

# Exercise Evaluation Report

## PINNACLE

**Location:** *Kaweka Ranges  
Napier*

**Date:** *4 November 2022 to 6 November 2022*

**Report  
version:** *FINAL*

**Evaluator(s):** *Vince RANGER  
Tauranga LandSAR*

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## Executive Summary

This exercise was planned and executed with the dual purpose of testing and learning by field team members, particularly on their fitness and competencies as per the LandSAR competency framework, and secondly to test the response of the IMT including CIMS structure, SAR good practice, communications, and IT (SARtrack).

The exercise was originally planned for last year but postponed due to inclement weather. The planning team was made up of members within the Police SAR group, with some input from the Hawkes Bay LandSAR group.

The objectives were set by the planning group, with input from the evaluator.

The plan was consistent with the NZSAR exercise planning documents.

Historically the eastern District has divided SAR response and training. That division is between the Hawkes Bay and then the Gisborne-Wairoa groups.

There would be some advantage for these two sub-districts to train together as a complete district. That would ensure consistency across the district and enhance the capability to support each other.

Several learnings came from the exercise, both within the IMT and Field teams. Some of these are reflected in the recommendations of the evaluator.

The exercise was a great success.

## Recommendations

### **(1) Planned District IMTEX training annually and between District SAREX**

See findings objective 2.

IMTEX will give the district SAR IMT practitioners the ability to practice and enhance their SAR management skills

### **(2) SARtrack training for all IMT together with a committed resourcing of personnel and equipment by the LandSAR group.**

See findings Objective 2

This exercise demonstrated a lack of resourcing, training and personnel to effectively operate SARtrack as an IT tool for search management..

### **(3) Increase Laminated Form-set to include**

Safety Plan

Sitrep form

Missing Persons forms(Multiple)

See findings Objective 2 and Objective 6

### **(4) Obtain LandSAR group SOP's. Review by IMT members for its suitability. Accept those SOP's as part of a pre-plan, or modify them to suit the district.**

See findings on objective 1 and 5

No current Pre-Plans exist for the district

**(5) Develop and Information flow chart to enhance the flow of information throughout the IMT, Considering the Intelligence function as the single point of truth.**

See findings Objective 2 and 4

In addition to these recommendations two further were recommended during the exercise de-brief.

These included

- (i) Radio operators to wear headphones to reduce noise within the IMT
- (ii) All briefings to field teams be delivered face to face where possible by a forward controller or respond from the search base.

## Introduction

Exercise “Pinnacle” was a planned district SAREX for the Eastern Police District, (Hawkes Bay).

The exercise was planned by members of the Police SAR squad who made up the planning team, however there had been communication and input from the local LandSAR group.

The exercise was a scenario- based exercise, with lost parties inserted into the bush area near the Makahu Saddle carpark and Kaweka flats areas of the Kaweka Ranges.

This is a local area, well used by local trampers, hunters, and day walkers.

The search base and ICP were at the Napier Coastguard building, which has become the district ICP for all searches.

The scenarios were developed with the intention of all field teams having a find of some sort.

Injects were presented to the IMT to manage the timings of the exercise.

Field teams initially were responded directly from the local LandSAR base in Hastings, with follow up teams briefed and responded from the search base.

The IMT functions were also the subject of a LandSAR assessor, Tony WELLS. He is completing a report specifically for the Hawkes Bay LandSAR group. He added value to the IMT members with his experience and advice throughout the exercise.

## Background

This exercise was originally planned for November of 2021; however it was postponed due to poor weather during the weekend of that date.

I had been contacted by the SAR planners to undertake the evaluation for that date and that request continued to this date.

In discussions with the exercise planner and the exercise controller it was agreed that I evaluate the whole exercise, with a focus on the IMT component of it.

### Background to the Exercise

The planning document does not disclose any supporting evidence for this exercise, however as the evaluator discussed the exercise with various participants, it became clear that the area of the exercise was a popular location for trampers, hikers and hunters.

### Dates, location, organising agency(s), key people

This exercise involved the Police SAR squad and the Hawkes Bay LandSAR group. The key planners and exercise managers were Andrew KNOX (District SAR Coordinator) Brian Halse and Andrew WALKER (exercise controller). All three from the Police SAR squad. The exercise started late afternoon of 4 November, and finished mid-day 6 November, with many of the field teams spending 2 nights out. While the original intent of the exercise was to include FENZ and the Rescue Helicopter, both these organizations could not attend.

### Participating organisations

Ultimately it was the Police SAR Squad and the Hawkes Bay LandSAR group as the participating agencies.

