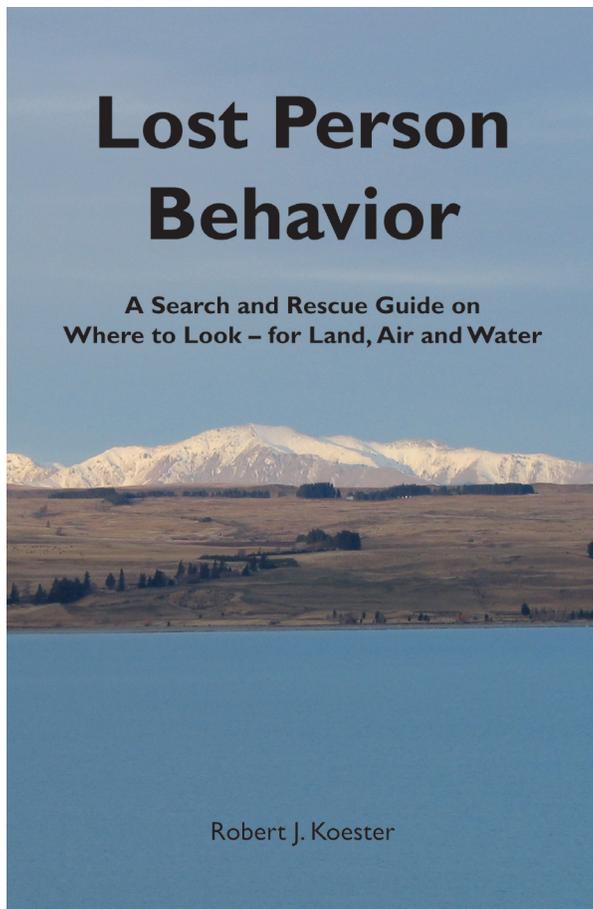


Book Information



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

Author: Robert J. Koester

Publisher: dbS Productions LLC

Publication Date: October 2008

ISBN: 978-1-879471-39-9

Price: \$25.00 USD

Paperback: 416 pages, 5.5 x 8.5, semi-concealed wire

Illustrations: 107

Description: Lost person behavior is the cornerstone of search and rescue efforts. Based on a landmark study, this book is the definitive guide to solving the puzzle of where a lost person might be found. Nowhere else is it possible to learn about the latest subject categories, behavioral profiles, up to date 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.

Lost Person Behavior provides the reader with:

- an indispensable book that can be used as a field guide (special 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, many of which are new and presented for the first time;
- 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 specific search areas;
- 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;
- the ability to pinpoint the most likely areas to search, then determine initial tasks quickly using reflex tasking, the bike wheel model, and quick consensus.

For more information or to arrange author interviews, contact

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Author Bio

Robert J. Koester first joined the Appalachian Search & Rescue Conference in 1981 and since then has participated in hundreds of searches. He holds a Master of Science degree in biology (neurobiology) from the University of Virginia. His contributions to search and rescue include seminal research on lost person behavior (with emphasis on dementia) and the International Search and Rescue Incident Database (ISRID). A Type 1 incident commander and instructor for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and president of the Virginia Search and Rescue Council, Robert has also worked for the United States Coast Guard, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Park Service, and Federal Emergency Management Agency. The author of numerous books and articles on search and rescue, he is currently creating the *International Journal of Search and Rescue*. He has presented in Australia, Canada, Iceland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and throughout the United States.



Contributors

Kenneth Hill, PhD is a professor of psychology at St. Mary's University, Nova Scotia. He is the author of *Lost Person Behaviour*, *Managing the Lost Person Incident*, and numerous papers. He wrote the chapter on lost person strategies.

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Reviews

This is the best book on search and rescue that has ever been written. An A + book. All future books on SAR will be measured against this one. This book is a huge leap forward in search and rescue management and provides a wealth of fascinating and practical information. An absolute must read for anyone in search and rescue or related fields. The book gives meaning to the data and complex probabilities are made clear. The actual case studies make the book more insightful and meaningful even for the experienced SAR manager.

—Dr. Paul Green, Professor, *Eastern Washington University*

Robert Koester's ground-breaking research has made a science of the study of lost person behavior. This book underscores the importance of that science. Lost Person Behavior is an indispensable part of any rescuer's library.

—Charley Shimanski, President, *Mountain Rescue Association*

Phenomenal book! This should be on the must-read list for anyone involved in managing SAR operations.

—Don Ferguson, PhD, *Appalachian Search & Rescue Conference*

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Media Questions

Robert Koester is the perfect interviewee: he is articulate and an excellent public speaker; he has experience with the media, and first-hand knowledge of hundreds of actual SAR incidents. He can illustrate any story with a poignant example. He is able to fully address a large number of search topics, from Alzheimer's wandering to missing youths. His latest book, *Lost Person Behavior*, features 41 subject profiles, including missing aircraft and water-related incidents. He has been the go-to source for search and rescue statistics for many media sources.



Sample Questions

- How did you get involved in conducting search and rescue research?
- Who can use search and rescue research?
- What was the most difficult search you ever were involved in?
- What made you decide to write the book?
- How many different countries have contributed data for the book?
- What are some of the new categories of lost people you have found?
- What types of people are most likely to get lost?
- How is a lost Alzheimer's disease subject different from a lost hiker?
- What are some common myths regarding lost people?
- What do you want our listener's to remember about being lost?

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