



## NOTICE OF TEXT

### [Authority G.S. 150B-21.2(c)]

**OAH USE ONLY**

VOLUME: 37

ISSUE: 04

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:

- Notice with a scheduled hearing
- Notice without a scheduled hearing
- Republication of text. Complete the following cite for the volume and issue of previous publication, as well as blocks 1 - 4 and 7 - 14. If a hearing is scheduled, complete block 5.  
Previous publication of text was published in Volume: Issue:

1. Rule-Making Agency: [Department of Public Safety](#)

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2. Link to agency website pursuant to G.S. 150B-19.1(c): [www.ncdps.gov](http://www.ncdps.gov)

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3. Proposed Action -- Check the appropriate box(es) and list rule citation(s) beside proposed action:

ADOPTION: 14B NCAC 03 .0401-.0410

AMENDMENT:

REPEAL:

READOPTION with substantive changes:

READOPTION without substantive changes:

REPEAL through READOPTION:

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4. Proposed effective date: [12/01/2022](#)

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5. Is a public hearing planned? **No**

If yes:

Date	Time	Location

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6. If no public hearing is scheduled, provide instructions on how to demand a public hearing:  
 A request for public hearing must be made within 15 days of notice. Email Rulemaking Coordinator Will Polk at [will.polk@ncdps.gov](mailto:will.polk@ncdps.gov) to request a public hearing.

**7. Explain Reason For Proposed Rule(s):**

The Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management is promulgating permanent rules as required under N.C. Sess. Law 2014-27. The necessity of a State Search and Rescue Program has been made apparent through the significant number of local, state, and federal states of emergency that have required coordinated and qualified resources to augment local search and rescue capabilities. Rules are required to ensure the equitable implementation of the NC Search and Rescue Program. The NC Search and Rescue Program is a partnership between local and state governments where the state augments local response capabilities to enhance disaster response capabilities. These rules establish standards for eligibility, resource types, and response expectations both administratively as well as operationally when responding under the authorities of the NC Search and Rescue Program. The rules of this section only apply to those entities who elect to participate in the program and establish the standards and requirements of program participation and the expectations of the NC Division of Emergency Management in the administration of this program.

**8. Procedure for Subjecting a Proposed Rule to Legislative Review:** If an objection is not resolved prior to the adoption of the rule, a person may also submit written objections to the Rules Review Commission. If the Rules Review Commission receives written and signed objections in accordance with G.S. 150B-21.3(b2) from 10 or more persons clearly requesting review by the legislature and the Rules Review Commission approves the rule, the rule will become effective as provided in G.S. 150B-21.3(b1). The Commission will receive written objections until 5:00 p.m. on the day following the day the Commission approves the rule. The Commission will receive those objections by mail, delivery service, hand delivery, or email. If you have any further questions concerning the submission of objections to the Commission, please call a Commission staff attorney at 984-236-1850.

**Rule(s) is automatically subject to legislative review. Cite statutory reference:**

**9. The person to whom written comments may be submitted on the proposed rule(s):**

Name: Will Polk  
Address: NC Department of Public Safety, 4201 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-4201  
Phone (optional): 919-825-2706  
Fax (optional):  
EMail (optional) will.polk@ncdps.gov

**10. Comment Period Ends: 10/14/2022**

**11. Fiscal impact. Does any rule or combination of rules in this notice create an economic impact? Check all that apply.**

State funds affected  
Local funds affected  
Substantial economic impact ( $\geq$  \$1,000,000)  
Approved by OSBM

**12. Rule-making Coordinator:**

Name: Will Polk  
919-825-2706  
will.polk@ncdps.gov

**Agency contact, if any:**

Name:  
Phone:  
Email:

**13. The Agency formally proposed the text of this rule(s) on**

**Date:** 07/22/2022

1 14B NCAC 03 .0401 is proposed for adoption as follows:

2 **CHAPTER 03 – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

3

4 **14B NCAC 03 .0401 PURPOSE**

5 (a) The purpose of this section is to prescribe requirements pertaining to the North Carolina Department of Public  
6 Safety Division of Emergency Management administered North Carolina Search and Rescue Program.

7 (b) This section applies to Sponsoring Agencies and other participants in the North Carolina Search and Rescue  
8 Program that have executed agreements administered by the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management.

