

Exercise Evaluation Report

OPERATION PREHN

Tasman District SAREX

Location: St ARNAUD

Date: 10th to 13th February 2023

Report version: FINAL

Evaluator(s): Vince RANGER
Landsar, Tauranga

Contents

- 1..... E
- Executive Summary 2
- 1. Recommendations 3
- 2. Introduction 4
- 3. Background 5
- 4. Evaluation Methodology 7
- 5. Findings 8
- 6. Conclusions 13
- 7. Appendix 15

Executive Summary

The Tasman District SAREX or 2023 was based in the St Arnaud area and revolved around a cold case of Christian PREHN, who went missing in the area in 2014. Searches at that time failed to locate Christian and to date he has not been found.

A subsequent inquest found that Christian died from unknown causes in the vicinity of Mt Traverse, where the exercise was targeted.

Teams from across the district SAR groups, including Canyon SAR attended. Other agencies included the Military, 3 squadron NH90 crew.

The exercise was a great success, although no evidence was located to assist in finding Christian.

All the participants gained good learnings and experience from attending this exercise. The district's SAR groups all benefited.

The exercise was held over a 4-day period. Most of the volunteers presented themselves from the evening of the first day through to the evening of the 3rd day. A smaller number, including the Police squad members continued through to the 4th day.

Recommendations

- (1) When planning an exercise, follow the NZSAR guidelines on exercise planning, identify the need, identify the purpose, develop objectives of the exercise together with the KPI's, develop a scenario to, including cold cases to achieve the objectives.

See findings and conclusions.

- (2) To obtain laminated AO size copies of Action plans, found item register, Field teams register, Information collection plan, safety plan, situation report.

See findings and conclusions.

- (3) To develop and use readiness plans for high-risk areas across the district.

See findings and conclusions.

- (4) To hold a district IMTEX to imbed good practice within IMT members and practice function management.

See findings and conclusions.

- (5) To clearly identify the name and roles of the forward coordinator or on scene coordinator when using a forward base.

See findings and conclusions.

- (6) To maintain consistency of SAR equipment allocated to Police SAR squad members and squads across the district, in line with the SAR chapter of the Police manual.

See Findings.

Introduction

This exercise was based wholly on a cold case, Operation PREHN.,

Christian ULF PREHN was a 19-year-old French Tourist who had been touring New Zealand for 4 months prior to him visiting the St Arnaud area in February of 2014.

He was last heard from by his family on the 21st of February and last seen on the 25th of February on the Traverse track.

His pack was located at Traverse saddle.

Original searches of that area failed to locate Christian, and his body has never been located. A subsequent inquest found that Christian died in the Mt Traverse area of unknown causes.

This exercise was designed to further the search effort to locate Christian and to achieve the objectives set in the exercise plan.

It was fortunate that the weather for the duration of the exercise was largely fine and relatively mild.

The IMT was set up at the Rotoiti lodge, with a forward base set up at the Traverse saddle, some 26 kilometers up the Traverse Valley.

Access to the Traverse Saddle is normally by walking from St Arnaud, along lake Rotoiti, or by water taxi to the end of the lake.

This track forms part of a loop track and is becoming more and more popular as a 4 day walk. It is also part of the Te Araroa trail.

The exercise was well supported by the military personnel with an NH90 helicopter. All the forward base staff, field teams and equipment were flown into the area from St Arnaud.

Background

The exercise was planned by the West Coast SAR coordinator. I had been contacted by him early to carry out the evaluator role.

Background to the Exercise

The exercise was based on a cold case of Christian PREHN, who went missing in the Mount Traverse area in 2014. His body has never been located, The traverse saddle is part of a 4 day loop track that is becoming more and more popular with local and tourist hikers, and it forms part of the Te Araroa trail.

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

The exercise was conducted between the 10th and 13th of February 2023 and was based at the Lake Rotoiti Lodge, St Arnaud, with the search area some 26 kilometers into the mountains at the Traverse Saddle area.

The exercise was planned by the West Coast SAR Coordinator, S/Sgt Mark KIRKWOOD.

