable, waterproof. Includes a User's Guide.

Two-sided, three-part, four-color plastic wheel, 5.5 dia 2007 \$15.00



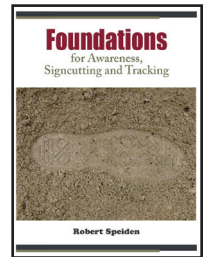
New! Foundations for Awareness, Signcutting and Tracking

Robert Speiden

This tracking textbook grounds the reader in the basic principles of visual human tracking as they apply to a SAR mission. It will help answer "What happened here?" and "Who made this track?" Through explanations, illustrations, and pictures from actual searches, this book describes methods and techniques used by tracking personnel. It will guide the reader to become familiar with tracking terminology; dispel common misconceptions; select and use tracking tools of the trade; record and document tracks; manage light and shadow; improve one's awareness; find and follow tracks; understand footwear, age sign, track on various ground covers, and animal tracks.

This book is for anyone who needs to interpret and follow human tracks or sign.

268 pages, paperback 8.5 x 11
ISBN 978-0-9817686-0-1 2009 \$35.00



New! Fiberglass Tracking Sticks \$10

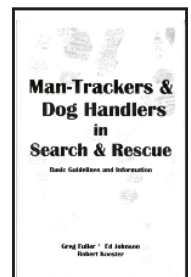
Man-trackers and Dog Handlers in Search & Rescue:

Basic Guidelines and Information

Greg Fuller, Ed Johnson & Robert J. Koester

This book explores the unique combination of SAR dog teams and man-trackers, perhaps the most effective tool management has for rapid finds. The book introduces each resource and discusses their capabilities and limitations.

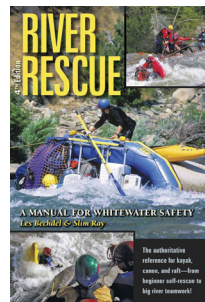
98 pages, paperback, 5 3/8 x 8 1/4
ISBN 1-879471-31-0 2000 \$10.00



New! River Rescue: A Manual for Whitewater Safety, 4th Edition

Les Bechdel and Slim Ray

River Rescue has been the authoritative reference for canoe, kayak, and raft—from beginner self-rescue to big river teamwork—since 1985. This new edition features new photos and first-hand accounts of rescues; expanded material on big-water rescue (new gear and methods; self-rescue and rescue of others by hand, boat, rope, and other ways; tools and techniques (rope work, throw bags, boat handling, high- and low-tech gear); rescue organization (leadership, teamwork, patient care, evacuation), and more.



292 pages, paperback, 6 x 9, 106 illustrations, 144 photographs
ISBN-13 978-0-9649585-6-2 / ISBN-10 0-9649585-6-2 2009 \$25.00

Lost Alzheimer's Disease Search Management:

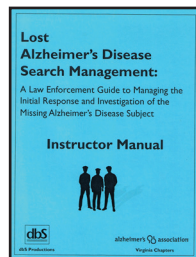
A Law Enforcement Guide to Managing the Initial Response and Investigation of the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Subject

Robert J. Koester

This manual is ideal for experienced search managers responsible for directing the initial search for a missing person with Alzheimer's disease. It contains lesson outlines, slide masters, case studies and map problems.

A CD with PowerPoint presentation is included.

Instructor Manual 96 pages in a 3-ring binder
ISBN 1-879471-34-5 1999 \$75.00



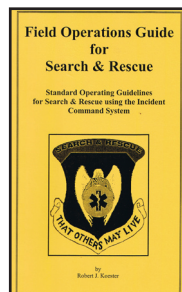
Field Operations Guide for Search & Rescue:

Standard Operating Guidelines for Search & Rescue Using the Incident Command System

Robert J. Koester

This book delivers concise descriptions of ICS functions in SAR and practical insight into the details necessary to successfully fulfill the SAR job. The writing and layout are clear and simple, perfect for use in the field.