9

10 *History Note: Authority GS 166A-66*

11 *Eff. [Date]*

12

1 14B NCAC 03 .0402 is proposed for adoption as follows:  
2

3 **14B NCAC 03 .0402 ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS**

4 As used in this the following abbreviations and terms mean:

- 5 (1) All-hazards Disaster Response Model – a response methodology where resources provide all  
6 applicable capability to respond to any threats or hazard that is impacting the state or has the  
7 potential to impact the state.
- 8 (2) Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) - means those local, state, or federal entities having response  
9 authority to act over a specific aspect of search and rescue in a specific geographic area.
- 10 (3) Contract Response Team – A regional all-hazards disaster response contract response team as  
11 defined in G.S. 166A-65 which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes  
12 or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6 with self-sustaining logistical support allowing for  
13 responses into disaster areas.
- 14 (4) County to County Mutual Aid – Resource sharing between county public safety resources under the  
15 conditions of the NC Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement or another similar agreement between local  
16 governments.
- 17 (5) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – is an agency of the United States Department  
18 of Homeland Security with the responsibility to coordinate the response to a Presidentially-declared  
19 disasters that has occurred in the United States and that overwhelms the resources of local and state  
20 authorities.
- 21 (6) FEMA Public Assistance Program – is a federal reimbursement grant program that provides federal  
22 funding to help communities respond to and recover from disasters.
- 23 (7) Incident Command System (ICS) - A standardized on-scene emergency management construct  
24 specifically designed to provide an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity  
25 and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries.  
26 The Incident Command System is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures,  
27 and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the  
28 management of resources during incidents. ICS is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable  
29 to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional  
30 agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations.
- 31 (8) Incident Support Team (IST) – A group of search and rescue experts who assist local and state  
32 emergency management in management and support of deployed search and rescue system  
33 resources.
- 34 (9) Local Emergency Management Coordinator (LEMC) – The County Emergency Management  
35 Coordinator who is responsible for all local disaster preparedness, response, and recovery activities  
36 in a specific geographic area.
- 37 (10) NC All-Hazards Incident Management Team (NCAHIMT) – The North Carolina Emergency  
38 Management program responsible for supporting local and state incident management requirements  
39 in local and state disaster response activities.
- 40 (11) NC Resource Typing – A document defining and categorizing, by capability, the resources  
41 requested, deployed, and used in incidents. Resource typing definitions establish a common  
42 language and defines a resource’s minimum capabilities for equipment, teams, and units.
- 43 (12) North Carolina Search and Rescue System (NC SAR System) – The state search and rescue program  
44 established in Article 6 of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes.
- 45 (13) North Carolina Search and Rescue Technical Advisory Committee (NC SAR TAC) – An advisory  
46 committee established in Article 6 of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes to advise  
47 the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety and the North Carolina Division of  
48 Emergency Management on the establishment of a search and rescue system.
- 49 (14) North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) - A division of the North Carolina Department  
50 of Public Safety with the responsibility to coordinate the mitigation, planning, preparedness,  
51 response, and recovery to a disaster or emergency that has or could occur in the State.
- 52 (15) North Carolina Emergency Management Operations Chief (NCEM OSC) – The Assistant Director  
53 of Operations for the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management.

- 1 (16) North Carolina Emergency Management Director (NCEM Director) – The Director of the North  
2 Carolina Division of Emergency Management.
- 3 (17) National Incident Management System (NIMS) - A set of principles that provides a systematic,  
4 proactive approach guiding government agencies at all levels, nongovernmental organizations, and  
5 the private sector to work to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the  
6 effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, to reduce the loss of life or  
7 property and harm to the environment.
- 8 (18) On-duty – When a person is functioning, paid or unpaid, as an agent of their sponsoring or  
9 participating agency or the NC Division of Emergency Management as part of the NC Search and  
10 Rescue Program.
- 11 (19) Participating Agency (PA) – An entity that assists a sponsoring agency with the formation of a  
12 search and rescue team by providing personnel or equipment.
- 13 (20) Responsible Party (RP) – The entity whose actions or inactions caused an event requiring search  
14 and rescue system resources.
- 15 (21) Sensitive Information – Any information, to include but not limited to audio recordings, images,  
16 and video recordings gained during a search and rescue operation that has not been released to the  
17 public by the authority having jurisdiction.
- 18 (22) Specialty Rescue Team – A group of response personnel who provided specialized, technical search  
19 and rescue capability.
- 20 (23) Sponsoring Agency (SA) – A local or tribal unit of government or other entity with an active  
21 response agreement with a local unit of government that organizes and coordinates a search and  
22 rescue team in the North Carolina Search and Rescue System.
- 23 (24) State Coordinated Mutual Aid – Assistance between North Carolina Search and Rescue System  
24 resources and local units of government facilitated and coordinated by North Carolina Emergency  
25 Management.
- 26 (25) State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) – A document under the authority of NCGS § 166A-  
27 19.12(2) that details how the State of North Carolina will respond to a disaster or emergency  
28 requiring state assistance utilizing an established comprehensive, all-hazards approach.
- 29 (26) State Mission Assignment (State Mission) – A NCEM approved request for assistance to deploy  
30 state search and rescue system resources at the request of a local unit of government.
- 31 (27) System Personnel – Personnel from a contract or specialty rescue team with an active response  
32 agreement with the Division of Emergency Management for search and rescue response or any  
33 personnel employed on a full-time or part-time basis by the Division of Emergency Management  
34 with a responsibility for search and rescue response.
- 35 (28) System Resource – Personnel or equipment from a contract or specialty rescue team with an active  
36 response agreement with the Division of Emergency Management for search and rescue response.

