| **Date received** | **Current manual reference** | | **Reason for amendment** | | **Previous Wording** | | **New Wording**  **\*For images or tables that cannot fit within this document are to be attached to email to Secretariat.** | | **Name/agency** | **Endorsed** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 6/02/2023 | Administration  Glossary | | Inclusion of definition to align with ICAO definitions | |  | | ***Rescue subcentre (RSC).*** A unit subordinate to a rescue coordination centre, established to complement the latter according to particular provisions of the responsible authorities. | | Scott Constable, AMSA | **NATSAR 48** |
| 16/03/2023 | Vol 1.  3.4.13 | Spelling error | | “… need to be trained in basis first aid.” | | “… need to be trained in basic first aid.” | | Dylan Lane, Leidos SAR | | **NATSAR 48** |
| 16/03/2023 | Vol 2.  2.5.4 | US Spelling | | “recognized” | | “recognised” | | Dylan Lane, Leidos SAR | | **NATSAR 48** |
| 16/03/2023 | Vol 2.  2.6.7 | Bold font to match keywords in other Emergency Phases section | | “The keyword is APPREHENSION” | | **“The keyword is APPREHENSION”** (Bold type font) | | Dylan Lane, Leidos SAR | | **NATSAR 48** |
| 16/03/2023 | Vol 2.  4.3.51 | Inadvertent comma.  Track spacing isn’t optimum at the number one– rather it is one which permits something | | “The optimum track spacing is one, which permits the maximum…” | | “The optimum track spacing is one which permits the maximum…” | | Dylan Lane, Leidos SAR | | **NATSAR 48** |
| 5/08/2024 | Feb 2023 Edition | | Page 346 is an odd page inserted randomly in the middle of Appendix A (ie the IGA) that needs to be removed | | Additional and unrequired page included | | Remove page 346 | | Scott Constable, Asset Management team, AMSA | **NATSAR 48** |
| 8/08//2024 | Feb 2023 Edition, Page before the Foreword & Page 2 | | Need to capture that 2024 amendments were/will be endorsed by NATSAR Council | | First published in Australia in 1992 by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) on behalf of  the Australian National Search and Rescue Council.  82 Northbourne Avenue, Braddon, ACT, 2612, Australia  Written and amended by Senior Sergeant Jim Whitehead, Queensland Police Service on behalf of  the National Search and Rescue Council | | First published in Australia in 1992 by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) on behalf of  the Australian National Search and Rescue Council.  82 Northbourne Avenue, Braddon, ACT, 2612, Australia  Written and amended by Senior Sergeant Jim Whitehead, Queensland Police Service on behalf of  the National Search and Rescue Council  Amended in 2024 by the National Search and Rescue Council. | | Jo Fisher, Response Planning team, AMSA | **NATSAR 48** |
| 8/08//2024 | Feb 2023 Edition, Page before the Foreword & Page 2 | | Need to provide a contact email address for the NATSAR Council Secretariat | | Secretariat  National Search and Rescue Council  GPO Box 2181  Canberra ACT 2601 | | Secretariat  National Search and Rescue Council  GPO Box 2181  Canberra ACT 2601  [nationalsarcouncil@amsa.gov.au](mailto:nationalsarcouncil@amsa.gov.au) | | Jo Fisher, Response Planning team, AMSA | **NATSAR 48** |
| 12/08/24 | App A | | Duplication and old wording | | E. The Parties agree that this agreement updates and replaces the Agreement signed 30 June 2004 | | IGA 3E Duplicated in 2.2.1 | | Dr Jim Whitehead APM SAR Consultant | **NATSAR 48** |
| 12/08/24 | App E-1 | | Explanation of Search Urgency Assessment Form. | | Nil wording, new words added. | | **Notes:** The SUA should be completed by the SMC. When completing the SUA form please look at the SAR incident in its entirety to get a better understanding of the urgency involved. An example of this may be a reported overdue skier in the alpine region of NSW. Making the assessment based on the activity that was being undertaking may provide a higher score than the actual situation requires. For the skiing activity the MP may be experienced and familiar with the area, scoring a 4. If they are overdue and the likelihood of them spending the night above the snow line is a possibility a re-assessment should be made. While they may be experienced to ski the various runs they may have little or no experience at overnighting, dropping the score down to a 1.  If the MP was prepared for a day of skiing the popular ski runs with appropriate clothing, there is little likelihood that they took additional clothing for an overnight stay, again dropping the score from a 3 to a 1. Equipment is the same as clothing; a day skier is not likely to be carrying a tent and overnight provisions but may be perfectly equipped for a day ski.  