68 pages, paperback, 5.5 x 8
ISBN 1-879471-15-9 1996 \$10.00



Incident Commander for Ground Search and Rescue

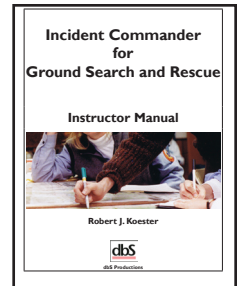
Robert J. Koester

A textbook for Incident Commanders, Command Staff, Operations Section Chiefs, Planning Section Chiefs and base positions. It covers topics including adaptation of ICS for SAR, managing information systems and protocols, ground OPS for aircraft, NTAP interpretation, specialized resource utilization and planning factors, high level legal implications, and fatigue. This is the next step for those who have taken an MLSO/MLPI course.

Instructor Manual 290 pages in a 3-ring binder
ISBN 1-879471-21-3 1999 \$75.00

Student Manual 230 pages in a 3-ring binder
ISBN 1-879471-22-1 1997 \$35.00

Student Workbook 105 pages \$30.00



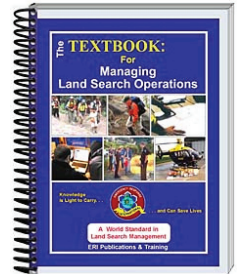
The Textbook for Managing Land Search Operations

Edited by Robert "Skip" Stoffel

The material contained in this book has been the cornerstone for land search coordinators for over three decades in thirteen countries. This is the essential text for MLSO courses.

540 pages, spiral bound, 8.5 x 11
ISBN 0-9709583-4-X Revised 2006 \$36.00

Instructor Suite DVD 2007 \$650.00

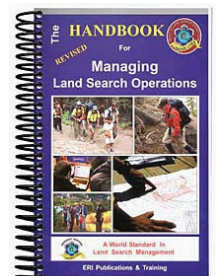


The Handbook for Managing Land Search Operations

Edited by Robert "Skip" Stoffel

The latest and most comprehensive handbook for the SAR Manager for Overhead Team Members who have to do the job on scene. This handbook is designed as a practical guide and quick reference for managing a search. Checklists, worksheets, reminders, and organizational assistance is also provided.

314 pages, spiral bound, 5.5 x 8.5
ISBN 0-9709583-0-7 Revised 2005 \$28.00



Fatigue / Wilderness Medicine / Software

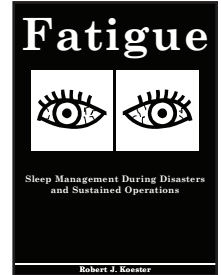
Fatigue: Sleep Management During Disasters and Sustained Operations

Robert J. Koester

This book allows the reader to understand sleep physiology, required sleep, the use of naps, fatigue related accidents, and accident prevention. All searchers and safety officers must be aware of what is often the most deadly aspect of search and rescue—the drive to and from the search.

58 pages, paperback, 5.5 x 8
ISBN 1-879471-18-3 1997 \$10.00

Instructor Manual
180 pages in a 3-ring binder, 8.5 x 11
ISBN 1-879471-17-5 1997 \$110.00

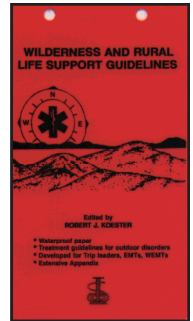


Wilderness and Rural Life Support Guidelines

Edited by Robert J. Koester

This book features WEMT level references and special emphasis on heat problems, hypothermia, altitude illnesses, venomous bites and stings. Appendix supplement includes suggested first-aid kit, water disinfection, poisonous plants and animals, signaling and mirror, field team leader checklist, and track reporting form.

60 pages, plastic covered, waterproof paper, ring-bound, 4 x 7
ISBN 1-879471-02-7 1991 \$10.00

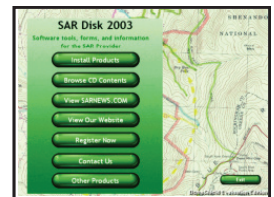


SARDisk 2003

dbS Productions

Software tools, forms and information for SAR practitioners. SAR professionals demand accurate, useful and powerful tools. This disk was created to deliver mandatory forms, map tools, instructional courses, and behavioral statistics all in one package.