### Exercise aim.

No over-arching aim was identified within the plan, however the objectives were identified and set by the planning team with some communication with the evaluator. These objectives are taken directly from the NZSAR recommended objectives.

## Exercise objectives.

### SAREX OBJECTIVES – Operation Pinnacle 2021

Theme	Objectives	Contributing Objectives	KPI
<b>Planning preparedness</b>	Planning documents demonstrate preparedness	Review readiness plan(s) to identify any gaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning documents are up to date with current information</li> <li>• Planning documents integrate with each other and support operational effectiveness</li> <li>• IMT accesses the readiness plan in an appropriate time frame</li> </ul>
<b>Field Team Competencies</b>	Assess Field Team competencies and effectiveness		<p>Team members fit and healthy</p> <p>Team members are properly equipped</p> <p>Field team members can implement training in field situations</p> <p>Field team members are proficient at utilizing various search techniques in the field.</p>



<b>Integrated response</b>	SAR partners collaborate effectively	Appropriate agencies are selected for and participate in the SAR exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All agencies required for the exercise participate</li> <li>• All agencies participating collaborate effectively</li> <li>• Liaison arrangements for inter-agency engagement are maintained</li> </ul>
		All SAR agencies operate within the CIMS model and principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agencies work under common structures, roles and responsibilities</li> <li>• Agencies use common terminology</li> <li>• Agency response is coordinated</li> <li>• Agencies coordinate resource organisation</li> </ul>
<b>Incident Management Team</b>	The IMT effectively manages the exercise		
		IMT operates in accordance with the CIMS model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICP established</li> <li>• Appropriate structure established</li> <li>• Documentation is completed</li> <li>• IAP is established for the initial operational period</li> <li>• IAP is updated for subsequent operational period</li> <li>• IAP review meetings are conducted by the IC</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IC leads regular IMT briefings</li> <li>• IMT function managers undertake regular team briefings</li> </ul>
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		The IMT activates and manages appropriate resources to meet the demands of the exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IMT follows readiness plan</li> <li>• IMT executes step up SOPs (pagers, apps, phones, etext)</li> <li>• IMT briefings follow GSMEAC format</li> <li>• IMT confirms the availability and response of resources</li> <li>• IMT sources equipment for the response</li> <li>• IMT ensures suitable communications for the incident are established</li> <li>• Tasked resources are controlled and coordinated in line with the IAP</li> </ul>
		IMT supports resources throughout the exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Logistical support is provided as required</li> <li>• Tasking's are appropriate to the resources</li> <li>• Resources are supported to operate in accordance with health and safety practices</li> <li>• Task execution is monitored</li> <li>• Tasked resources are debriefed at the completion of each task</li> <li>• All teams are debriefed on completion of exercise</li> <li>• Safety briefings are conducted during the operation</li> <li>• Planning process is documented</li> <li>• Planning is established for the next operational period</li> </ul>
		The IMT utilises appropriate IT systems to support the demands of the exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IT systems are set up and operational capability is completed in a suitable timeframe</li> <li>• IMT personnel can operate the IT systems in use for the incident</li> <li>• IT systems support situational awareness</li> <li>• IT systems remain operational throughout the response period</li> </ul>

		The IMT utilises SARTrack to support the demands of the exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SARTrack set up and operational capability is completed in a suitable timeframe</li> <li>• IMT personnel can operate SARTrack as required for the response</li> <li>• SARTrack use supports situational awareness</li> <li>• SARTrack remains operational throughout the response period</li> </ul>
		IMT maintains situational awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Briefings and debriefings are conducted</li> <li>• Information is relayed appropriately and in time</li> <li>• Information received within the IMT is analysed</li> <li>• Information is collated and disseminated within the IMT as appropriate</li> <li>• IMT planning meetings are conducted on a regular basis</li> <li>• Information for next operational period is established</li> <li>• IMT is continuously aware of resource progress, welfare and activities</li> </ul>
		IMT records and processes information consistent with the CIMS Intelligence Cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Intelligence Collection Plan is maintained</li> <li>• Radio logs are maintained and analysed</li> <li>• Incoming information is analysed</li> <li>• Team debriefs are analysed</li> <li>• Intelligence products are disseminated to other functions</li> </ul>

