



CHIEF OF JOINT OPERATIONS HEADQUARTERS JOINT OPERATIONS COMMAND

AM169740

NATIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE MANUAL – LETTER OF PROMULGATION

1. The National Search and Rescue Manual (NATSAR Manual) is sponsored by the Australian National Search and Rescue Council (NATSAR Council), comprising Commonwealth, State and Department of Defence representatives. The National Search and Rescue Manual is published by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA).
2. The National Search and Rescue Manual shall be accepted by the Australian Defence Force as the Australian standard procedural guide for coordinating peacetime search and rescue activities within the Australian Search and Rescue Region (SRR). Attention is drawn to the ADF's unique responsibility to coordinate SAR for all military assets and personnel in the Australian SRR including visiting foreign military forces. Neither AMSA nor the civil Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) will intervene or assume responsibility for any part of a military SAR response, unless formally requested to do so by Headquarters Joint Operations Command (HQJOC).
3. The ADF recognises Joint Personnel Recovery (JPR) as the mechanism for recovering all isolated personnel from all environments at all levels of hostility. As a part of JPR, SAR Operations are those operations executed in a permissive environment, while Recovery Operations are those executed in an uncertain or hostile environment. The NATSAR Manual exclusively covers interdepartmental responsibilities and provides procedural guidance for SAR Operations, but does not provide guidance or procedures for operations in an uncertain or hostile environment. Accordingly, this Manual is not to be used as the authority for Recovery Operations.

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