ISBN 1-879471-37-X 2003 \$50.00



Training Courses

New! Lost Person Behavior

This course presents the most recent advances in lost person behavior, the latest research, new behavioral profiles (41), and correct life-saving actions to take when a person goes missing. Course can be designed to meet your specific needs and special topics. 1-, 2- and 3-day options

New! Lost Person Behavior Train the Trainer

Become an instructor for LPB. The Train the Trainer course includes the two-day LPB program (see description above), a field day exploring case studies, and analysis. Participants are expected to have some experience instructing, and will receive a license to instruct the course and an instructor's discount on course materials. 4 days

Lost Alzheimer's Disease Search Management

This course is designed for personnel who respond to or direct the initial response phase of an incident involving a person with dementia. 8 hours

New! Advanced Topics in SAR

This course is intended for experienced searchers and those with supervisory roles. It covers the most recent advances in search theory and technology and can be designed to meet the needs and level of participants. 4–16 hours

Incident Commander for Ground Search & Rescue (ICG)

An advanced management course for experienced SAR personnel. 28 hours

Managing Land Search Operations (MLSO)

An entry level search and rescue course aimed at those responsible for planning and preparing for search operations in an emergency. 40 hours

Fatigue: Sleep Management During Prolonged Incidents

This course is intended for personnel in public safety or any kind of work that involves driving or working while fatigued. 3 hours

New! Missing Aircraft Search—New Studies and Tools

This course builds upon a 2009 NASA study looking at 262 incidents of missing aircraft. It is intended for SAR planners and field personnel. New statistics are presented, including methods of defining a ground based search. 2–6 hours

New! Introduction to Signcutting and Tracking for SAR with Rob Speiden

An entry level course introducing the principles of clue awareness, sign and track finding, identifying and interpreting sign and tracks, signcutting and tracking tactics, aging, pressure releases, and managing tracking resources in a SAR context. 40 hours

New! Managing Missing Person Searches in the Urban Environment

with Chris Young

Designed for law enforcement and SAR personnel responsible for missing person incidents, this course prepares participants for planning and searching in the urban environment. 2–8 hours

New! Interview and Investigation—Techniques for SAR Responders

with Chris Young

This course/workshop is designed to teach interview and investigative skills to law enforcement and SAR personnel. It instructs participants on how to conduct a good interview, the use of in-depth questions, and how to build a missing subject profile. 2–8 hours

Conferences

We are pleased to deliver any of the listed courses at your SAR or public safety conference.

Each course can be tailored to meet the needs of participants.

These topics have been given as keynote addresses at conferences around the world.

For fees and scheduling, please contact us:
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Consulting Services

- ★ Research and statistical analysis of SAR topics including SAR theory, incident command, lost person behavior, and missing persons with Alzheimer's/dementia
- ★ Expert witness on legal cases related to SAR and missing persons with Alzheimer's/dementia
- ★ Development of training courses and curricula
- ★ Development of an organization's work/rest policy (fatigue)

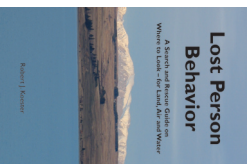
SARNews

SARNews provides current information about Search and Rescue, emergency management, disaster response, and related resources to anyone involved in searching for and rescuing lost persons. A free monthly e-newsletter, SARNews is delivered to over 8,000 SAR volunteers, emergency managers, first responders, law enforcement personnel, and representatives at all levels of government.

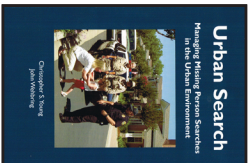
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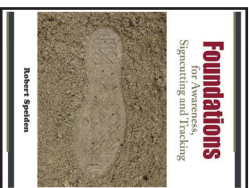
Newest Publications



Lost Person Behavior... **p 3**



Urban Search... **p 4**



Foundations for Awareness, Signcutting & Tracking... **p 5**

Rescue Wheel... **p 4**

Search Wheel... **p 5**

plus more training courses... p 9 & 10

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