<b>Managing Communication</b>	Information is effectively managed and communicated during the response	Intra- and inter-team communication is effective in maintaining situational awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information is collated and disseminated within the IMT as appropriate</li> <li>• Information received within the IMT is analysed and corroborated</li> <li>• Actionable intelligence is developed</li> </ul>
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		IMT and field team communications follow SOPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field teams follow radio schedules and protocols</li> <li>• Information from IMT to field teams follows SOPs</li> <li>• Communication lines between IMT and field teams operate effectively</li> </ul>
		Test communication infrastructure in SAR environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication lines between IMT and field teams operate effectively</li> <li>• Communication systems are operational in a timely manner</li> <li>• Communication systems remain operational throughout the response period</li> </ul>
<b>Risk Management</b>	Risks are identified, removed, minimised or managed	Risk management systems and processes are defined and communicated by the IMT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operational risks are analysed</li> <li>• Risk management systems and processes appropriate to the nature and complexity of the situation are defined</li> <li>• Briefing information appropriately addresses identified risks</li> </ul>

## Exercise Scenario

### **SAREX 2022 Scenario – Operation Pinnacle**

#### **AREA:**

Makahu Saddle

Map BJ37 – Kuripapango

#### **SCENARIO:**

A trio of avid kiwi monitors (Gerald, Dave and Brian) have gone into the Makahu Saddle area on the morning of Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022 with the intention of checking on several Kiwis living in the area. The monitors are of average fitness and health as befitting their advanced ages and have various injuries and ailments. They were not intending to stay the night and should have been back out of the bush by no later than 2.00pm Friday afternoon. None of the monitors are carrying suitable overnight equipment and have limited food with them. Gerald and Dave are carrying a PLB but Brian does not have one.

Their friend Winston PETERS will report them overdue and will tell SAR which kiwis the trio were searching for. Winston will provide contact sheets for each kiwi with co-ordinates of their most recent locations where they have been found. When these are plotted on a map it will give approximate areas where each kiwi lives.

Unbeknown to Winston is that two other persons (Mike and Nick) have accompanied Brian to the Littles Clearing area to look for Grey Beard and they are also overdue.

The initial call out will relate to 3 persons (LP1 and LP2), LP3 will become apparent the following day.

#### **Lost Party intentions**

##### **LP1 – Gerald and Dave**

LP1 are heading to Kaweka Flats to check on “Cinders” due to concerns she might be about to crack under the stress of recent months. They were going to check on Harry T on their way past to make sure he is staying in his own patch and not roaming around the country. Harry T tends to wander off to the north a lot, away from his home area.

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November - LP1 to leave vehicle at Makahu Saddle carpark and walk north along the Kaweka Flats track to Kaweka Flats Bivvy. They will leave a note in the Makahu Hut logbook saying they are looking for Cinders around Kaweka Flats and will then check on Clarke if they have time. Clarke has recently been straying across the river into Nanny’s area, so they want to get a rough bearing on where he is. LP1 will continue on to Iron Whare for the night (just in case IMT send a Hasty team to Kaweka Flats in the dark).

Saturday morning LP1 will find a suitable location to camp where they will remain until located. LP1 will have a training PLB which they will activate on Saturday afternoon giving the Lowe Corp Rescue Helo some beacon training but will move on to a new campsite after the helo has practiced its winch training.

##### **LP2 - Brian**

LP2 was intending to park at Littles Clearing and search for Grey Beard around Littles Clearing area. While travelling through the bush his dodgy knee and reconstructed hip have failed him and he is now immobile.

Rescue A: If FENZ are available they can be deployed with thermal equipment Friday night and will hopefully locate LP2, they hasty team will then RV with him and stretcher him out to the carpark in the dark. Or alternately spend the night with him before getting assistance from another team Saturday morning to stretcher him out.

Rescue B: The FENZ drone will be deployed with thermal equipment on Friday night and will locate an item of clothing with a heat source inside it, they will direct the hasty team to the clothing and this will be the start point for the morning search.

Rescue C: FENZ drone is unavailable so LP2 will yell for help during the night, the aim being he is located early Saturday morning. Or reply to a mobile locate text. Teams being deployed Saturday morning will have a stretcher with them in their vehicle and will carry him out.

LP2 will tell teams that LP3 came up with him to search for Grey Beard but he thought he was slowing them down so they parted company and LP3 headed off elsewhere, maybe to look for another kiwi and go for a short hunt. They headed off up the road somewhere, he doesn't know where they parked but Mike was driving his old Toyota Hilux. He noticed that LP3 were both looking a bit crook and struggling to keep up with him, they were puffing pretty badly and looked really knackered, he thought maybe they were both hung over or got the flu or something. He will confirm they should have been out of the bush by Friday evening.

If LP2 is debriefed properly by search team he will provide teams with Mike and Nicks names and give a phone number for Mikes wife.

### **LP3 – Mike and Nick**

LP3 decided to accompany LP2 to Littles Clearing to look for Grey Beard. After helping LP2 find Grey Beard they were going to have a quick look for Road Runner then spend the rest of the day hunting and return home Friday night. LP2 will leave their vehicle on the roadside somewhere and head south from the road where they will find a suitable location to camp in the bush and wait to be rescued.

Because Mike has such an appalling sense of direction it is not uncommon for him to get lost and spend the night in the bush, but he always makes it out the next morning. He was due to start work at 0800 Saturday morning but phone calls to his wife should inform IMT that he hasn't returned home and is not at work and no one has heard from him or Nick. Family are concerned about them but were giving them a bit longer before reporting them missing.

IMT will be made aware of LP3 when LP2 is located. They will then need to make enquires Saturday morning to get more information on LP3. When LP3 are located they will be suffering from Covid-19 and require quarantine measures. LP3 will have a firearm so shots can be fired Saturday night to provide a clue as to where they are.

### **Rescue Helicopter:**

Rescue helo is keen to take part and will provide a training beacon to one of the lost party (LP 1). They would like the LP to be partially hidden in semi-open beech or scrub – they want to have to work a bit to locate them but not under 100' trees where winching is difficult. Upon locating the LP they will winch a crewman down, recover the beacon, leave a lemonade and depart.

They likely wont be available until mid-afternoon on Saturday. If it goes with LP1 to Kaweka Flats there's a chance the search teams will see the helo hovering over the LP's position resulting in them being found soon after. The LP would have to move position once the beacon is uplifted and refreshments delivered.

Alternately the beacon can go with LP3 as search teams probably won't be getting into their area until midday Saturday at the earliest. This will be finalised at a meeting between self, LP1, LP2 and LP3 closer to the time.

### **Fire Service drone**

FENZ have indicated they are keen to attend and use the drone with thermal equipment for a search Friday night. Operator Joel FRASER will need to request authorisation from his supervisors to take part in the exercise, if granted he will provide a 2 person team to do a sweep over LP2 position. LP 2 will be lying in a large open expanse of tussock and scrub, and may hide a heat source of some sort in the forest to give FENZ some practice on how well the drone can detect heat under bush canopy.

As per LP2's scenario the drone will assist with locating him.

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## Evaluation Methodology

The agreed outcomes of the evaluation activity

It was agreed that the whole exercise will be evaluated with any comments relating to portions not observed based on comments from participants spoken to.

Evaluation scope

The evaluation is based on the objectives set by the exercise planners

Aspects of the exercise observed, what was not observed.

The evaluator was based at the ICP with the IMT and Exercise Controller. All of the ICP functions were observed.

The field team members were not observed, and any comments are based on discussions with the two group trainers who attached themselves to a team, and with comments made by team leaders at the exercise de-brief.

The process followed in preparing and submitting the report.

My initial contact was via Brian Halse through the original planned exercise date, and later with the exercise controller, Andrew Walker. The evaluation was sent as a draft to the exercise controller and to the district SAR Coordinator for any comments and prior to a final report. All of the identified recommendations have been discussed with one or more of the planners.

Comments made by key players after they had read the draft report have been considered in completing this final report.

Other information

The focus of the evaluation was on the IMT and as such the field teams activities were not observed.



## Findings

### Objective 1

Planning documents demonstrate preparedness.

Planning documents did not exist for the IMT. Only 1 person within the IMT thought there may be some documents in existence within the Hawkes Bay LandSAR group.

Subsequent discussion with the LandSAR group training officers confirmed that some SOP documents do exist at the groups base. The evaluator did not observe these documents and cannot comment of their suitability and relevance.

Objective NOT MET

### Objective 2

IMT effectively manages the exercise.

The IMT operated within the CIMs model.

The structure set by the Incident Controller was consistent with the CIMS model.

The information flow was inconsistent and some barriers to information flow was identified. This was identified by the IMT and with some assistance by the LandSAR assessor, was overcome.

Documentation was largely completed again with some advice on best practice.

Initial Action Plan and subsequent Action Plans were completed and regular planning meetings held throughout the exercise.

Objectives took some time to be identified.

IMT was consistent in its use of call out SOPs for the local LandSAR group

All the briefings followed the GSMEAC format and were well delivered. However initial teams were responded with e mailed tasks only and without a suitable briefing.

IMT responded appropriate teams

Initial objectives of the Action Plans were confusing, however improved markedly as the exercise progressed.

Equipment and communications were suitably managed by the IMT

IMT supported the resources throughout the exercise. Tasks were set and delivered in accordance with SAR best practice

Planning documents were completed. However a number of the preformatted forms were not completed and could have enhanced the IMT planning and Intel functions.

These included the Missing persons forms

Sitrep form

Safety Plan

A Safety Plan was not completed by the IMT, until the last hours of the exercise.