The weather and hazard profile are similar in context. Weather and hazards in one area of the alpine region may be different in another area, and both can change during the course of a single day. A pleasant day of skiing can change in an instant, be aware of this and review the SUA form as appropriate.  It is appropriate for the SMC to ask the question of why the MP did not return from a scheduled activity, and from that make deductions on the potential possibilities and what the SAR response should be. | | Dr Jim Whitehead APM SAR Consultant | **NATSAR 48** |
| 12/08/24 | New 4.14.50 – 4.14.59 | | New Diver section | | No previous wording | | See attached section | | Dr Jim Whitehead APM SAR Consultant | **NATSAR 48** |
| 12/08/24 | App E-5 | | Biannual review of the Australian Lost Person Behaviour data | | Old App E-5 | | See attached wording | | Dr Jim Whitehead APM SAR Consultant | **NATSAR 48** |
| 16/01/2025 | Vol 1  3.2.11 | | Change of wording to include reference to diploma and Adv Diploma | | 3.2.11 “The Queensland Police Service currently manages the Registered Training Organisation (RTO) component of this course.” | | 3.2.11 The POL58115 Diploma of Police Search and Rescue Coordination (Marine/Land) and POL60421 Advanced Diploma of Police Search and Rescue Management are issued though a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) that is accredited to provide this training/certificate. | | Graeme Pettigrew  QLD police | **NATSAR 48** |
| Feb 2024 | Page 2 | | Change of address | | “82 Northbourne Avenue, Braddon, ACT, 2612, Australia” | | “Level 8, 18 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra, ACT, 2601, Australia” | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| Feb 2024 | Various locations | | NATSAR Edition - Amendment process | | “February 2023” – (Main title page)  “2023 EDITION Version 1 – February 2023” (inside cover)  “2023 EDITION Version 1 – February 2023” (footers)  “2023 EDITION Version 1 – February 2023” (Vol 1, page 34)  “2023 EDITION Version 1 – February 2023” (Vol 2, page 81)  “2023 EDITION Version 1 – February 2023” (App, page 356) | | “February 2025” – (Main title page)  “2025 EDITION Version 1 – February 2025” (inside cover)  “2025 EDITION Version 1 – February 2025” – (Footers)  “2025 EDITION Version 1 – February 2025” (Vol 1, page 34)  “2025 EDITION Version 1 – February 2025” (Vol 2, page 81)  “2025 EDITION Version 1 – February 2023” (App, page 356) | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| Feb 2024 |  | | Expired website address | | Handbook 3   * <https://ema.infoservices.com.au/collections/handbook>   Website for collections   * <https://aidr.infoservices.com.au/collections/handbook>   Emergency Management Australia (EMA) has developed a handbook, “Managing Exercises” that is [Handbook 3](https://ema.infoservices.com.au/collections/handbook) of the Australian Emergency Management Handbook and Manual Series. This manual should be used as a guide and to assist SAR personnel designing and conducting search and rescue exercises. This Handbook and other EMA publications can be found on the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience website at: <https://aidr.infoservices.com.au/collections/handbook>. | | Handbook 3   * <https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/resources/handbook-managing-exercises/>   Website for collections   * <https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/collections/handbook-collection/>   The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has developed the [Managing Exercises Handbook](https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/resources/handbook-managing-exercises/) which is part of the Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection. This handbook should be used as a guide and to assist SAR personnel designing and conducting search and rescue exercises. This Handbook and other NEMA publications can be found on the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience website at: <https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/collections/handbook-collection/>. | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 21/01/2025 | Vol.  1.2.29 | | Reword sentence to flow better  Update email address | | 1.2.28 JRCC Australia shall take responsibility for organising the entry into and departure from the Australian region, outside of the Australian Sovereign territory (12 Nautical Miles off coast line), foreign state aircraft engaged in SAR operations.  