

## Section 307a

### Alaska Search & Rescue Dogs – Wilderness Mission-Ready Criteria

Section 307a outlines the skills wilderness dog teams must demonstrate proficiently during their Mission-Ready Evaluation Series.

1.	The dog will demonstrate a reliable and readable alert on subjects and articles in a wilderness environment.
2.	The dog demonstrates a willingness to work for an extended period of time.
3.	The dog can be re-directed to work after distraction whether intentional or unintentional.
4.	The dog responds to handler's commands both verbal and nonverbal.
5.	The dog searches independently and ranges appropriately.
6.	The dog has the ability to handle the terrain.
7.	The dog has the health and stamina to complete the task.
8.	The handler is able to identify and describe the alert and body language their dog exhibits.
9.	The handler does not prompt the dog for alerts.
10.	The handler gathers initial information, articulates a search plan, implements the plan, and makes appropriate adjustments to any search strategy based on a variety of variables including: search area, terrain, weather, resources, etc.
11.	The handler demonstrates care for the safety and well-being of the dog. e.g. watering, resting, and praising dog appropriately.
12.	The handler is "clue" conscious and reports the presence of clues in the search area whether intentional or unintentional.
13.	The handler will work effectively when in a stressful situation.
14.	The handler navigates the terrain - e.g. map, compass, GPS, radio.
15.	The handler has the health and stamina to complete the task.
16.	The handler has appropriate equipment and/or a twenty-four (24) hour ready pack.
17.	Dog Handler will understand and demonstrate the practice of Probability of Detection (POD).
18.	The dog team will locate subject(s) / articles(s).

## Section 307b

### Alaska Search & Rescue Dogs – Wilderness Mission-Ready Evaluation Series

Purpose: Section 307b outlines the skills that will demonstrate a minimum level of proficiency and reliability for ASARD dog teams used in wilderness (large area) searches for lost and missing persons. ASARD dog teams must demonstrate consistent ability and complete the following Mission-Ready Evaluation Series with an average combined score of 3.0. A dog team will not pass the Mission Ready Evaluation Series if any one criteria has an average score less than or equal to 2.0.

Articles used in the wilderness evaluations shall be of average size (sweatshirt, jacket, pants, etc.), be well saturated with human scent which is unfamiliar to the dog. Subjects used in the evaluation shall be unfamiliar to the dog. Neither subjects nor articles shall be observable by the handler from a distance of twenty feet. All subjects will be placed into the wilderness environment in accordance with ASARD safety practices. Distractions shall occur throughout the series.

Additional: N/A	
Evaluation 7.1 – Detection and Alert: The purpose of this test is for the dog to demonstrate its ability to detect and communicate the location of a person in a wilderness environment.	
Description	A twenty acre wilderness area shall be utilized. One unfamiliar subject will be placed into the area 30-60 minutes prior to the start of the evaluation. The dog team has thirty minutes to conduct the search.
Evaluation 7.2 – Corridor Search: The purpose of this test is to demonstrate the dog's ability to detect and communicate the location of a person adjacent to a trail or roadway.	
Description	A suitable one mile trail or roadway running through a wilderness setting shall be utilized. An unfamiliar subject will be placed no more than 100 feet from the trail 30-60 minutes prior to the start of the evaluation. The subject should be placed so that a dog team can detect a scent source (either from the subjects trail or air scent) without leaving the trail system. The dog team has one hour to conduct the search.
Evaluation 7.3 – Article Search: The purpose of this test is to detect and communicate the location of human scented articles in a wilderness setting.	
Description	A suitable eight acre wilderness area shall be utilized which can include footpaths, right-of-ways, streams, lakes, structures, etc. Three human scented articles will be placed into the area about one hour prior to the start of the evaluation. The dog team has one hour to conduct the search.
Evaluation 7.4 – Large Area Search: The purpose of this test is to conduct a large area search, implement a search strategy appropriate for the area, detect and communicate the location of a subject after searching for three hours, and then finally evaluate the search strategy and coverage with the dog team establishing an appropriate POD.	
Description	A suitable one hundred and sixty acre wilderness setting will be utilized. Two unfamiliar subjects will be placed in the area about one hour prior to the start of the evaluation in widely separate locations. Multiple clues may also be placed in the area (tents, packs, clothing, etc) for the dog team to locate and use to help focus or adjust the search strategy. The dog team has four hours to conduct the search but if both subjects are located within the first two hours, a third subject will be placed into the search area. The dog will not be encouraged to locate the third subject until after the third hour of searching. If the third subject has not been located after three hours and forty-five minutes of searching, the dog team will be taken to their general vicinity for the dog to demonstrate an alert and conclude the large area search. This test is conducted in a scenario format with a simulated search base.