IMT utilised SARtrack as an IT system, however there were insufficient people trained and deployed to make full use of the system. Nor were there sufficient laptops and screens to utilize this as an IMT tool. The IMT used both the SARtrack IT system and paper system throughout the exercise. This became cumbersome and created barriers to the information between radio operators and the IMT.

As a consequence at times some of the IMT members did not maintain situational awareness throughout the exercise.

Objective PARTLY MET

Objective 3.

SAR partner agencies collaborate effectively.

Only three organisations took part in this exercise, Police, LandSAR Hawkes Bay group and AREC. Despite the intent of the planners FENZ and the Rescue Helicopter could not participate.

Within the IMT there was a good relationship between the organisations, however there was some criticism of the IMT for not using the SOPs that were available through the LandSAR group and some criticism of lack of local knowledge within IMT members.

There was also some criticism of the local LandSAR group committee in regards to a lack of support for IMT support, particularly in the resourcing and training of Management Support unit and SARtrack.

Liaison between the Police and the LandSAR group was commented on as lacking.

The LandSAR Group Training Officer has confirmed that there are a number of trainings planned subsequent to this exercise, aimed specifically at the Management Support Unit and SARtrack. He had not received any requests for further training in these fields.

Objective PARTLY MET

## Objective 4

### Managing Communication.

The communication systems were set up by AREC, using a local DOC channel and a repeater channel.

These were managed well.

A Barrier existed with the radio messages being delivered to the IMT.

This was exasperated by a lack of SARtrack personnel and resources to input these messages and no clear information flow. It was further exasperated by the ICP being set up in a way that this information needed to criss-cross the room before getting to the appropriate place, i.e. INTEL section. There should only be “One Single Point of Truth” and that is the intelligence section.

This barrier was identified by the IMT however it took some intervention by the IMT assessor(LandSAR) to remedy.

Radio messages and taskings between IMT and field teams was effective but with the need to break messages and identify locations prior to messages.

## Objective MOSTLY MET

## Objective 5

### Field teams Competencies

This was not observed by the assessor, however discussions with the LandSAR groups training officers confirmed that they had identified some need for improvement in fitness and capability, but that this related to only a few team members. There were three field team assessors, each attached to one team for the duration of the exercise.

They had not been able to move between teams as they had hoped.

Although the assessors did not observe all the field team members, the teams that they did observe were the most important and sufficient to identify the group's needs.

## Objective MET

## Objective 6

### Risk Management

A Risk Management Plan was not completed, until the final hours of the exercise. No preformatted form existed to complete and display this form.

### Objective NOT MET

#### General findings.

During the course of the exercise function managers became absorbed in other functions and as a consequence there were times that the IMT failed to focus on Planning.

It was observed that the Planning manager became involved in the Operations functions and the Planning manager relaying radio messages without consultation with IMT members.

This together with the Information Barriers created a situation where situational awareness became lost within IMT members and the Common Operating Picture at times did not exist.

## Conclusions

This was a well-planned and successful exercise that was appreciated by all the participants.

The IMT personnel all appeared to appreciate the learning opportunity that existed throughout the exercise.

The field team leaders all seemed to appreciate the exercise as the learning and testing opportunity that it was.

The conclusions on each of the Objectives have been included in the findings under the respective Objectives.

The inclusion of the Police Operations Manager in the notifications subsequent briefings, and her visits to the ICP, demonstrated strong support from the Eastern Police District to SAR. The Inspector displayed confidence in the SAR community in her district.

**HAWKES BAY POLICE AND  
HAWKES BAY LANDSAR  
2022 SAREX**

**OPERATION “PINNACLE”**



**Exercise Plan**

***DISTRIBUTION LIST:***

Insp Gwynn PENELL  
Vince RANGER (NZSAR Moderator) 1  
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## 1.0

### Outline

Police SAR and LandSAR Hawkes Bay will conduct an annual Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX) over the weekend 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> of November, 2022. The SAREX will be conducted in the Eastern Kaweka Ranges, around the Makahu Saddle area. The SAREX will predominately encompass tussock and scrub, semi-open beech forest and thick manuka scrub land with a small amount of river/stream travel.

The exercise will be run from the Coastguard base situated at 704 Meeanee Quay, Westshore, Napier. The search area is approximately 75 kilometres west of the Coastguard base.

There will be three Lost Parties (LP), consisting of two teams of two and one team of one. All the lost parties are very experienced and capable LandSAR or Police SAR members. Three LP parties will allow a greater number of search teams to have the opportunity of utilising their tracking and searching techniques in off-track environments as opposed to walking great distances on formed tracks..

The objectives of the exercise are as per the attached Objectives Document.