37  
38 *History Note:* Authority G.S. 166A-66

39 Eff. [DATE]

1 14B NCAC 03 .0403 is proposed for adoption as follows:  
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3 **14B NCAC 03 .0403 DISPATCH OF A CONTRACT RESPONSE TEAM TO A SEARCH AND RESCUE**  
4 **TEAM OR SPECIALTY RESCUE TEAM MISSION**

- 5 (a) NC SAR System Resources shall employ the all-hazards response model. System resources are not limited  
6 to responses to only missing person incidents. System resources may support any incident where system  
7 resources may relieve human suffering or protect life, property, or the environment for an actual or potential  
8 threat.
- 9 (b) NC Emergency Management shall maintain direction and control of any deployed NC SAR System resources  
10 that have been deployed through action of NCEM.
- 11 (c) Any resource of the NC SAR System remains a local resource first and may deploy under their local  
12 authorities or agreements notwithstanding any action by the State. Participation in the NC SAR System shall  
13 not limit or supersede their local authorities, responsibilities, or agreements when deploying under those  
14 authorities or agreements.
- 15 (d) NC SAR System resources shall be deployed by the State using one of the following methods:
- 16 (1) State Coordinated Mutual Aid – The primary goal of State Coordinated Mutual Aid is to facilitate  
17 mutual aid through polling NC SAR System resources, either in part or in whole, at the discretion  
18 of NCEM officials to seek available qualified resources in the NC SAR System to fill a local request  
19 for support. There is no requirement for NCEM to poll all resources, nor any requirement for the  
20 local AHJ to take all or some portion of teams who are available. Final resource selection remains  
21 with the local AHJ. NCEM officials shall use incident type and urgency, incident and resource  
22 location, resource type, resource availability and timeliness to affecting incident outcome, and  
23 resource cost as factors in determining what resources to poll when activating system resources.
- 24 (2) State Mission Assignment - State Mission’s primary goal is to deploy NC SAR System resources  
25 when there is a threat to life, property, or the environment and some barrier(s) to prevent the mission  
26 being filled through local or state coordinated mutual aid. In cases of a State of Emergency as  
27 defined in G.S. § 166A-19.20 or G.S. § 166A-19.22, NCEM shall deploy NC SAR System resources  
28 through a State Mission Assignment to minimize any delay in initiating or augmenting lifesaving  
29 operations.
- 30 (e) The County Local Emergency Management Coordinator (LEMC) or their designee shall have the authority  
31 to request system resources. Local law enforcement agencies, fire departments, rescue squads, and any other  
32 local authority having jurisdiction shall route requests for activation of NC SAR System Resources to their  
33 LEMC who will make the request for support to NCEM.

34  
35 *History Note: Authority G.S. 166A-66*

36 *Eff. [DATE]*

1 14B NCAC 03 .0404 is proposed for adoption as follows:  
2

3 **14B NCAC 03 0404 ON-SITE OPERATIONS OF A CONTRACT RESPONSE TEAM**

4 All search and rescue system resources shall operate in accordance with the following standards of response:

- 5 (a) FEMA ICS and NIMS standards which are adopted and are incorporated by reference with subsequent  
6 changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6.;
- 7 (b) following all direction from NCEM personnel;
- 8 (c) when responding in support of law enforcement operations, resources shall coordinate actives with the law  
9 enforcement authorities to ensure their actions support any potential criminal investigation.
- 10 (d) resources shall not release any sensitive information to the public or media during operations without the  
11 consent of the local, state, or federal authority having jurisdiction consistent with the Chapter 132 of the  
12 North Carolina General Statutes which is adopted and incorporated by references with subsequent changes  
13 or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6 ; and
- 14 (e) tate and federal law.  
15

16 *History Note: Authority G.S. 166A-66, National Incident Management System, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*  
17 *Eff. [DATE]*  
18

1 14B NCAC 03 .0405 is proposed for adoption as follows:  
2

3 **14B NCAC 03 .0405        STANDARDS FOR ADMINISTRATION OF A CONTRACT RESPONSE TEAM,**  
4 **INCLUDING PROCEDURES FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF RESPONSE COSTS.**

- 5        (a) System resources shall maintain all personnel records to include:  
6                (1) Responder medical history;  
7                (2) Emergency contact information;  
8                (3) Current pay and benefit rates, including overtime rates; and  
9                (4) Policies for overtime pay if deploying paid persons.  
10        (b) System personnel shall be in an on-duty status as an emergency management worker as defined in G.S. 166A-  
11 19.60(e) which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant  
12 to G.S. 150B-21.6 during all training and response activities.  
13        (c) System resources shall maintain a current team roster.  
14        (d) System resources shall maintain all team training, certification, and credentials.  
15        (e) System resources shall maintain all inventory and maintenance records for deployable equipment.  
16        (f) Resource records must be available for review by NCEM officials to ensure compliance.  
17        (g) Within 90 days of demobilization from a state mission, system resources shall submit documentation of  
18 actual costs to NCEM for reimbursement consistent with FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy  
19 Guide which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to  
20 G.S. 150B-21.6. NCEM may grant extensions beyond the 90-day period at their discretion due to  
21 extenuating circumstances such as extended equipment repairs.  
22

23 *History Note:        Authority GS 166A-66; 166A-19.60; 42 U.S.C.5121 et seq; 44 CFR Part 206*  
24 *Eff. [Date]*  
25



1 14B NCAC 03 .0406 is proposed for adoption as follows:  
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3 **14B NCAC 03 .0406 RECOVERING THE COSTS OF A SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM OR**  
4 **SPECIALTY RESCUE TEAM MISSION.**

5 NCEM shall seek reimbursement by the responsible party for system response costs in cases of negligence or manmade  
6 disaster.

7 (1) Responsible parties shall be billed reasonable costs to include personnel and equipment costs  
8 consistent with current protocols established for the recovery of cost of activation of a response  
9 team for a hazardous materials emergency response set out in G.S. 166-27 which is adopted  
10 and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-  
11 21.6 of eligible costs.