1.2.29 Any Foreign State aircraft entering the 12 NM limit will require submitting a Diplomatic Clearances through Department of Defence via phone 02 612 84819 or email to [ForeignAircraft.Requests@defence.gov.au](mailto:ForeignAircraft.Requests@defence.gov.au), and will require involvement from the relevant country’s Embassy or High Commission. JRCC may assist in facilitating this requirement. | | 1.2.28 JRCC Australia shall take responsibility for organising the entry into and departure from the Australian region, outside of the Australian Sovereign territory (12 Nautical Miles off coastline), of foreign state aircraft engaged in SAR operations.  1.2.29 Any Foreign State aircraft entering the 12 NM limit will require the submission of a Diplomatic Clearance through the Department of Defence via phone 02 6128 4819, or, email to [dipa.hqac@defence.gov.au](mailto:dipa.hqac@defence.gov.au), and will require involvement from the relevant country’s Embassy or High Commission. The JRCC may assist in facilitating this requirement. | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 14/01/2025 | Vol 2.  3.11.32 | | SUA totals incorrect  Max score is now 39, not 42 | | 3.11.32. After the completion of the assessment the assigned numbers are added to determine the overall seriousness of the incident. The appropriate responses are:  a) 11-17 Immediate response  b) 18-27 Measured response  c) 28-42 Conduct further inquiries and re-evaluate the situation | | 3.11.32. After the completion of the assessment the assigned numbers are added to determine the overall seriousness of the incident. The appropriate responses are:  a) 11-17 Immediate response  b) 18-27 Measured response  c) 28-39 Conduct further inquiries and re-evaluate the situation | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 14/01/2025 | Vol 2.  3.14.8 | | Inconsistent value  Should read 3-year-old per previous statement at 3.14.7 | | 3.14.8. It is very unlikely that a 6 year old child will have walked 28.5km however | | 3.14.8. It is very unlikely that a 3-year-old child will have walked 28.5 km however | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 14/01/2025 | Vol 2.  3.14.11 | | Missing LPB category | | 3.11.14 listed a) to m) | | 3.11.14 listed a) to n), with n) being ‘First Nation People | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 21/1/2025 | Vol 2.  3.5.83 | | Removal of ‘c’ after 2.5  Include reference to Safety Factor table to contextualise the paragraph | | 3.5.83 Through an analysis of intelligence information, or because of the failure to locate a target in the probability area, even after the expansion to the 2.5c safety factor, it may be considered necessary to search other areas or tracks. All decisions of this nature are the responsibility of the SMC. The general guidelines for determination or probability areas should be applied. | | 3.5.83. Through an analysis of intelligence information, or because of the failure to locate a target in the probability area, even after the expansion to the 2.5 safety factor (Table 3-2: Safety Factors), it may be considered necessary to search other areas or tracks. All decisions of this nature are the responsibility of the SMC. The general guidelines for determination or probability areas should be applied. | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 23/01/2025 |  | | Standardisation of units in manual  Standardisation of spacing | | Kns, nm, KM, kp/h  25Kns, 6nm, 20kph, 3hrs, etc | | Kts, NM, Km, kph  25 kts, 6 NM, 20 kph, 3 hrs, etc | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 24/12/2024 | Vol 2  4.9.19 | | Missing equation | | The conversion is made by using the formula: | | The conversion is made by using the formula: | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 24/12/2024 | Volume 2 | | Numbering incorrect | | 4.17 Land Search briefings  4.17.18 Briefing and debriefing is essential to the success | | 4.17 Land Search briefings  4.17.1 Briefing and debriefing is essential to the success | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 15/01/2025 | Volume 2  7.12 | | Current word ordering implies an effect of alcohol being dependent on weather. Indicates blood contacts air, which is not quite accurate | | 7.12.2. In cold weather alcohol has the tendency to vasodilate (widen) the smaller blood vessels, allowing warm core blood to flow to the extremities, providing a feeling of warmth. In reality it has the effect of allowing warm blood to come into contact with cold air, cooling it down and resulting in lowering the core body temperature, increasing the effects of hypothermia. | | 7.12.2. Alcohol has the tendency to vasodilate (widen) the smaller peripheral blood vessels, allowing warm core blood to flow to the extremities, which in cold weather may initially provide a feeling of warmth. In reality, it has the effect of allowing warm blood to become closer to the skin surface, which if in contact with cold air, will cool the blood down, resulting in the lowering the core body temperature, increasing the effects of hypothermia. | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 23/01/2025 | Volume 2  5.5.1 | | Remove Defence acronym (IAW) and clarify reference to IGA and responsibilities | | 5.5 Maritime Rescue  5.5.1 The SMC is responsible for the coordination of surface vessels engaged in the rescue of survivors in or on the sea. Both the JRCC and Police are responsible for rescue at sea, with the first alerted assuming initial responsibility to coordinate a response prior to transfer to the best placed authority to take overall coordination if required, IAW IGA para 5.1 III (NATSARMAN Appendix A) and NATSARMAN Appendix B. | | 5.5. Maritime Rescue  5.5.1. The SMC is responsible for the coordination of surface vessels engaged in the rescue of survivors in or on the sea. Both the JRCC and Police are responsible for rescue at sea, with the first alerted assuming initial responsibility to coordinate a response prior to transfer to the best placed authority to take overall coordination if required, in accordance with the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) paragraph 5.1 III, Appendix A, and National SAR Responsibilities, Appendix B, in this manual. | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 23/01/2025 | Volume 2  7.15 | | Expand heat stroke paragraphs, and use ‘dot points’ for treatments  Same content, just broken up into smaller chunks | | 7.15 Heat Stroke  7.15.1 This is the most serious of the heat related illnesses. As the body’s fluid levels become low sweating stops. As a result of this the body’s core temperature continues to rise. The lack of blood to the vital organs necessitates that blood be brought from the limbs back to the core, thereby contributing to a further increase in body temperature. At this stage the body is unable to cool itself and the temperature rises rapidly. Vital organs then begin to fail; convulsions, unconsciousness and death soon result. Symptoms of heat stroke include rapid, shallow breathing, a pulse that may be strong and rapid at first but deteriorating to weak and irregular, falling in and out of consciousness, hot, dry and red skin and a high body temperature. Immediately seek urgent medical assistance. Treatment is similar to heat exhaustion. Stop the victim from doing anything; at this stage they will have lost the ability to make rational decisions.  Place them in a cool area, lying down with the legs elevated. Cool the body and given small quantities of cool water. Seek urgent medical assistance. To cool the body remove any tight or restrictive clothing and any clothing soaked with perspiration. Cover the skin with cool and wet items such as towels. Fan the body to aid in evaporation and cooling. Continue to do so until the body’s temperature falls to 38°C.  7.15.2 In all cases rapid assessment of the situation and prompt first aid can mean the difference between life and death. If you have any doubt about which stage a victim may be in then assume the worst and treat accordingly | | 7.15. Heat Stroke  7.15.1. This is the most serious of the heat related illnesses. As the body’s fluid levels become low sweating stops. As a result of this the body’s core temperature continues to rise. The lack of blood to the vital organs necessitates that blood be brought from the limbs back to the core, thereby contributing to a further increase in body temperature. At this stage the body is unable to cool itself and the temperature rises rapidly. Vital organs then begin to fail; convulsions, unconsciousness and death soon result.  7.15.2. Symptoms of heat stroke include rapid, shallow breathing, a pulse that may be strong and rapid at first but deteriorating to weak and irregular, falling in and out of consciousness, hot, dry and red skin and a high body temperature. Immediately seek urgent medical assistance.  7.15.3. Treatment is similar to heat exhaustion.  a) Stop the victim from doing anything; at this stage they will have lost the ability to make rational decisions.  