## 2.0

### Locations

#### *Map in Use*

Topo50 – BJ37 Kuripapango

#### *Exercise Locations*

Location	GPS Ref.	Comment
Vehicle locations	E1894100 N5645700	Last Known Point (LKP) for Lost Party 1. Makahu Saddle carpark.
	E1896300 N5646450	LKP for Lost Party 2 – Littles Clearing car park
	E1896300 N5646450	LKP for Lost Party 3 – Littles Clearing car park.
Intentions for LP 1		Walk north along Kaweka Flats track to Kaweka Flats Bivy, proceed to Iron Whare for Friday night. Saturday morning circle back to the south and find a suitable location to camp Saturday night. Camp location to be at the discretion of LP and relayed to LP Liaison via InReach or radio. Encoded maps in use
Intentions for LP 2		Enter Littles Clearing, moving approximately 300m into the tussock then making camp for Friday night.



		<p>Will be immobile and require stretcher carry to extract back to the car park.</p> <p>If FENZ are available LP2 can be located via drone, if not LP 2 will commence yelling for help early Saturday morning, the intention is for the team to take bearing on the voice and use appropriate search technique to locate stationary person in waist high tussock and scrub. LP 2 will make search teams aware of LP 3 on Saturday morning, prompting IMT to carry out further enquires to get information on LP 3 and begin searching for them.</p>
Intentions for LP 3		<p>LP 3 will be unknown at the outset of the search, their presence in the search area will be made known early Saturday morning by LP 2, giving Intel IMT staff further enquires to make Saturday morning. LP 3 will leave their vehicle parked at Littles Clearing and travel to Black Birch Bivy for the night. They will find a suitable location nearby to the bivy and remain until located. Camp location to be at the discretion of LP and relayed to LP Liaison via InReach or radio. LP3 will be displaying Covid 19 symptoms when located and require appropriate response from search teams.</p>

### 3.0

#### Key Personnel

Function	Name	Contact Number
Exercise Controller	Andy WALKER (Police)	021 191 3313
Moderators	Vince RANGER (Police)	
Mentors	Brian HALSE (Police) Jessie KYLE (LandSAR)	021 191 3390 021 236 9193
Management Team	Andrew KNOX (Police) Pat NOISEUX (Police) Sue LILEY (Police) Alex SIMISTER (Police) LandSAR IMT TBA	021 191 3329 021 192 5079 021 191 3380 021 191 3367
Field Team Leaders	Andrew CHANTREY (Police) Paul KAVANAGH (Police) LandSAR Team Leaders TBA	
Field Team members	Mike BATY (Police) Nathan PIPI (Police) Matt BETESTA (Police) Rose CAMPBELL (Police)	021 220 6992

<b>Function</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Contact Number</b>
	LandSAR team member TBA	
Lost Party 1	Gerald BLACKBURN (LandSAR) Dave ROSE	027 4211028 021 231 9261
Lost Party 2	Brian HALSE	021 191 3390
Lost Party 3	Michael HAWTHORNE (LandSAR) Nic HUME	027 2453717 027 461 8223
Lost Party Liaison	Andy WALKER	021 1913313
Communications	John NEWSON	027 2303642

## 4.0

### Logistics

<b>Function</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Comment</b>
ICP(Incident Control Point) Set Up	Management Team,	To be set up Friday, 04/11/2022 by 1900hrs
Lost Party Communications	Andy WALKER	Radio check with LP's on Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> at 1900. Further Comms to be via cell phone, DOC8 VHF or Garmin InReach GPS device.
Search Teams Communications	AREC + Logistics	Start to be put into place on Friday evening and completed Saturday morning.
VHF Hand held radios	LandSAR & Logistics	LandSAR group is to bring their own hand held VHF radios. Base set/s and repeater units will be set up by AREC (Amateur Radio and Emergency Communications).
VHF Repeaters HF Mountain Radios	Base Support + Logistics	LandSAR repeater/s on VHF and DOC8 VHF as back up. HF sets will also be deployed and can be used for night and morning scheduled transmissions/taskings. (Police and AREC)
GPS Receivers	LandSAR + Police for lost parties.	Search Teams Supplied by LandSAR with GPS units as well as GPS equipped radios set up for SARTrack.
EPIRB (PLB's. Personal Locator Beacons).	LandSAR Police SAR	Each search team is to ensure that an EPIRB is carried and all members are aware of where it is located. The team leader is responsible for briefing team members in respect of this.

		Lost parties will have 1 EPIRB per party.
Laminated Maps and Photos	Andy WALKER  Andy WALKER	Maps for lost parties, search teams and ICP use from Police storeroom, Hastings Station.  Coded map supplied to LP's
Computers and Printers	LandSAR	SAR laptops and printer.
First Aid Equipment	Police and LandSAR	Each team to be deployed with first aid kit. Full first aid kit to be held at ICP
Accommodation	Individual  Management	Exercise participants to provide personal equipment for overnight accommodation in the field.  As the ICP is located in town, ICP staff will be able to go home at the conclusion of each days exercise. Accommodation has been arranged for out of town moderator.
Transport	Individual	Transport to and from the ICP to be an individual responsibility. Police vehicles able to assist with deployment to the search area on Saturday Morning. Police vehicles will meet transport requirements during the SAREX and extraction on Sunday.
Catering	NZ Police – Constable WALKER, HALSE plus volunteers	Individuals who are in the field will provide their own food for Saturday lunch/dinner and Sunday breakfast/lunch.  Late lunch will be provided on Sunday at the conclusion of the exercise at the SAREX Base for all participants on their return from deployment.  Management team will have access to food for lunch on Saturday and dinner on Saturday Evening.
Misc ICP equipment	Police SAR Squad members. LandSAR	Police SAR storeroom, Hastings.  LandSAR Trailer.
Department of Conservation Liaison	Andy WALKER	Area Manager Moana DUNLOP-SMITH, Napier DOC to be informed LandSAR Teams will be operating in the Makahu Saddle area and the use of DOC radio channels if required as per MOU. Facebook notification of exercise in the area – Completed by DOC.

Hawkes Bay Rescue Helicopter.	Wayne STEED	Will conduct EPIRB location training, most likely Saturday afternoon, pending helicopter availability and weather permitting. Helo wishes to practice beacon homing and winch training in bush environment.
FENZ	Joel FRASER	If given clearance to attend they will take part of Friday night with a drone search around LP 3's location to test the efficiency of their thermal imaging equipment in a bush environment. Again, subject to weather conditions.

## 5.0

### Communications

#### *Within Exercise*

Exercise activities	ESB57 DOC 8 – Hawkes Bay HF
Lost parties	DOC 8, Cell Phone and Garmin InReach for LP 1, LP 2 and LP 3.

#### *External*

Police vehicle radio.

## 6.0

### Emergency and Hazard Management Plan

First Aid facilities will be maintained at the ICP. A register of exercise personnel with First Aid Certificates is held in the Field Headquarters by respective LandSAR and Police managers. External assistance will be through normal emergency services.

#### *Injury Related Emergency*

##### Specific Responsibilities

- 1 **The Patients** – The highest priority is the provision of first aid. This includes ensuring that the patients are not exposed to further harm. The senior person at the

site will select the most appropriate person to administer the first aid. This decision will be based on skills, experience and currency. This decision-making process must not delay the administering of first aid.

- 2 **Other Team Members** - Steps must be taken to ensure the safety of the remaining team members. The activity should continue if the safety and wellbeing of the remaining participants and the patients are not compromised by the accident.
- 3 **Summon Assistance** – At the earliest opportunity contact should be made with base via VHF (in the case of lost parties, DOC8 or cell phone) advising them of the incident and that it is "NO DUFF". Police will assume control and follow emergency procedures to extract the injured person/s. In the event you are unable to contact base via VHF call 111 from a cell phone (if possible) and ask for Police and advise them of the incident. If these methods fail, then activate your personal PLB. (if applicable)

### **General**

- **The responsibility for the injured persons remains with the SAR IMT and Leaders until the injured persons leave the site, whether by helicopter, ambulance, Police Transportation or private car.**

### ***Missing Members Emergency***

A situation may be considered to be a missing person emergency where two or more of the following circumstances occur:

- No voice or radio communication with the party for a significant period of time (Time A\*)
- No visual contact with the party for a significant period of time
- The party has insufficient experience to resolve a situation without assistance
- One or more members of the party may have a medical condition or is at risk of a medical condition including hypothermia
- A **river crossing** may have been involved – this event has higher priority than the Time A\* threshold and action will be taken within (Time B\*)
- Initial efforts to find the party have failed
  - Efforts to include tracking from LKP plus sign cutting intended and most likely routes
  - Known track traps in the area have been checked
  - Sound and light lines done through the area

\* **Time A** - around 4 hours (where the 4-hour time frame excludes what would be normal sleeping hours for the party).

\* **Time B** - around 30 minutes

- The times are suggested for planning purposes. Actual times will be determined on the day based on many factors including weather, party experience etc

#### Specific Responsibilities

- 1 IMT at base, Steps to be taken to ensure that all remaining members are available to assist with a search.
  - a. All relevant equipment has charged batteries and is ready for deployment
  - b. All activities are recorded
  - c. Formal search planning is done by the base IMT including consensus and scenario analysis
- 2 This is to be treated by base IMT as per normal callout procedures.