Participating organisations.

The exercise involved SAR groups from the Tasman District, including West Coast, Westport, Nelson and Motueka and the Canyon SAR group.

It included a full Police Squad from across the district.

The Military, via 3 squadron with the NH90 helicopter, well supported the exercise primarily shifting SAR teams, forward base staff, and equipment.

Exercise aim

The exercise aim is identified in its purpose.

“to explore possible lines of investigations in the cold case of PREHN/Christian. For all agencies and organisations involved to practice and enhance their individualized skills and competencies. To enhance and develop skills in working together in this multi-agency operation.

Exercise objectives

The Objectives set.

To investigate and evaluate the cold case of Christian PREHN and establish possible avenues of investigation.

Exercise Scenario

The exercise was based on a cold case, that of missing person Christian PREHN. Christian went missing in the Mount Traverse area in February 2014. Original searches for Christian failed to locate him. Christian was dropped off by water taxi at the end of Lake Rotoiti, with the intention to walk the loop track back to St Arnaud.

His vehicle was parked at Lake Rotoiti.

He was last seen by other hikers on the 25th February and a few days later his pack was located at Traverse Saddle, adjacent to Mount Traverse.

It is not known his direction of travel from that point.

A subsequent inquest found that Christian died in the vicinity of Mount Traverse of unknown cause.

Evaluation Methodology

The agreed outcomes of the evaluation activity

It was agreed that the evaluator will be based with the IMT at the Lake Rotoiti Lodge to observe and evaluate the exercise based on observations from that point and to evaluate other phases of the exercise through discussions and comments from individuals and teams involved, i.e., field teams and forward base.

Evaluation scope

All the exercise became part of this evaluation through observations, discussions, and interviews.

Aspects of the exercise observed, what was not observed.

The only phase of the exercise that was observed was that of the IMT and Staging area.

Any comments of field teams and the Forward base is based on interviews and discussions with those members and what was heard during radio messages.

The process followed in preparing and submitting the report.

The draft report was submitted to the West Coast SAR Coordinator, S/Sgt Mark KIRKWOOD for his perusal and any comments, prior to submitting this final report. Minor changes were made in respect to Landsar consultations prior to the exercise.

Findings

Objective 1.

To investigate and evaluate the cold case of Christian PREHN and establish possible avenues of investigation.

The KPI set for this objective included:

Toi collect data and adequately record data from the field then evaluate the findings to develop new taskings or rule out possible lines of enquiry.

The data from the field included items found and task debrief forms.

The found items were recorded on the electronic log system, and some were documented on a whiteboard. The results of these finds were not documented fully in one place.

The debrief of teams was carried out by the staff at the forward base. These debriefs were e- mailed to the ICP to be read and considered.

However, because the taskings had been pre-prepared, it did not give the IMT a real opportunity to use the information being received from the teams, to be considered for future tasking development.

Scenario analysis and search area had been pre-determined, and no further update on this was done until into the 3rd day of the exercise.

Objective 2.

To test the incident management teams ability to manage this multi-agency operation.

KPI's set for this objective included:

IMT have appropriate skills and knowledge for the Role they are undertaking and use this exercise to develop and foster new IMT members.

Install and use SARtrack.

In the planning stage of this exercise, the exercise planner and a team developed all the search area to be considered and completed and set tasks for search teams.

There was no documented action plan that these tasks related to. In effect it was management by task, rather than manage by objective.

This in effect limited the IMT in further planning processes.

There was limited opportunity to develop any Intel because the Scenario existed as a cold case. All the intel was pre-populated.

The logistics function had little to do or plan. The logistics had been pre planned by the exercise planners.

The roles of the Incident Controller and the Operations manager was observed. Both these functions were managed throughout the exercise to a high standard and the opportunity was used to expose newer members to both of those roles, and very successfully. These were demonstrated by leadership skills on incident controllers during the IMT meetings and briefings. At times though, function managers were left to their own devices, and at times became involved in other function, i.e., Intel manager carrying out team briefings on one occasion, intel manager doing planning function, I/c doing operations function.