## Section 307c

### Alaska Search & Rescue Dogs – Wilderness Mission-Ready Evaluations Series Score Card

Section 307c outlines the skills wilderness dog teams must demonstrate proficiently during their Mission-Ready Evaluation Series with a completed and combined average score of 3.0. Scores from the four evaluations will be averaged together and the combined average will be used as the final score. A dog team will not pass the Mission Ready Evaluation Series if any one criteria has an average score less than or equal to 2.0.

4 – Outstanding 3 – Good 2 – Fair 1 – Poor 0 – Very Poor ND – Not Demonstrated

CRITERIA CHECKLIST			
DOG		HANDLER	
1. Demonstrates readable dog alert.		8. Interprets alert and/or body language accurately.	
2. Demonstrates willingness and drive to work.		9. Handler does not prompt dog for alert.	
3. Dog can be re-directed to work after distraction.		10. Plans and implements effective search strategy.	
4. Takes directions and commands.		11. Demonstrates proper care of dog.	
5. Searches independently and ranges appropriately.		12. Reports the presence of clue's.	
6. Dog can handle the terrain		13. Works effectively with stressful situations.	
7. Demonstrates sufficient health and stamina.		14. Able to navigate through the terrain	
		15. Demonstrates sufficient health and stamina.	
		16. Appropriate equipment / 24 hour pack.	
		17. Handler articulates appropriate POD <small>grade on scale</small>	
		18. Team Locates Article(s) / Subject(s) <small>grade on scale</small>	
	Combined Score		Combined Score

Overall test comments, performance and narrative.

AREAS OF STRENGTH OBSERVED:

AREAS OF WEAKNESS OBSERVED:

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS / CONTINUED TRAINING RECOMMENDATIONS:

Evaluation:	Dog:	Location:	Participants: (E) evaluators, (O) observers, (S) subjects
Handler:	Dog Age:	Weather:	
			Date:

## Section 307c

### Alaska Search & Rescue Dogs – Wilderness Mission-Ready Evaluations Series Score Card

Section 307c outlines the skills wilderness dog teams must demonstrate proficiently during their Mission-Ready Evaluation Series with a completed and combined average score of 3.0. Scores from the four evaluations will be averaged together and the combined average will be used as the final score. A dog team will not pass the Mission Ready Evaluation Series if any one criteria has an average score less than or equal to 2.0.

4 – Outstanding 3 – Good 2 – Fair 1 – Poor 0 – Very Poor ND – Not Demonstrated

CRITERIA CHECKLIST												
DOG	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.4	CS	HANDLER	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.4	CS	
1. Demonstrates readable dog alert.						8. Interprets alert and/or body language accurately.						
2. Demonstrates willingness and drive to work.						9. Handler does not prompt dog for alert.						
3. Dog can be re-directed to work after distraction.						10. Plans and implements effective search strategy.						
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						16. Appropriate equipment / 24 hour pack.						
						17. Handler articulates appropriate POD.						
						18. Team Locates Article(s) / Subject(s) <i>grade on scale</i>						
Combined Score						Combined Score						

Overall test comments, performance and narrative.

AREAS OF STRENGTH OBSERVED:

AREAS OF WEAKNESS OBSERVED:

Combined Score

We recommend \_\_\_\_\_ for Mission Ready Status in Wilderness.

We recommend \_\_\_\_\_ continue to train and attempt another Evaluation Series in \_\_\_\_\_.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS / CONTINUED TRAINING RECOMMENDATIONS:

Evaluation:	Dog:	Location:	Participants: (E) evaluators, (O) observers, (S) subjects
Handler:	Dog Age:	Weather:	
			Date: