



SARVAC HWF

P/T Association Level Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

Phase 3 - ALERT



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PURPOSE: The purpose of this document is to provide a P/T Association 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 and GSAR Responders within Local GSAR Groups. 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. P/T Association DOs should receive the HWF ALERT from the NDO.

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

- deployment confirmed with details to follow, or
- deployment stood down

Deployment confirmed: Participating Local GSAR Groups, through their P/T Association DOs, should be notified to organize and brief HWF Responders on the incident particulars. HWF Responders should ready themselves for deployment.

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 within their home jurisdictions.

P/T Association DOs should be aware that Local GSAR Groups should:

- Issue Activation Callouts to GSAR members.
- Forward a list of those who respond, based on the Callout Acknowledgement and information in the DMS.

Deployment stood down: Participating Local GSAR Groups, through their P/T Association DOs, 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 confirmed” ALERT is issued.)

2. P/T Association DOs should assist the PSM or Resource Unit Leader (when assigned) with preparing HWF Responders for deployment.

They should:

- Validate HWF Responder data within the DMS.

- Approve or decline the participation of GSAR members in the response, based on:
 - The GSAR members' status with the Local GSAR Group or P/T Association (active, in-active, suspended).
 - Their ability to retain adequate members to provide GSAR services in their service area.
 - Their GSAR members having the skills requested. Survey results combined with DMS data should be used to identify those with specialized skills so that they could be solicited by the AHJ.
- Assist the NIST in identifying travel hubs and activating Service Agreement(s), if requested.
- Submit the HWF Responder information received from the Local GSAR Groups to the NIST DIR (or a Resource Unit within the NIST Planning Section).
- Together with Local GSAR Groups, be updating the Survey Dashboard on the SARVAC site with availability of members within their regions.

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