Other function managers, planning and intelligence, all demonstrated good levels of skill in these functions when the opportunities arose. For example, updating scenario analysis, updating action plans, and updating search area analysis and determination of higher probability areas.

SARtrack was installed, however was not used to its fullest. This district has been reluctant to use SARtrack because it is seen as “clunky”

This district has developed its own computer-based system to manage the log. (Tasman SAR exchange). This is a good system for Log taking only.

Despite these, the IMT phase of this exercise was successful, with members learning and developing new skills throughout the weekend.

Individual skills were observed as a good level for their respective roles, particularly in the planning, operation, and incident control functions.

This exercise also involved a forward base. The forward base was set at the search area. They were given the same set of pre-set tasks to task field teams.

This worked well with particularly good communications between the forward base and the IMT. Five forms of communication were used, and all worked particularly well.

However, the initial stages of the exercise had some confusion as to who was in charge. With the forward base having the pre-determined set of tasks and were tasking teams with no or little input of the IMT.

In addition, the manager of the forward base was identified as Forward commander. In reality this function is that of coordinator, not command.

Using the correct terminology, that being on scene coordinator, more clearly identifies what that role is, and avoids confusion as to who is in control.

The exercise also involved a staging area manager for helicopter movement. This was well managed, well controlled, well planned with good communication with the IMT, helicopter crews and forward base.

Objective 3

To practice and test the capabilities of search resources.

The KPI set for this objective included:

To install and test new forms of Comms in the field, HF LRDR and star-link.

The objective was clearly met to a high standard.

The exercise was set in an ideal area for field teams to test their individual and team equipment, knowledge, and skill sets.

The cold case set reality into the exercise for those field team members.

Comments made by field team members were all very positive about their experience. It gave the opportunity to mix and work with neighboring SAR group members and to work with the military personnel.

Specialist group in the form of Canyon SAR were able to put their skills to use and to further develop their relationships with other SAR groups.

The new technology with the comms was set up, in particular for communications between the forward base and the ICP.

With the Star-link system, HF radio, and VHF radios and repeaters resulted in 5 forms of communication, radio HF and VHF cellphone, e-mail, and text.

It also gave the IMT the ability to receive and send high-definition photos through the HF LRDR.

The learnings from the Comms set up was a highlight of this exercise.

Objective 4

To test how the IMT implement a readiness plan.

No KPI was set for this objective.

No readiness plans exist for the area of this exercise, despite it being a high use area on a popular loop track and part of the Te Araroa trail, and being identified as a higher risk area.

Consequently, this Objective could not be evaluated.

Objective 5

To test the mobilization of the readiness plan.

No KPI was set for this objective.

As above, no readiness plan exists for this area.

Again, this objective could not be evaluated.

Objective 6

To test and practice all agencies working together.

The KPI set for this included:

To liaise effectively with all agencies attending.

The agencies involved in this exercise included the military (3 squadron NH90 crew) and representatives from all the Landsar groups across the district, including Canyon SAR and a good representation of Police SAR squads.

Across the exercise, both in the field, forward base and ICP, there was clear demonstration of members working together with members of neighboring groups and learning from each other.

A comment made by the 3 squadron NH90 crew to the effect that this was one of the best organized SAREX's from their point of view. That was testament to the Staging area managers and the Forward base managers.

The file created of the planning clearly showed that consultation took place through the planning process. Landsar were consulted with and they were given a lot of notice to assist in the preparation of the search plan.

In discussing Police support within the SAR community in this district, it appears that SAR is generally well supported within the district.

However, a SAREX is an ideal time for the District Leadership Team to demonstrate that support with a simple visit to interact with the volunteer partners of the SAR community.

General

The field team members all expressed the experience they gained from attending the SAREX.

The IMT members gained some experience working within an IMT, however the IMT lost its impetus towards the end of day 2, and at times it was observed that there were no IMT members in the ICP.

This is consistent with a cold case scenario, with tasks pre-set.

