Section I – General

Purpose:

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources Field Team Leader performance expectations are developed:

- To provide user agencies and SAR managers with recommended performance expectations for the leader of a SAR team in the field
- To provide an operating guideline for teams that are in line with nationally accepted guidelines for the performance of SAR teams

Section II – Agency Expectations

This section provides user agencies with the capabilities that are expected from the Field Team Leader. Agencies are encouraged to identify local SAR Units and develop a working relationship. Individuals not affiliated with a SAR Unit or evaluated as a Field Team Member should be utilized only under the direction of a trained SAR Field team Leader.

Definition: A Field Team Leader is an individual member of a SAR team who demonstrates the knowledge and performance requirements to lead a field team during a SAR operation.

Section III – Qualifications

- Must be a minimum of 18 years old
- Must be a member of a recognized organization that provides SAR services

Section IV – Performance Expectations

- Possess a current certification in CPR and Standard First Aid or better
- Possess a FEMA statement/certificate that indicates successful completion of the NIMS IS-00700; IS-00100; IS 00200
- Must hold a current certification (within 3 years) of DCNR Field Team Member or NASAR SARTech III
Must demonstrate sufficient knowledge in the following categories, by successfully completing a written exam (achieving a score of 75% or higher) and a skills evaluation (successfully passing 3 of 4 practical stations)

General Knowledge of:

- Legal & Ethical Aspects of SAR
- Survival & Fitness
- SAR Clothing
- Navigation & Orienteering
- Search Theory & Management
- Search Techniques
- Rescue Techniques and Equipment
- Safety in SAR Environments
- Briefing & Debriefing of Field Teams
- Team Management & Decision Making
- Track Awareness and Sign Reading
- Helicopter Safety and Landing Zone Operations
- Securing the Scene and Crime Scene Preservation
- Incident Command System
- Communication Procedures and Protocols

Demonstrate the Skills of:

- Communicate Field Information to Command
- Lead a Hasty Team
- Lead a Grid Team and Lay a Flag Line
- Tie the Following Knots Without Sight: Bowline; Figure Eight on a Bight
- Dress Appropriately and Maintain Personal Equipment
- Locate a Point on a Map Through Triangulation
Follow Compass Bearings to a Specified Destination

Prepare Shelter from Pack Contents

Must Possess Personal Equipment to be used During Field Operations:

- Eight Matches
- Candle
- One Roller Bandage
- Six Band-Aids
- Two Large Safety Pins
- Pad & Pencils
- Two Large Trash Bags
- One Headgear/Helmet
- Two Sources of Light
- Compass
- Whistle
- Two Rolls Flagging Tape – Different Colors
- Multipurpose Knife
- Leather Gloves
- Measuring Device 18” Minimum
- Shelter Material 8x10
- Nylon Twine 25’ minimum
- Rainwear
- Sturdy Outdoor Footwear
- Water Container 1 Qt Minimum
- Pack for Carrying the Above Equipment