PARTICIPANT COMMENTS

"Really enjoyed the class. I've been telling the SAR coordinator that MSO was a good class but something was missing. This seminar fills that gap nicely."

"The planning process works! Once we get people trained under this new system things will run much smoother."

" Just a note to say I enjoyed the class. The course was outstanding and it brought out the true sense of the "real" searches."

" I am very interested in becoming an instructor for this course. I feel that this is one of the best courses that I have ever been exposed to, SAR, business, etc. and I have sat through thousands of hours of various courses during my 50 some odd years. The workbook is one of the best I have ever seen."

"This system gets to the basics and makes it very easy for everyone to understand the very fundamental concept of SAR and makes the managers comfortable with the system. Anyway I could go on for hours talking on this very subject."

"Being new to search, at the end of the first day I felt overwhelmed and had second thoughts about whether I should be in the class. But at the end of the course I felt I really knew the material."

"The class was a huge success".

"The seminar and workbook are great contributions to SAR."

WHO CAN BENFIT FROM THIS TRAINING?

These seminars are designed for SAR team members, rangers, land management law enforcement officers, deputies, rural fire and emergency services personnel, leaders of outdoor adventure groups, and anyone else responsible for initiating or implementing search actions for missing persons. In short, anyone concerned with what to do when faced with a missing person report.

UPCOMING COURSE

Whatcom County SAR Building, September 12-14, 2008

Contact: **Forest Chiavario at forestchiavario@hotmail.com**
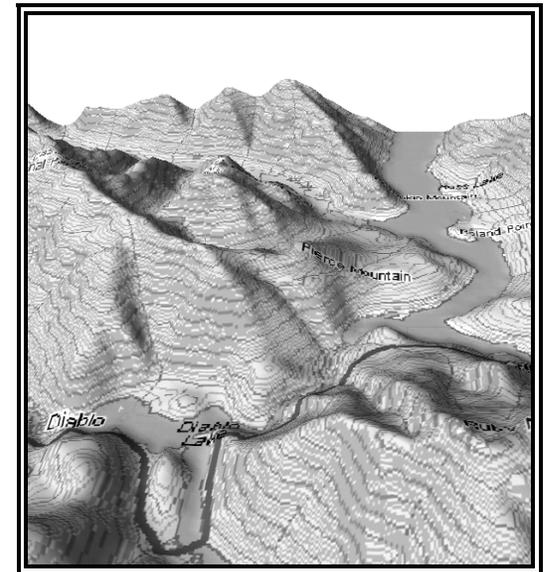

To schedule a course or additional info:
Hugh Dougher
402-203-7999
hughdougher@hotmail.com
or go to:
http://www.searchandrescuetraining.com

SEARCH MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

A PRACTICAL APPROACH TO INITIATING AND DIRECTING EFFORTS TO RESOLVE MISSING PERSON REPORTS.

DESCRIPTION & PHILOSOPHY

Search Management Systems (SMS) is an integrated, practitioner-based program of field-proven techniques and tools.

SMS seminars are based on the philosophy that all searches have a common beginning. This initial response phase might last several hours to several days. Characteristics of this phase include an emphasis on hasty searching and investigation, relatively small number of resources and agencies, a limited overhead staff, and a loosely defined search area.

Table 1 suggests that roughly 90% of searches last less than 18 hours, and very few searches extend more than 24 hours. Simply put, most searches are resolved in an initial response phase.

But regardless of how large or complex a search ends up being, the proper initial actions are identical, and crucial to success. Effective initial actions can maximize subject survivability and detection, minimize costly large searches, and establish a firm foundation for those incidents that become unusually complex.

Search Management Systems seminars focus on providing participants the tools needed to confidently make decisions to ensure effective initial actions.

Table 1. Search Duration

	Less than 18 hours	Less than 24 hours	24 hours or more
Alberta (2000)	77%	91%	9%
National Park Service (2005)	--	94%	6%
New Mexico (1995)	89%	97%	3%
Oregon (1997-2005)	92%	94%	6%
United Kingdom (1991-2000)	98%	99%	1%

SMS OBJECTIVES

Upon course completion, participants can:

- Appropriately initiate searches.

- Form, communicate, and implement effective and meaningful decisions.

- Manage and utilize crucial search management information.

- Direct searches through the initial response phase.

- Anticipate and manage changes in complexity, and set the stage for expanded response.

- Transition to a relief incident commander.

WHY SMS?

Search Management Systems seminars are unique from other search management courses because they:

- Use adult teaching techniques to optimize learning and retention.

- Focus on the key, essential components of all search incidents.

- Are ICS based.

- Teach how to manage by objectives.

- Approach search from the perspective of "missing" (rather than "lost"), thus considers other possibilities such as crime, fraud, and simple overdue.

- Are supported by a comprehensive workbook.

- Are organized and presented in a logical, integrated, and sequential process reflecting actual incident evolution.

- Incorporate ICS map symbology.

- Build team performance between participants, and emphasizes the importance of teamwork on actual incidents.

- Are current, with frequent updates and revisions. Many of these improvements originate from the experience and knowledge of seminar participants.

- Are taught by instructors with extensive search experience and proven teaching skills.

- Allow participants to practice concepts through frequent use of actual search tabletop exercises.