SARVAC HWF
Local GSAR Group / HWF Responder Level
Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)
Phase 3- ALERT

VERSION: 1 – March 2023	**ADMINISTRATOR:** Nicolas de Breyne

PURPOSE: The purpose of this document is to provide a Local GSAR Group / HWF Responder level SOP for the *ALERT Phase* of SARVAC's HWF Program.

SUMMARY: The ALERT phase takes place when the NIST DIR communicates the status of an HWF deployment to P/T Associations, Local GSAR Groups and HWF Responders. The ALERT message is sent as a follow up to the SURVEY, and will be one of two notices. Either "**Deployment Confirmed"** or "**Deployment Stood Down.**"

PROCEDURE:

1. **Local GSAR Groups should receive the HWF Alert from their P/T Association DO.**

   The Alert Status NOTICE will use an alert chart with two (2) levels and indicates either:

   - deployment confirmed with details to follow
   - deployment stood down

Deployment confirmed: Participating Local GSAR Groups, through their P/T DO, should be notified to organize and brief HWF Responders on the incident particulars. HWF Responders should ready themselves for deployment. Recipient Local GSAR Groups should contact the NIST DIR, through the NIST Operations Section, to communicate and assist in planning and preparing the destination infrastructure, required to accept incoming HWF Responders.

   Local GSAR Groups should:

   - Be aware that P/T Associations should have surveyed their membership for real-time availability, ability to deploy for a specific operational wave (if multiple waves are anticipated), and to hold in-reserve enough resources to manage callouts from within their home jurisdictions.
   - Issue Activation Callouts to GSAR members.
   - Forward a list of those who respond, based on the Callout Acknowledgement and information in the DMS.

Deployment is stood down: Participating Local GSAR Groups, through their P/T DO, should be notified to stand down; their GSAR members should be notified to do the same.

(For the sake of clarity going forward, this document will assume that a "Deployment is confirmed" Alert is issued.)

2. **Local GSAR Groups should validate HWF Responder data.**

   P/T Associations should validate GSAR member data in the DMS from data received from Local GSAR Groups as well as 'Approve' or 'Decline' participation by individuals.

   - Survey results combined with DMS data should be used to identify those with specialized skills so that they could be solicited by the AHJ.
   - Local GSAR Groups should work with the NIST DIR (or the OSM if assigned) and P/T Local Overhead Groups to organize the HWF personnel.

3. **Local GSAR Groups may be asked to assist the NIST in identifying travel hubs, along with Service Agreement(s) being activated.**

4. **Recipient Local GSAR Groups should contact the NIST DIR via the Logistics Team to communicate and assist in planning and guiding the fulfilment of the destination infrastructure, required to accept incoming HWF Responders.**

This completes the *ALERT Phase* with the *National Search and Rescue Operations Concept.*