12 (2) Responsible parties shall remit payment within 30 days of receipt of invoice via certified mail.  
13

14 *History Note: Authority GS 166A-66; 166A-27*

15 *Eff. [DATE]*  
16

Proposed Adoption for Publication in the Register

1 14B NCAC 03 .0407 is proposed for adoption as follows:

2  
3 **14B NCAC 03 .0407 PROCEDURES FOR BIDDING AND CONTRACTING FOR SEARCH AND**  
4 **RESCUE TEAM AND SPECIALTY RESCUE TEAM MISSIONS.**

- 5 (a) Eligibility for participation as a contract or specialty rescue team:  
6 (1) Sponsoring agencies must:  
7 (A) Be a local unit of government, state recognized tribal government, or maintain an active  
8 response agreement with a local or tribal unit of government;  
9 (B) Maintain participation in the statewide mutual aid agreement; and  
10 (C) Ensure all members possess the qualifications as outlined in rule .0409 which is adopted  
11 and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S.  
12 150B-21.6.  
13 (2) Participating agencies shall ensure all members possess the qualifications as outlined in rule .0409  
14 which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant  
15 to G.S. 150B-21.6.  
16 (b) Eligibility for participation on an incident support team.  
17 (1) Personnel shall be a participating member of the NC SAR System, NCEM All-Hazards Incident  
18 Management Team Program, or an employee of NC Emergency Management. If not an employee  
19 of NCEM, each member's sponsoring agency must have an active memorandum of agreement that  
20 outlines the conditions of their participation on an incident support team.  
21 (2) Ensure all members possess the qualifications as outlined in rule .0409 which is adopted and  
22 incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6.  
23 (c) Contract Response Teams – Within 18 months of a new contract period, NCEM shall electronically distribute  
24 a bid announcement via electronic mail to all system resources and local emergency management  
25 coordinators for interested parties to return a letter of interest by a specified date. NCEM shall distribute an  
26 electronic bid package to all interested parties that must be returned to NCEM by a date specified in the bid  
27 package.  
28 (1) Contract response teams shall be limited to seven regionally based all hazard response taskforces.  
29 Each taskforce will be assigned a primary response region in the state.  
30 (2) Bid packages shall be submitted for a specific response region.  
31 (3) The bidding agency and any participating agencies shall be located in that specified response region.  
32 (4) A review committee shall be established by the NCEM Director or designee. This committee will  
33 open all completed sealed bid packages and evaluate them based on an agreed upon criteria at a date  
34 to be set by the NCEM Director.  
35 (5) The committee shall develop a bid package review summary that includes their recommendations  
36 for selections that will be sent to the NCEM Operations Chief for concurrence before being reviewed  
37 and approved by the NCEM Director.  
38 (6) Agencies who are successful in the bid process will be notified, system agreements shall be drafted,  
39 and executed by all parties for the agreed upon period.  
40 (7) NCEM shall draft, execute, and maintain two agreements with the sponsoring agency for the  
41 resource to maintain participation in the program.  
42 (A) NCEM shall execute and maintain a cooperative agreement with the sponsoring agency  
43 that outlines the conditions and activities that the resource must follow to enable  
44 reimbursement of eligible training, equipment, and personnel costs associated with  
45 maintaining a contract response team. The cooperative agreement shall be limited to the  
46 contract period.  
47 (B) Funds reimbursed through this agreement shall go directly to cover program costs and  
48 be utilized by the sponsoring and/or participating agencies.  
49 (C) The sponsoring agency shall maintain all records of any program spending and shall not  
50 comingle funds or use program funding for any other purpose other than maintaining or  
51 building search and rescue capability.  
52 (D) Each sponsoring agency is responsible to draft, execute, and maintain agreements with  
53 any participating agency that is supporting their bid for a contract response team with  
54 personnel, equipment, or funding. NCEM may provide a template agreement for use

Proposed Adoption for Publication in the Register

1                                    between sponsoring and participating agencies. The sponsoring agency may include any  
2                                    participating agency resources in their bid as long as they have an active agreement.

3                                    (E) Resources shall maintain a response agreement that outlines response activities and the  
4                                    reimbursement for costs of state missions.

5                                    (d) Specialty Rescue Teams - NC Emergency Management shall enter into response agreements with additional  
6                                    specialty rescue teams to ensure statewide response capability in certain established program areas.

7                                    (1) These program areas shall include:

8                                    (A) Swiftwater Search and Rescue;

9                                    (B) Wilderness / Land Search and Rescue;

10                                    (C) Mountain Search and Rescue; and

11                                    (D) Helicopter Search and Rescue

12                                    (2) NC Emergency Management shall provide program support in establishing program standards,  
13                                    supporting specialized training, and providing specialized equipment within the confines of  
14                                    available funding. Participation as a specialty rescue team is considered at will and can be terminated  
15                                    with or without cause by either party with 30-day notice.

16                                    (3) Each qualified resource shall enter into a response agreement specific to each established program  
17                                    area with NCEM. The resource will then enter into a memorandum of understanding with NCEM  
18                                    that shall be referred to as a specialty rescue team response agreement.

19                                    (4) Specialty rescue teams must demonstrate their ability to respond as a self-supported resource outside  
20                                    their jurisdiction to be eligible to participate in the NC SAR System.