#### **Hazard Identification**

Task hazard identification will be carried out by individuals continuously during the exercise. Existing hazards and the proposed controls are as per the attached **Hazard Identification/Control Plan:**

## 7.0

### **Equipment/Food**

The SAREX officially starts at 1730hrs on Friday the 4th of November 2022. There will be opportunity for IMT to deploy one or two “hasty” search teams to road ends Friday night to search carparks and vehicles.

The remainder of the Police and LandSAR personnel to muster at 0700 hrs Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at Coastguard Building and deployment of search teams is expected to start at 0800 hrs.

All SAR members are to bring their full 24hr kit for the over-night exercise, with the appropriate tools to complete skills that may be required, ie: TOPO 50 Map of the area, compass, tracking sticks, ice block sticks, acetate, pens, note book, GPS, whistle and whatever else you normally use to complete these tasks.

#### FIELD STAFF:

Own food for Saturday lunch/dinner and Sunday breakfast/lunch. Late lunch will be provided on Sunday afternoon in the form of a BBQ at the Coastguard Base approximately 1430 hrs.

#### MANAGEMENT / BASE STAFF:

Lunch and Dinner will be provided on the Saturday and lunch on Sunday. Other meals will be their own responsibility.

#### VEHICLES:

Hastie Team deploying Friday night will utilise their own vehicles and will be reimbursed costs by Police. Police vehicles and drivers will be utilised to transport the remaining teams Saturday morning and retrieval of teams Sunday afternoon.

## 8.0

### Program

#### Friday 04th November 2022

Time	Event	Comment
1600 hrs	Lost parties to deploy to Whittle Road, Makahu Saddle Area, Kaweka Ranges	Lost parties to deploy to their designated carpark's on Makahu Saddle Road and walk into their respective search areas.
1600hrs	Police SAR Personnel to muster at the Hastings Police station to assist with the preparation of the exercise.	Transport equipment to Coastguard base, final check to ensure all batteries are charged on radios, GPS, field equipment, gas bottle full for BBQ, cooking gear in SAR trailer.
1730hrs	Call to be received by I/C to initiate exercise.	Senior Sergeant KNOX as I/C. Mentor/assistance provided by S/Const WALKER and S/Const HALSE. Etext to be sent out as per protocol with normal search.
1900hrs	IMT pre-planning	IMT notified of scenario and conduct any pre-planning required (if necessary).
1900hrs – 2100 hrs	FENZ Drone search	FENZ to conduct drone search if released to take part in the exercise.

#### Saturday 5th November 2022

Time	Event	Comment
0700hrs	SAREX participants arrive at Coastguard Base and SIGN IN.	Travel to the Coastguard Base individuals' responsibility. O/C Logistics to check in LandSAR staff on arrival and to distribute equipment for the field.
0730hrs	Welcome, Exercise outline, Safety Briefing	Andy WALKER and Brian HALSE to welcome all exercise personnel. GSMEAC briefing to be provided by I/C. Safety briefing to be provided to all exercise personnel.
0800hrs	All teams to be deployed on exercise.	IMT to manage and task accordingly. Use Police vehicles to deploy teams in the field. Police members qualified in 4x4 vehicle use to deploy teams using the Police 4WD vehicles.

1200hrs	Meal breaks to be taken as required.	Breaks taken at discretion of field team leaders.
1900hrs	Lost parties and search teams to make camp for evening by no later than 1900 hours.	Scheduled contact with teams. Confirm location and welfare. SITREP/Taskings and weather forecast provided for following day.
1900-0700	Field teams to overnight in chosen camps.	No movement of teams during night

**Sunday 6th November 2022**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Comment</b>
0700hrs	SAREX resumes	Radio sched to all teams to check welfare and confirm allocated team taskings.
1100hrs	Extract all Lost Parties and Search Teams to ICP	IMT to task Police staff to retrieve teams using Police 4x4 vehicles and van. Lost Parties to self-extract in the event they have not been located.
1400hrs	Team Assessments	IMT to debrief individual team leaders upon return to the ICP
1430hrs	Debrief + Lunch	Mentors and Moderators to debrief all exercise personnel.
1530hrs	Demobilisation	O/C Logistics to confirm all persons departing are in a fit state to drive home and sign them out. If any person is in an unfit state to drive a motor vehicle the incident controller (Senior Sergeant KNOX) is to be notified immediately to ensure arrangements can be made to return the member and their vehicle home.  Coast guard Building to be cleaned and all Police SAR equipment returned to SAR store.

Prepared by Senior Constable Andy WALKER  
HB POLICE SAR