The Police SAR squads were deployed into the field with very mixed quality of equipment, including helmets and tents. It was found that the quantity and quality of equipment for SAR squad members differed across the three Police district areas, with the West Coast squad having the better of the Nelson and Marlborough squads

Conclusions

Without diminishing the success and value of this SAREX, there are drawbacks in using a cold case as a scenario in a SAREX.

In this exercise, planning and taskings were completed well before the exercise. This reduced the ability on the exercise IMT to fully develop a plan and to fully consider the information from field teams.

Without having a documented plan, the exercise was task driven, instead of objective driven.

This is typical of using a cold case as a scenario for a SAREX.

Using a cold case, the scenario is set and then objectives developed to meet that scenario. In a purist world, when planning an exercise, the expectation would be that the purpose, objectives and KPI's are set first, based on identified district needs, and then the scenario is developed based on those objectives.

All the objectives of this exercise were set and based on the cold case scenario.

That creates a confusion as to whether this is an exercise or a SAR operation.

However, the objective was met when considered with the intent of the SAREX planner. While the remains of Christian PREN were not found, search teams were able to search areas not previously searched, and re-search areas that were previously covered.

Specialist search teams in the way of Canyon SAR were not available on the initial searches. These however were deployed into canyon areas during this exercise.

Search teams proved to be very effective in their search methods and search practice. This was evident by the number of bones located, all subsequently identified as ani and not human.

Objective 1

To investigate and evaluate the cold case of Christian PREHN and establish possible avenues of investigation.

Objective MOSTLY MET

See recommendations re cold case as a SAREX and recommendation on displaying intel and plans.

Objective 2

To test the incident management teams ability to manage this multi-agency operation.

Objective MOSTLY MET

See recommendations re cold case as a SAREX scenario.

Objective 3

To practice and test the capabilities of SAREX resources.

Objective MET.

No recommendations required.

Objective 4

To test how the IMT implement a readiness plan.

Objective NOT MET

See Recommendation re readiness plans.

Objective 5

To test the mobilization of the readiness plan

Objective NOT MET

See recommendations re readiness plans.

Objective 6

To test and practice all the agencies working together.

Objective MET

No recommendations required.

Appendix

<Specifically include evidence to substantiate Findings, Conclusions, Recommendations. Number the Appendices in order, title or caption each piece of information.>

OPERATION PREHN Tasman District SAREX 10-13/02/2023 St Arnaud



Distribution List

Role	Name	Number
Tasman District Commander	Supt Tracey Thompson	1
West Coast Area Commander	Insp Jacqui Corner	2
Nelson Bays Area Commander	Insp Steve Collins	3
Marlborough Area Commander	Insp Simon Feltham	4
District Crime Manager	D/Insp Mark Chenery	5
District Deployment Manager	Insp Steve Midgely	6
District Ops Manager	A/Insp Julian Lewis	7
Maori Response Manager	Insp Tracey Wharehouka	8
Incident Controller	Snr Sgt Mark Kirkwood	9
Marlborough SAR OC	Snr Sgt Peter Payne	10
Nelson Bays SAR OC	Sgt Jonny Evans	11
Tasman District SAR Assistant Co-Ord	Leanne MacDonald	12
PNHQ Emergency Ops/SAR	Insp Craig Rendel	13
DCC		14
South Comms		15
Police Staff attending		16
LandSAR Group Support Officer	Katie Brennan	17
LandSAR Group Support Officer	Aimee Macdonald	18

GROUND

General - The ground for this operation is Nelson Lakes National Park, St Arnaud area specifically the Travers – Sabine circuit. The track is 80kms long, takes between 4-7 days to complete and is usually well marked. Most people travel the circuit in a clockwise direction and it goes from 600m in elevation to 1787m at the Travers saddle. Mt Travers dominates the circuit, which is 2338m. The area goes from Lake Rotoiti, through beech forest, to exposed alpine environment then back into beech forest. There are 5+ huts in the area. The area receives approximately 1.2m of rainfall a year and the average temp in February is 21 deg in St Arnaud township. Approximately 5000 people walk the circuit every year.

