

Sitka Mountain Rescue Policies and Procedures

Effective Date: August 1, 2007	Approved By: Search and Rescue Director, Don Kluting
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Subject: Membership Status

Purpose:

- In order to maintain a constant state of readiness and to facilitate effective wilderness response, all members of The Sitka Mountain Rescue Team (SMR) shall have their status periodically reviewed and altered as indicated.

Classifications of Status:

Active Member: An individual shall be considered an Active Member if they have attended a *minimum of 50%* of the training sessions/drills and responded to a reasonable number calls during the preceding year. Active members shall be considered operational field resources, are authorized to sign out team equipment (at the discretion of the director) and may be issued vests, pagers and other team items as indicated.

Inactive Member: An individual who has previously been an Active Team member will be transferred to Inactive status if they fail to attend the required training sessions or fail to respond adequately to calls. Inactive members may not possess team equipment including pagers and must surrender such items upon becoming Inactive. Inactive team members may participate in all training and respond to calls at the discretion of the Director.

Command Staff: Command Staff personnel will be considered Active Members for the purposes of team membership but may not sign out team equipment and are not considered a field resource. Command Staff are expected to attend a minimum of 50% of command staff drills and respond to a reasonable number of calls during the preceding year or will be re-classified as Inactive.

- At the discretion of The Director, a team member who does not maintain the required 50% attendance at training with SMR but remains an Active Member of another City rescue organization (Sitka Fire Dept., Sitka Police, etc.) may be considered an Active Member of SMR. These will be decided on a case by case basis.
- All members of SMR will undergo a 6 month probationary period. The probationary period begins when a completed application is received by The Director. During the probationary period, members will be considered Inactive and thus unable to sign out team equipment, pagers and vests. They may be

deployed to the field on missions at the discretion of The Director or Incident Commander during this period if evaluated and deemed to be “field ready”. At the end of the probationary period, they may be re-classified as Active and issued equipment.