21                                    (5) Each specialty rescue team is responsible to draft, execute, and maintain agreements with any  
22                                    participating agency that is supporting the sponsoring agency for a specialty response team with  
23                                    personnel, equipment, or funding. NCEM may provide a template agreement for use between  
24                                    sponsoring and participating agencies.

25  
26                                    *History Note: Authority GS 166A-65, GS 166A-67*

27                                    *Eff. [DATE]*

1 14B NCAC 03 .0408 is proposed for adoption as follows:

2

3 **14B NCAC 03 0408      CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING BIDS FOR CONTRACT RESPONSE TEAM**

4 (a) Bidding entities must:

5 (1) be submitted by an authorized representative of a local unit of government, state recognized tribal

6 government, or maintain an active response agreement with a local or tribal unit of government;

7 (2) provide a plan for bidding entity to deploy the required number of personnel for a period of up to

8 14 days when not being impacted locally. This may be as a single entity or as a collaboration of

9 multiple agencies in the specified response region. If a collaboration of multiple agencies, the

10 sponsoring or bidding agency must maintain cooperative agreements with all supporting agencies.

11 For the purposes of the bid submission, the bidding entity shall provide a letter of support from all

12 supporting agencies;

13 (3) provide a plan for bidding entity to maintain required number of personnel trained per .0409 which

14 is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S.

15 150B-21.6; and

16 (4) ensure all participating members possess the qualifications as outlined in rule 0409.

17 (b) Bids shall be evaluated using the below criteria and consistent with 2 CFR Part 200 which is adopted and

18 incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6:

19 (1) geographic location of team base;

20 (2) ability to maintain required number of trained personnel to ensure response readiness without

21 negative impacts to local response obligations;

22 (3) ability to maintain and care for any system provided equipment;

23 (4) availability of local equipment to support response activities; and

24 (5) availability to maintain dedicated administrative staff to ensure management of administrative

25 duties, training, and logistical requirements.

26

27 *History Note: Authority GS 166A-67*

28 *Eff. [DATE]*

29

1 14B NCAC 03 .0409 is proposed for adoption as follows:

2  
3 **14B NCAC 03 0409 PERSONNEL, TRAINING, AND EQUIPMENT STANDARDS FOR**  
4 **CONTRACT RESPONSE TEAMS AND SPECIALTY RESCUE TEAMS**

5 (a) Requirements for all system personnel:

- 6 (1) personnel shall be no less than 18 years of age;  
7 (2) personnel shall be an agent of a sponsoring agency, participating agency, or an employee of the  
8 North Carolina Division of Emergency Management. By participating in this program, they  
9 remain agents of their employer and at no time become an agent of the State unless they are an  
10 employee of the State;  
11 (3) personnel shall maintain no less than 24 hours of search and rescue training annually;  
12 (4) personnel shall be considered emergency management workers while participating in any program  
13 activity as defined in GS 166A-19.60 which is adopted and incorporated by reference with  
14 subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6; and  
15 (5) personnel shall possess the qualifications of character and general fitness requisite for a public  
16 servant and be of good moral character and entitled to the high regard and confidence of the public  
17 as evidenced by:

- 18 (A) not having been convicted of a felony;  
19 (B) not having been convicted of a misdemeanor as defined in 12 NCAC 09B .0111(1)  
20 which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or  
21 amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6. for five years or the completion of any  
22 corrections supervision imposed by the courts, whichever is later;  
23 (C) not having been convicted of an offense that would prohibit the possession of a firearm  
24 or ammunition, under 18 U.S.C. 922, which is hereby incorporated by reference with  
25 subsequent amendments and editions pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6 can be found at no  
26 cost <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2018-title18/pdf/USCODE-2018->  
27 [title18-part1-chap44.pdf](https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/USCODE-2018-title18/pdf/USCODE-2018-);  
28 (D) being truthful in providing information to the appointing agency for the purpose of  
29 participating in the search and rescue system;  
30 (E) not having pending or outstanding felony charges that, if convicted would exclude  
31 eligibility under this rule; and  
32 (F) not having engaged in any conduct that brings into question the truthfulness or  
33 credibility of the individual, or involves "moral turpitude."

34 (6) make the following notifications:

- 35 (A) within seven days of the qualifying event notify the Sponsoring Agency in writing of  
36 all criminal offenses for which the individual is charged or arrested. This shall include  
37 traffic offenses identified in the Class B Misdemeanor Manual which is adopted and  
38 incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S.  
39 150B-21.6 and offenses of driving under the influence (DUI) or driving while impaired  
40 (DWI);  
41 (B) within seven days of the qualifying event notify the Sponsoring Agency in writing of  
42 all criminal offenses for which the individual pleads no contest, pleads guilty, or of  
43 which the individual is found guilty. This shall include traffic offenses identified in the  
44 Class B Misdemeanor Manual which is adopted and incorporated by reference with  
45 subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6 and offenses of driving  
46 under the influence (DUI) or driving while impaired (DWI);  
47 (C) within seven days of service, shall notify the Sponsoring Agency that they have been  
48 served by a judicial official against the individual;  
49 (D) within seven days of the date the case was disposed of in court, the sponsoring agency,  
50 provided they have knowledge of the person's arrests or criminal charges and final  
51 dispositions, shall also notify the Division of Emergency Management of arrests or  
52 criminal charges and final disposition; and  
53 (E) within seven days of the issuance of all Domestic Violence Protective Orders (G.S.  
54 50B) and Civil No Contact Orders (G.S. 50C), the sponsoring agency, provided they

1 have knowledge of the order, shall also notify the Division of Emergency Management  
2 of these orders.