Detail – The area concerned is the Travers Saddle area. This area is 26kms walk from St Arnaud, passing through 3 huts, or you can take a boat to the head of Lake Rotoiti which shaves off 9kms. The Travers saddle is 1787m in elevation with track going east/west. It is an alpine area with forest ending at approximately 1400m.

SITUATION

Christian Ulf PREHN was a 19 year old from Germany arriving in NZ in October 2013 on an one year tourist visa. His family described him as an individualist, open minded, rather more intellectually than emotionally orientated. He was also described as not a

risk taker and “precise”. He had a pollen and nut allergy. He had no off track tramping experience. He had planned employment as an engineer with the German navy upon return home.

On 21 February 2014, Christian called his family, told them he was happy and having a good time and wouldn't be in touch until he was back in civilisation. That was his last contact with the outside world. On the morning of the 23rd, he parked his car at the park entrance in St Arnaud and boarded a water taxi, which took him to the top of Lake Rotoiti.

The boat unloaded at the dock and Prehn set off up the valley. A couple of hours from the start, he met up with another trumper, and they walked together until they reached the turnoff for Hopeless Hut. Prehn, took the side route while she headed on to John Tait Hut, and the pair met up again that evening when Prehn arrived after sunset. He wrote in the hut book, along with his intentions – ‘Travers-Sabine Circuit, maybe via Moss Pass/D’Urville Valley, otherwise usual route’.

The next morning he continued up the valley and made it to Upper Travers Hut after sunset, having detoured to Cupola Hut and back. He and other trampers in the hut spoke briefly, and Prehn said he was thinking of hiking to the Travers or to Blue Lake Hut, over Moss Pass, and back along D’Urville Valley, which he wrote in the hut book. He was due out on March 1.

The next day, the 25th February he set off towards Travers Saddle, a steep, long climb layered in shifting rock. At about 1130, two other trampers encountered him about half an hour below the Travers saddle. Prehn was standing and looking up at Mt Travers, and the three of them discussed climbing the mountain. It would be easier, one of them said, if you left your pack at the bottom and then returned to it afterward.

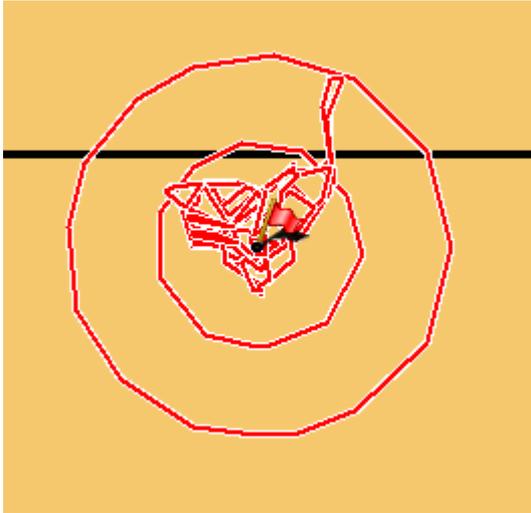
They were the last known people to see him. At the saddle, a flat stony space with several small tarns, Prehn dumped his pack and, presumably, walked off. No one has seen him since. But it would be three more days until anyone noticed he was missing.

On March 1, a couple tramping the circuit saw a grey Lowe Alpine pack on Travers Saddle and notified DOC staff, who alerted police. Snow had fallen in the area that day, and more was forecast for later in the week. There had been no reports of anyone overdue.

Search teams arrived in the area 2 March, searched that day and stayed overnight. The teams were forced to leave 3 March due to snow and windchill of -10 forecast. Search teams returned 6 March and left 7 March.

A search team returned 28 February 2015, leaving 1 March. See below track logs:

The red flag indicates where the pack was located. (Technology has certainly moved on from 2015)



As yet, Christian PREHN has not been located. Last year, 2022 planning began for this years Sarex. There hasn't been a Tasman field sarex for some years due to Covid/weather/other factors. West Coast was asked to take the lead, so we sought out a cold case search to use for the Sarex and choose Prehn. The file was obtained, gone through by several of the West Coast SAR squad, relevant people consulted with/ clues identified. See attached **Appendix 1** of the search area and clues identified from the original search. Of note is the area where a "dead smell" was noticed and where footprints/slide marks were.

