



## Designation: ~~F3024 – 13 (Reapproved 2022)~~ F3024 – 24

# Standard Guide for Training of a Land Search and Rescue (SAR) Strike Team/ Task Force Leader<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F3024; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This guide establishes the minimum training for Land SAR Strike Team/Task Force Leaders as it relates to their general, field, and search and rescue specific knowledge, skills, and abilities.

1.2 A Land SAR Strike Team Leader/Task Force Leader is responsible for direct supervision, general leadership, wellness, and safety of multiple SAR teams and resources operating on all land and water environments, including intertidal areas, but not oceans or swiftwater.

~~1.3 Type I-IV teams which may utilize personnel trained to this guide are Kind A (wilderness), Kind B (urban), and Kind C (mountainous/alpine), Kind D (disaster/collapse), Kind E (inland water), Kind G (cave), Kind H (mine), Kind I (avalanche), Kind J (evidence/cadaver), Kind K (aircraft), and/or Kind L (unclassified). See Classification [F1993](#).~~

1.3 A Land SAR Strike Team Leader/Task Force Leader may work in remote areas including urban or disaster areas that may be isolated or have lost their infrastructure.

1.4 Land SAR Strike Team Leader/Task Force Leaders are eligible to be members of Category: Land Search, Category: Land Rescue, Category: Land Search and Rescue, and Category: Untrained, search teams or crews, as defined in Classification [F1993](#).

1.4.1 Category: Land Search teams which may utilize personnel trained to this guide are:

1.4.1.1 Kind: Non-Wilderness;

1.4.1.2 Kind: Wilderness;

1.4.1.3 Kind: Mountainous;

1.4.1.4 Kind: Alpine;

1.4.1.5 Kind: Tracking;

1.4.1.6 Kind: Mounted;

<sup>1</sup> This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [F32](#) on Search and Rescue and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [F32.03](#) on Personnel, Training and Education.

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1.4.1.7 Kind: Mountain Bike;

1.4.1.8 Kind: ATV-ROHV.

1.4.2 Category: Land Rescue and Category: Land Search and Rescue teams which may utilize personnel trained to this guide are:

1.4.2.1 Kind: Non-Wilderness;

1.4.2.2 Kind: Wilderness;

1.4.2.3 Kind: Mountainous;

1.4.2.4 Kind: Alpine.

1.5 Further training may be required depending on the regulations or policies of the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

1.6 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.7 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

## 2. Referenced Documents

### 2.1 ASTM Standards:<sup>2</sup>

[F1773 Terminology Relating to Climbing, Mountaineering, Search and Rescue Equipment and Practices \(Withdrawn 2024\)](#)<sup>3</sup>

[F1993 Classification System of Human Land Search and Rescue Resources](#)

[F2209 Guide for Training of Land Search Team Member](#)

[F2685 Guide for Training of a Land Search Team Leader \(STL\)](#)

[F2751 Guide for Training of a Land Search and Rescue Team Member](#)

[F2890 Guide for Hazard Awareness for Search and Rescue Personnel](#)

[F3222 Terminology Relating to F32 Land Search and Rescue Standards and Guides](#)

[2.2 NFPA Standards:<sup>4</sup>](#)

[NFPA-1006 Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications](#)

[NFPA-1670 Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents](#)

## 3. Terminology

### 3.1 Acronyms:

~~3.1.1 ASTM—American Society for Testing and Materials~~

~~3.1.1 AHJ—Authority Having Jurisdiction~~

~~3.1.3 AM—Aviation Management~~

~~3.1.4 DOI—Department of the Interior~~

~~3.1.5 ERI—Emergency Response International~~

3.1.2 FEMA—Federal Emergency Management Agency

<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

<sup>3</sup> The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org).

3.1.3 *ICS*—Incident Command System

3.1.4 *NASAR*—National Association for Search and Rescue

3.1.9 *NFPA*—National Fire Protection Association

3.1.10 *NPS*—National Park Service

3.1.11 *NWCG*—National Wildfire Coordinating Group

3.1.12 *PTB*—Position Task Book

3.1.13 *SAR*—Search and Rescue

3.1.14 *STL*—Strike Team Leader

3.1.15 *TFLD*—Task Force Leader

### 3.2 *Definitions:*

3.2.1 *authority having jurisdiction, n*—an organization, office, or individual responsible for enforcing the requirements of a code or standard, or for approving equipment, materials, and installation or procedure.

3.2.2 *division/group supervisor, n*—in ICS terms, responsible for supervising equipment and personnel assigned to a division or group. May also act as a Strike Team Leader/Task Force Leader.

3.2.3 *land search and rescue, n*—search and rescue operations that take place on ground and water environments on land, including intertidal areas, but not oceans. May also be referred to as “Inland SAR.”

3.2.4 *SAR technician, n*—an individual trained to perform wilderness search and/or rescue.

3.2.5 *single resource boss, n*—responsible for supervising a single piece of equipment and its personnel complement, or an established crew or team of individuals, equivalent to a Squad Officer in SAR operations.

3.2.6 *squad officer, n*—responsible for supervising and leading a group or team of SAR Technicians. Equivalent to a Single Resource Boss.

3.2.7 *strike team leader, n*—in ICS terms, manages five to seven (or fewer) combinations of the same kind and type of resources.

3.2.8 *task force leader, n*—in ICS terms, manages five to seven (or fewer) single resources of different types and/or kinds.

3.2.9 Refer to Terminology **F1773**, Classification **F1993**, and Guides **F2209**, **F2685**, **F2751**, and **F2890** for a broader range of defined search and rescue terms.

3.2 The AHJ may use different acronyms or abbreviations for the positions defined above than those defined here.

3.3 *Definitions*—Refer to Terminologies **F3222** and **F1773**, Classification **F1993**, and Guides **F2209**, **F2685**, **F2751**, and **F2890** for terms used in this guide.

## 4. Significance and Use

4.1 This guide establishes the minimum standard for training Land Search and Rescue Strike Team/Task Force Leaders as it relates to their general, field, and search and rescue specific knowledge, skills, and abilities.