3 (b) Requirements for all system equipment:

- 4 (1) equipment shall be made available for inspections and inventory;  
5 (2) system resources shall count any state-owned issued equipment to the specified equipment  
6 requirements;  
7 (3) system resources shall maintain any state-owned equipment per manufactures recommendations  
8 and immediately notify NCEM of any damage to state property; and  
9 (4) upon separation all system resources shall return all state property in no more than 30 days.

10 (c) Urban Search and Rescue Team Personnel and Training Requirements

- 11 (1) A Type I or Type II Urban Search and Rescue Team shall maintain a roster of 116 personnel who  
12 have successfully completed the NC USAR Structural Collapse Rescue Technician Course or the  
13 Federal Emergency Management Agency Equivalent Course.  
14 (2) A Type III Urban Search and Rescue Team shall maintain a roster of 58 personnel who have  
15 successfully completed the NC USAR Structural Collapse Rescue Technician Course or the  
16 Federal Emergency Management Agency Equivalent Course.  
17 (3) North Carolina Division of Emergency Management shall be responsible for providing qualified  
18 structures specialist, medical team managers, and canine search specialists for any typed urban  
19 search and rescue team if required for a response.

20 (d) Urban Search and Rescue Team Equipment Requirements

- 21 (1) Urban Search and Rescue Teams shall maintain a functionally equivalent cache of equipment based  
22 on the appropriate team type with the Emergency Management Accreditation Program Urban Search  
23 and Rescue Cache List which is adopted and incorporated by reference with subsequent changes or  
24 amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6. as outlined in the latest published standard by the  
25 Emergency Management Accreditation Program.  
26 (2) Equipment shall be maintained in a state of readiness and with a means to transport all required  
27 equipment.

28 (e) Swiftwater Rescue Team Personnel and Training Requirements

- 29 (1) Any Type I Swiftwater Rescue Team shall maintain a roster of 32 personnel who have successfully  
30 completed Swiftwater Rescue Technician level training that meets or exceeds training requirements  
31 of Chapters 5, 11, and 12 of NFPA 1006 which is adopted and incorporated by reference with  
32 subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6. From the complete roster, the team  
33 shall additionally maintain the following number of personnel trained in position specific roles:  
34 (A) eight personnel who have completed the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue Boat  
35 Operator Course;  
36 (B) two personnel who have completed either the North Carolina Swiftwater / Flood Rescue  
37 Team Leader Course or North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Leader  
38 Course; and  
39 (C) two personnel who have completed either the North Carolina Swiftwater / Flood Rescue  
40 Team Communications Specialist Course or North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue  
41 Communications Specialist Course.  
42 (2) Any Type II Swiftwater Rescue Team shall maintain a roster of 24 personnel who have successfully  
43 completed Swiftwater Rescue Technician level training that meets or exceeds training requirements  
44 of Chapters 5, 11, and 12 of NFPA 1006 which is adopted and incorporated by reference with  
45 subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6. . From the complete roster, the  
46 team shall additionally maintain the following number of personnel trained in position specific roles:  
47 (A) four personnel who have completed the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue Boat  
48 Operator Course;  
49 (B) two personnel who have completed either the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue  
50 Team Leader Course or North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Leader  
51 Course; and  
52 (C) two personnel who have completed either the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue  
53 Team Communications Specialist Course or North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue  
54 Communications Specialist Course.  
55 (3) Any Type III Swiftwater Rescue Team shall maintain a roster of 16 personnel who have  
56 successfully completed Swiftwater Rescue Technician level training that meets or exceeds training

1 requirements from Chapters 5, 11, and 12 of NFPA 1006 which is adopted and incorporated by  
2 reference with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6. From the  
3 complete roster, the team shall additionally maintain the following number of personnel trained in  
4 position specific roles:

- 5 (A) two personnel who have completed the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue Boat  
6 Operator Course;
  - 7 (B) two personnel who have completed either the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue  
8 Team Leader Course or North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Leader  
9 Course; and
  - 10 (C) two personnel who have completed either the North Carolina Swiftwater Flood Rescue  
11 Team Communications Specialist Course or North Carolina Urban Search and Rescue  
12 Communications Specialist Course.
- 13 (f) Swiftwater Rescue Team Equipment Requirements
- 14 (1) Any Type I Swiftwater Rescue Team shall maintain an equipment cache of no less than:
    - 15 (A) six 800 MHz portable radios programed with the NC VIPER Radio System template;
    - 16 (B) 16 portable radios capable for internal team communications;
    - 17 (C) portable computer with a minimum of cellular internet access;
    - 18 (D) 16 each of dry suits with a suitable liner, personal floatation devices with not less than  
19 22lbs of floatation, helmet with headlamp, rescue knife, pealess whistle, boat motor key,  
20 water rescue throw bag, and pair of water rescue boots;
    - 21 (E) four each thermal imaging cameras and handheld spotlight;
    - 22 (F) two hardcopy of NC road map;
    - 23 (G) six global positioning system receivers;
    - 24 (H) two forcible entry kits to include a Halligan, axe, sledgehammer and bolt cutters per kit;
    - 25 (I) two chain saws;
    - 26 (J) four inflatable ridged boats not less than 4 meters in length with not less than six outboard  
27 motors;
    - 28 (K) one rope rescue kit to include 20 locking carabiners, four full body harness, two knot  
29 passing pulleys, 12 tandem prusiks, eight pulleys, two 200 foot life safety rope in a  
30 bag, two 300 foot life safety rope in a bag, line thrower, and six sections of each 5 foot,  
31 12 foot, 15 foot, 20 foot nylon tubular webbing;
    - 32 (L) two decontamination kits to include, 2.5 gallon pressure sprayer, five gallon bucket, 40  
33 gallon work box, 110 volt submersible pump, two 25 foot sections of garden hose,  
34 garden hose wye adaptor, 110 volt submersible pump, soap and bleach solution, 1.5  
35 inch to .75 inch male garden hose adapter;
    - 36 (M) six non-venting fuel cells with fuel lines;
    - 37 (N) two self-bailing raft;
    - 38 (O) four boat field repair kits to include a patch and clamshell kit per kit;
    - 39 (P) 12 paddles;
    - 40 (Q) Shelter system for 16 personnel that can be setup in under 30 minutes time and does not  
41 require power for setup with 16 each of a sleeping kit such as a cots, pad, or sleeping  
42 bag; and
    - 43 (R) Two each of two kilowatt or larger generators with portable lights; and
    - 44 (S) Two electric air pumps, four manual inflation pumps, and eight compressed air cylinders  
45 with whip or fill system to inflate boats or rafts.
  - 46 (2) Any Type II Swiftwater Rescue Team shall maintain an equipment cache of no less than:
    - 47 (A) four 800 MHz portable radios programed with the NC VIPER Radio System template;
    - 48 (B) ten portable radios capable for internal team communications;
    - 49 (C) portable computer with a minimum of cellular internet access;
    - 50 (D) ten each of dry suits with a suitable liner, personal floatation devices with not less than  
51 22lbs of floatation, helmet with headlamp, rescue knife, pealess whistle, boat motor key,  
52 water rescue throw bag, and pair of water rescue boots;
    - 53 (E) two each thermal imaging cameras and handheld spotlight;
    - 54 (F) two hardcopy of NC road map;
    - 55 (G) four global positioning system receivers;
    - 56 (H) one forcible entry kits to include a Halligan, axe, sledgehammer and bolt cutters per kit;

- 1 (I) two chain saws;  
2 (J) two inflatable ridged boats not less than 4 meters in length with not less than three  
3 outboard motors;  
4 (K) one rope rescue kit to include 20 locking carabiners, four full body harness, two knot  
5 passing pulleys, 12 tandem prusiks, eight pulleys, two 200 foot life safety rope in a  
6 bag, two 300 foot life safety rope in a bag, line thrower, and six sections of each 5 foot,  
7 12 foot, 15 foot, 20 foot nylon tubular webbing;  
8 (L) one decontamination kit to include, 2.5 gallon pressure sprayer, five gallon bucket, 40  
9 gallon work box, 110 volt submersible pump, two 25 foot sections of garden hose,  
10 garden hose wye adaptor, 110 volt submersible pump, soap and bleach solution, 1.5  
11 inch to .75 inch male garden hose adapter;  
12 (M) four non-venting fuel cells with fuel lines;  
13 (N) one self-bailing raft;  
14 (O) two boat field repair kits to include a patch and clamshell kit per kit;  
15 (P) six paddles;  
16 (Q) shelter system for ten personnel that can be setup in under 30 minutes time and does not  
17 require power for setup with ten each of a sleeping kit such as a cots, pad, or sleeping  
18 bag; and  
19 (R) two each of two kilowatt or larger generators with portable lights; and  
20 (S) two electric air pumps, two manual inflation pumps, and four compressed air cylinders  
21 with whip or fill system to inflate boats or rafts.  
22 (3) Any Type III Swiftwater Rescue Team shall maintain an equipment cache of no less than:  
23 (A) six 800 MHz portable radios programed with the NC VIPER Radio System template;  
24 (B) six portable radios capable for internal team communications;  
25 (C) portable computer with a minimum of cellular internet access;  
26 (D) six each of dry suits with a suitable liner, personal floatation devices with not less than  
27 22lbs of floatation, helmet with headlamp, rescue knife, pealess whistle, boat motor key,  
28 water rescue throw bag, and pair of water rescue boots;  
29 (E) one hardcopy of NC road map;  
30 (F) two global positioning system receivers;  
31 (G) one forcible entry kits to include a Halligan, axe, sledgehammer and bolt cutters per kit;  
32 (H) one chain saw;  
33 (I) one inflatable ridged boats not less than 4 meters in length with not less than two  
34 outboard motors;  
35 (J) one rope rescue kit to include 20 locking carabiners, two full body harness, two knot  
36 passing pulleys, 12 tandem prusiks, four pulleys, 200 foot life safety rope in a bag, 300  
37 foot life safety rope in a bag, line thrower, and three sections of each 5 foot, 12 foot, 15  
38 foot, 20 foot nylon tubular webbing;  
39 (K) one decontamination kit to include, 2.5 gallon pressure sprayer, five gallon bucket, 40  
40 gallon work box, 110 volt submersible pump, two 25 foot sections of garden hose,  
41 garden hose wye adaptor, 110 volt submersible pump, soap and bleach solution, 1.5  
42 inch to .75 inch male garden hose adapter;  
43 (L) two non-venting fuel cells with fuel lines;  
44 (M) one self-bailing raft;  
45 (N) one boat field repair kits to include a patch and clamshell kit per kit;  
46 (O) three paddles;  
47 (P) shelter system for six personnel that can be setup in under 30 minutes time and does not  
48 require power for setup with six each of a sleeping kit such as a cot, pad, or sleeping bag;  
49 and  
50 (Q) one each of two kilowatt or larger generators with portable lights; and  
51 (R) one electric air pumps, one manual inflation pumps, and two compressed air cylinders  
52 with whip or fill system to inflate boats or rafts.  
53 (g) Helicopter search and rescue technicians shall:  
54 (1) be a member of the Urban Search and Rescue, Swiftwater Rescue, Wilderness Search and Rescue,  
55 or Mountain Rescue Program with a letter of support from their sponsoring agency;



