

Wallowa County Sheriff's Search and Rescue

2016-2020 Strategic Plan

Approved by Board of Control 10-26-15

Goal 1: Maintain a highly-trained and active membership

1. Recruit enough members to mobilize and sustain a two-day search (30 ground searchers and 10 support).
2. All members maintain minimum annual training and attendance requirements
3. New members are certified within in one year.
4. Host effective and meaningful monthly meetings.
5. Recognize members for participation and involvement.

Goal 2: Operate the unit in a strategic and well-organized manner

1. Revise this strategic plan every five years.
2. The strategic plan serves as a template for an annual work plan
3. Maintain adequate and diversified funding sources.
4. All personnel, financial, equipment, and mission records are tracked and organized.

Goal 3: The unit is recognized and valued in our local community

1. Maintain an accessible and informational website.
2. Participate in outreach programs that inform the public about the unit, attracts members and funding opportunities.

Goal 4: The search group locates subjects safely and efficiently in a diverse array of terrain and situations.

Search Teams: K-9, Man Tracking, ELT, and Ground Search

1. Maintain a well-trained K-9 response.
2. Members of the search group are able to implement man-tracking skills
3. Members of the search group are able to respond to incidents involving Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELT) and Personal Locator Beacons (PLB).
4. The search group can effectively utilize volunteer resources during large and visible searches.

5. Members of the search group continue to develop new technologies and skills that contribute to achieving goal 4.

Goal 5: The rescue group extracts subjects safely and efficiently in a diverse array of terrain and situations.

Rescue Teams: Ropes, Swiftwater, Ice, Equine, and Winter/Avalanche

1. Members of the rescue group are trained and outfitted to respond to high-angle situations that require the safe use of rope skills.
2. Members of the rescue group are trained and outfitted to resolve incidents on local rivers and streams during all seasons.
3. Members of the rescue group are trained and outfitted to respond to incidents during winter months in mountainous terrain.
4. Members of the rescue group are able to use equine resources to access and transport patients in backcountry terrain.
5. Patients are expeditiously and safely transported from rescue scenes to appropriate care.
6. Members of the rescue group are cross-trained to work across skill sets in urgent and stressful conditions.

Goal 6: The support group maintains equipment and resources for successful and efficient search and rescue group responses.

Support Teams: Vehicle, Equipment, Base Camp, Communications, Medical, and Incident Command

1. Incident Command System provides effective framework for both search and rescue missions at county and inter-county scales.
2. Vehicles and equipment are maintained at mission-ready status.
3. Communication resources are maintained to work in a diverse array of local geography and conditions.
4. All members are trained and outfitted to assess, stabilize, and evacuate patients.
5. Base camp functions independently.