The search area was sectored in accordance with Extended Search Planning principles. See attached **Appendix 2**. We are expecting at least ten field teams (TBC details), plus a CanyonSAR, Alpine Cliff Rescue (ACR) team and a NZ Police Drone team. Police SAR staff will also be in the field searching intermingled with LandSAR volunteers. No doghandlers are expected.

The IMT is to be run out of the Lake Rotoiti lodge, involving NZ Police/LandSAR volunteers. The staging area for heli uplift/drop off is as per attached **Appendix 3**. RNZAF have confirmed their attendance with a NH90 to provide transport into/out of the search area. On Friday, the NH90 crew will fly the teams in (weather dependant). On Saturday/Sunday it is planned for a midday in/out, dropping off/picking up replacements. Monday lunchtime, demobilisation.

MISSION

To find Christian Ulf PREHN

EXECUTION – GENERAL OUTLINE

This is a 4 Phase operation.

PHASE 1 – Present until Friday 10/02/2023

Incident Controller /

PIM

Snr Sgt Mark Kirkwood

Tasks:

- Report to West Coast Area Comd
- Establishing the response structure

- Maintain situational awareness
- Applying a risk management response
- Establishing and maintaining liaison, co-operation and communications
- Acting as spokesperson
- Determining and obtaining critical resources
- Convening and facilitating planning meetings
- Maintain relationship with Coroner / IWI / Police media hub / Family

OC Intel Const Luken Bisley

- Tasks:
- Report to IC
 - Complete a MP profile for team taskings
 - Complete a MP profile for IMT
 - Obtain weather report
 - Conduct tasks as required

OC Logistics Det Scott Burrowes

- Tasks:
- Report to IC
 - Establishing and maintaining comms (Comms plan done) Bryan Penney delivering new comms system shortly, please liaise with him to check need for linking repeater.
 - Check/Confirm accommodation (booked) and procure what we need to run an IMT.
 - Source response personnel (arranged)
 - Obtain a manifest for Air Movements
 - Formulate an asset register
 - Formulate sign in/out sheets
 - Formulate a log
 - Procure rations, Sunscreen, Bottles of water, Insect repellent, AA/AAA batteries, gas cannisters and coffee making facilities for SAR base (Liaise with Leanne Macdonald)
 - Contribute to the planning process

OC Planning / 2IC S/Const Sarah Cook

- Tasks:
- Report to IC
 - Have oversight of planning processes
 - Construct briefing/tasking packs for field teams
 - Complete NZSAR Sarex documentation
 - Liaise with NZDF for NH90 assistance (Confirmed attendance)
 - Develop a Rescue/Demobilisation plan
 - Liaise with DOC staff
 - Contribute to the planning process

OC OPS / Safety Officer Const Chris Read

- Tasks:
- Report to IC
 - Assist S/Const Cook in completing briefing packs.
 - Complete an IAP for first operational period.

- Support the IC to ensure that all those involved in the response are kept safe in accordance with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
- Maintain the hazard and risk register
- Contribute to the planning process

PHASE 2 Friday 10/02/2023 1000hrs

SHIFT 1

**Incident Controller /
PIM / Family Liaison**

Snr Sgt Mark Kirkwood

- Tasks:
- Report to West Coast Area Comd
 - Welcome the SAR team, invite Iwi to conduct a Karakia.
 - Brief SAR team in GSMEAC format (abbreviated from above)
 - Direct field teams to Sgt Munro
 - Integrate volunteers into the IMT
 - Accompany teams to helipad and see them off
 - Update DCC/Comms
 - Maintain oversight of the Operation / Situational awareness
 - Applying a risk management response
 - Maintaining liaison, co-operation and communications
 - Acting as spokesperson
 - Convening and facilitating IMT meetings
 - Maintain relationship with Coroner / Iwi / Police media hub / Family

OC Intel

Const James Matthews

- Tasks:
- Report to IC
 - Maintain timeline
 - Maintain sitrep
 - Maintain Information collection plan
 - Maintain clue log
 - Conduct tasks as required

OC Logistics

Det Scott Burrowes

- Tasks:
- Report to IC
 - Maintaining comms
 - Maintain log / Sign in/out register
 - Resupply teams as needed.
 - Conduct tasks as required

OC Planning

Const Carly Anderson

- Tasks:
- Report to IC
 - Maintain IAP / Weather report
 - Maintain situational awareness
 - Update Rescue/DeMob plans as required
 - Update contingency planning as required
 - Conduct tasks as required

OC OPS

Sgt Jason Munro

Tasks: -Report to IC
-Have field members put into teams and loaded into Sartrack, then direct them to staging area
-Ensure tasking/debrief forms are completed fully and are seen by each member of IMT, with IC being last. ONLY the IC is to place the forms in the SAR file folder
-Monitor and evaluate operational activities
-Continue to liaise with heli operators
-Conduct tasks as required

OSC Sgt Jonny Evans / Const Jude Yeoman / Const Larissa Muir

Tasks: -Report to OC OPS
-Stay at Travers Saddle area as link between teams and IMT
-Greet teams when they arrive at Travers Saddle
-Brief / Debrief teams, pass any info to IMT
-Maintain situational awareness
-Conduct tasks as required

Safety officer Const Chris Read

Tasks: -Report to IC
-Stay with OSC on Travers saddle and assist them in their duties
-Support the IC to ensure that all those involved in the response are kept safe in accordance with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
-Maintain the hazard and risk register
-Conduct tasks as required, including DVI process if MP found

PHASE 3 Friday 10/02/2023 1400hrs

SHIFT 2

Incident Controller Snr Const Sarah Cook

Tasks: -Report to Snr Sgt Kirkwood
-Shift changeover.
-Update DCC/Comms
-Maintain oversight of the Operation / Situational awareness
-Applying a risk management response
-Maintaining liaison, co-operation and communications
-Convening and facilitating IMT meetings

OC Intel Const Luken Bisley

Tasks: -Report to IC
-Maintain timeline
-Maintain sitrep
-Maintain Information collection plan
-Maintain clue log
-Conduct tasks as required

OC Logistics Det Matthew Fritz

Tasks: -Report to IC
-Maintaining comms

- Maintain log / Sign in/out register
- Resupply teams as needed.
- Conduct tasks as required

OC Planning

Det Campbell Watson

Tasks:

- Report to IC
- Maintain IAP / Weather report
- Maintain situational awareness
- Update Rescue/DeMob plans as required
- Update contingency planning as required
- Conduct tasks as required

OC OPS

S/Const Dave Cogger

Tasks:

- Report to IC
- Ensure tasking/debrief forms are completed fully and are seen by each member of IMT, with IC being last. ONLY the IC is to place the forms in the SAR file folder
- Monitor and evaluate operational activities
- Continue to liaise with heli operators
- Conduct tasks as required

OSC

Sgt Jonny Evans / Const Jude Yeoman / Const Larissa Muir

Tasks:

- Report to OC OPS
- Stay at Travers Saddle area as link between teams and IMT
- Greet teams when they arrive at Travers Saddle
- Brief / Debrief teams, pass any info to IMT
- Maintain situational awareness
- Conduct tasks as required

Safety officer

Const Chris Read

Tasks:

- Report to IC
- Stay with OSC on Travers saddle and assist them in their duties
- Support the IC to ensure that all those involved in the response are kept safe in accordance with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
- Maintain the hazard and risk register
- Conduct tasks as required, including DVI process if MP found

ACTIONS ON:

Remains located

- If a find is advised, instruct teams to "Take 5" ie Rest in place. No comms out
- IC to remind SAR team/IMT no contact with anybody as to the information and restrict movements around the site
- Try to obtain as much information from the field team.
- SAR teams to be instructed to hold in place whilst information from reporting SAR team is obtained
- Snr Sgt Kirkwood to be informed
- IC after consultation with AC inform DVI (Const Read) to photo/uplift remains. Inform Iwi/Coroner

- Once remains retrieved, Demobilisation to staging area/debrief. A further reminder, no comms out regarding a find.
- Once site clear, Karakia

Injury/Illness

- As per Sop, inform ICP and if need be set off PLB. Other tasks as required/directed

Phase 4 – Timing TBC

Demobilisation

Incident Controller /

PIM

Snr Sgt Mark Kirkwood / S/Const Cook

Tasks:

- Report to West Coast Area Comd
- Ensure all persons accounted for
- Update DCC / Comms / Coroner / Iwi / Police media hub / Family as required
- Ensure debrief occurs and complete file

OC Intel

TBA

Tasks:

- Report to IC
- Conduct tasks as required

OC Logistics

TBA

Tasks:

- Report to IC
- Ensure all equipment returned
- Ensure all field staff accounted for
- Conduct tasks as required

OC Planning

TBA

Tasks:

- Report to IC
- Conduct tasks as required

OC OPS

TBA

Tasks:

- Report to IC
- Debrief teams with the assistance of other IMT members
- Ensure debrief forms are completed fully and are seen by each member of IMT, with IC being last. ONLY the IC is to place the forms in the SAR file folder
- Continue to liaise with heli operators
- Conduct tasks as required

Safety officer

Const Chris Read

Tasks:

- Report to IC
- Support the IC to ensure that all those involved in the response are kept safe in accordance with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
- Maintain the hazard and risk register, ensure Demobilisation is done as safely as possible.

-Conduct tasks as required

ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

DRESS/EQUIPMENT

Police IMT staff are to wear Police issue overalls with appropriate IMT vest (we have the vests).

Field staff are to wear appropriate clothing/Hi viz vest, carry required equipment, including radio pouches. Police/LandSAR bring own radio/batteries. Teams are staying in field overnight.

RATIONS

Field staff will be issued rations/gas cannisters, AA/AAA batteries, Insect repellent. IMT staff will have food available for the volunteers, Police staff bring your own supplies

COMMS

-Field staff comms check prior to departure. Once on site, comms check, then every 2 hours thereafter until finished for the day. ICP will be staffed 0700-1900hrs. Advise IMT when starting/finishing each day. Outside ICP hours contact IC through Inreach

-ONLY IC Snr Sgt Kirkwood to give media comment. At conclusion of Operation, if a Group wishes to put something on Social media (NO individual posts), send the IC what you wish to post and await written reply. No verbal requests.

-Comms plan has been completed, frequencies/channels to be issued on tasking.

ACCOMMODATION

-Booked in at Rotoiti Lodge, St Arnaud for IMT staff. Same location as IMT. We intend to run our Starlink Internet/Wifi calling system there.

TRANSPORT

-Team members to carpool if possible. Vehicles to be left at accommodation/helipad as required.

ALLOWANCES

All claims to be collated by the relevant Area OC SAR (so they are all the same and sent to Snr Sgt Kirkwood)

SHIFT CHANGEOVER

Upon changeover, the prior shift is to leave the new IMT to it (unless further staff required for whatever reason which the IC will dictate) Staff aren't to "hang around the ICP".

SAFETY

Refer **Appendix 4**

COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS – TIMINGS

10/02/2023	0900hrs	IMT meet at SAR base, set up ICP, 1000hrs Briefing for field members
	TBA	RNZAF heli briefing at staging area / depart for field
10/02/2023	1400hrs	IMT shift handover
10/02/2023	1900hrs	Stand down for day
11-12/02/2023	0700hrs	IMT1 Commence duty
11-12/02/2023	1300hrs	IMT2 Commence duty
13/02/2023	0700hrs	IMT1 Commence duty
13/02/2023	1100hrs	IMT2 Commence duty
13/02/2023	1200hrs	Demobilisation (unless conducted sooner)

Other timings TBA

Snr Sgt Mark Kirkwood G887
West Coast SAR