- 1 (2) complete the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management Helicopter Rescue Indoctrination  
2 Course; and
- 3 (3) attend scheduled training no less than quarterly basis to maintain their qualification as a helicopter  
4 rescue technician.
- 5 (h) Helicopter Rescue Team Equipment Requirements
- 6 (1) Helicopter search and rescue technicians shall maintain all issued equipment in good working order  
7 and in accordance with the manufacturer recommendations.
- 8 (2) Helicopter search and rescue technicians shall inspect their issued equipment prior to and after each  
9 use and report any damage or unusual wear to the Aviation Life Safety Equipment Officer.
- 10 (i) Wilderness Search and Rescue Team Requirements
- 11 (1) A wilderness search and rescue team shall maintain a roster of no less than eight personnel that have  
12 completed the NC Land Search Field Team Member Course or other wilderness search course that  
13 meets the current requirements of ASTM F2209 which is adopted and incorporated by reference  
14 with subsequent changes or amendments pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.6.
- 15 (2) A wilderness search and rescue team shall maintain a team equipment cache of no less than eight of  
16 the following:
- 17 (A) field pack able to carry required equipment;
- 18 (B) multi-purpose knife;
- 19 (C) water container(s) sufficient to hold two quarts of potable water;
- 20 (D) safety glasses;
- 21 (E) pealess whistle;
- 22 (F) grid reader for 1:24000 scale;
- 23 (G) compass;
- 24 (H) two light sources with spare batteries;
- 25 (I) set of rain gear;
- 26 (J) tracking stick no less than 42 inches long;
- 27 (K) watch;
- 28 (L) fire starting kit;
- 29 (M) measuring device capable of measure no less than 18 inches;
- 30 (N) paper and pen or pencil;
- 31 (O) ICS 214 form;
- 32 (P) 50 foot of cordage;
- 33 (Q) eight zip ties; and
- 34 (R) signaling mirror.
- 35 (3) A wilderness search and rescue team shall maintain a rescue equipment cache of no less than the  
36 following:
- 37 (A) two global positioning system receivers;
- 38 (B) two first aid kits.
- 39 (j) Mountain Rescue Team Requirements
- 40 (1) A mountain rescue team shall maintain a roster of no less than eight personnel that have completed  
41 the NC Mountain Rescue Operations Course with no less than two personnel that have completed  
42 the NC Mountain Rescue Technician Level Course.
- 43 (2) A mountain rescue team shall maintain a team equipment cache of no less than eight of following:  
44 (A) field pack able to carry required equipment;
- 45 (B) multi-purpose knife;
- 46 (C) water container(s) sufficient to hold two quarts of potable water;
- 47 (D) grid reader for 1:24000 scale;
- 48 (E) fire starting kit;
- 49 (F) compass;
- 50 (G) two light sources with spare batteries;
- 51 (H) set of rain gear;
- 52 (I) watch;
- 53 (J) paper and pen or pencil; and
- 54 (K) ICS 214 form.
- 55 (3) A mountain rescue team shall maintain a rescue equipment cache of no less than the following:  
56 (A) two global positioning system receivers;

- 1 (B) ten screw gate carabiners;
- 2 (C) four belay type friction devices;
- 3 (D) eight pre-sewn runners;
- 4 (E) eight sets of matching prussik pairs;
- 5 (F) four 30 foot cord suitable for anchor and litter rigging;
- 6 (G) eight mountaineering harnesses;
- 7 (H) two rappel type friction devices;
- 8 (I) two each single and double micro pulleys;
- 9 (J) two 150 foot ropes with a rating equal to or greater than 20 kilonewtons;
- 10 (K) two 250 foot ropes with a rating equal to or greater than 20 kilonewtons;
- 11 (L) eight pairs of snow shoes;
- 12 (M) eight pairs of trekking poles;
- 13 (N) four ice screws;
- 14 (O) eight pairs of slip-on boot traction devices;
- 15 (P) four pairs of crampons;
- 16 (Q) a patient litter such as a military type stokes basket or sked system; and
- 17 (R) two 800 MHz portable radios programed with the NC VIPER Radio System template.
- 18
- 19

20 *History Note: Authority GS 166A-67*

21 *Eff. [DATE]*