b) Place them in a cool area, lying down with the legs elevated.  c) Cool the body and given small quantities of cool water.  d) Seek urgent medical assistance.  e) To cool the body, remove any tight or restrictive clothing and any clothing soaked with perspiration.  f) Cover the skin with cool and wet items such as towels.  g) Fan the body to aid in evaporation and cooling.  h) Continue to do so until the body’s temperature falls to 38°C.  7.15.4. In all cases rapid assessment of the situation and prompt first aid can mean the difference between life and death. If you have any doubt about which stage a victim may be in, then assume the worst and treat accordingly. | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 8/08//2024 | Feb 2023 Edition,  Page 2 | | Need to capture that 2024 amendments were/will be endorsed by NATSAR Council | | First published in Australia in 1992 by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) on behalf of  the Australian National Search and Rescue Council.  82 Northbourne Avenue, Braddon, ACT, 2612, Australia  Written and amended by Senior Sergeant Jim Whitehead, Queensland Police Service on behalf of  the National Search and Rescue Council  Amended in 2025 by the National Search and Rescue Council. | | First published in Australia in 1992 by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) on behalf of the Australian National Search and Rescue Council.  Level 8, 18 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra, ACT, 2601, Australia  In 2016 Doctor Jim Whitehead, now retired Senior Sergeant, Queensland Police Service, combined the 2015 versions of the National Search and Rescue Manual (Aerial and Marine Search and Rescue) and the National Land Search Operations Manual to form a single manual.  Over the period 2019 to 2020, as part of ongoing reviews, Dr Whitehead removed approximately 1300 paragraphs of ‘duplicated’ text, re-drew old ‘photocopied’ diagrams, and arranged each chapter into: Marine, Aviation, and Land sections.  Throughout the period from 2016 to 2023, Dr Whitehead was predominantly responsible for writing, amending, and editing the National Search and Rescue Manual on behalf of the Australian National Search and Rescue Council.  Editing of the 2025 edition was led by Leading Senior Constable Andrew Craig, Australian Federal Police, Search and Rescue, on behalf of the Australian National Search and Rescue Council. This is part of ongoing succession-planning to ensure that knowledge of SAR requirements is utilised to ensure appropriate updating of the manual, and to facilitate continuous improvement of SAR processes. | | Approved by  Jo Fisher, Response Planning team, AMSA | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 02/01/2025 | App C | | Change of name | | Australian Federal Police Operation Coordination Centre | | Australian Federal Police Nation Operations State Service Centre (NOSSC) | | Andy Craig  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 03/01/2025 | E-9 | | Mattson Consensus formula incorrect in table | | **Consensus Weight (d) = (c) ÷ (a) = weight** | | **Consensus Weight (d) = (a) ÷ (c) = weight** | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 03/01/2025 | E-9 | | Mattson Consensus formula incorrect in table | | The search area with the highest percentage is considered, by consensus, to be the area of highest probability and would be searched first, followed by search area 2 and so on. | | The search area with the highest percentage is considered, by consensus, to be the area of highest probability and would be searched first, followed by the search area with the next highest percentage and so on. | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 03/01/2025 | E-5 | | Outdated references | | Computer sites such as ‘You tube’, Facebook’ and ‘Myspace’ may provide details about a missing person and any intentions that they may have. | | Social media sites such as ‘Facebook’, ‘YouTube’, and ‘Instagram’ may provide details about a missing person and any intentions that they may have. | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 03/02/2025 | Index | | Moved to rear of document | |  | |  | | Andy Craig,  AFP | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |
| 12/08/24 | App E-8 Land SAR Probability of Detection | | Corrected format and updated POD graph. | | Figure E-8:2: Land SAR POD Table | | See attached sheet. Designed to replace entire section. | | Dr Jim Whitehead APM SAR Consultant | **1st Advisory Committee meeting (25 Feb 2025)** |