

# AMRG Operational HRD Canine SAR Team Performance/Credentialing Standards

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## Standard

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### I. Land HRD Dog Team Type Other - Wilderness HRD Dog Team

#### 1 SCOPE

- 1.1 The following credentialing standard is intended to allow the AMRG to field Land HRD dog-and-handler teams that meet NIMS the criteria of NIMS Canine Search and Rescue for Human Remains Detection Type – Other.
- 1.2 Nothing in the following document should be construed as contradicting or superseding ASTM F1847–98 or F1848–98 regarding SAR dogs and handlers.
- 1.3 Nothing in the following document should be construed as contradicting or superseding Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, ASRC, and other relevant standards for fielding an HRD dog resource, excepting where the following standards set higher/additional operational requirements consistent with typing.
- 1.4 The operational purpose of HRD Dog Handler Type Other is to provide a secondary certification for handlers holding dog handler credentials in other specialties (Air Scent, Trailing, USAR, etc.) at the NIMS Type III or higher level and have demonstrated the ability to successfully conduct Type Other Land HRD search tasks.
- 1.5 An HRD Dog Team Type Other credential issued by AMRG does not constitute a license to practice skills, but signifies only that the individual holding the credential has met an established standard of knowledge and performance and shall be able to function in a competent manner at the level indicated.
- 1.6 A secondary Land HRD Dog Team Type Other credential issued by AMRG for handlers holding other NIMS Type III or higher certification shall be valid for as long the required external certification is valid or three years, whichever is shorter.
- 1.7 Land HRD Dog Team Type Other credential is contingent on maintaining good standing in AMRG and the credential may be suspended or revoked by AMRG, consistent with the section 2.9 of the AMRG Administrative Policies and Standard Operational Guidelines.

#### 2 REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1 Minimum age for a credentialed dog in a Land HRD Dog Team Type Other is 12 months.
- 2.2 Candidate Dog Handler meets and maintains all current requirements of AMRG Airscent or other SAR dog handler specialty of type III or higher.
- 2.3 Shall have successfully completed an hour-length or longer certified course in canine or pet first aid, such as the Red Cross Pet First Aid course; other courses may be accepted as equivalent by a simple majority vote of the AMRG board of directors.
- 2.4 The dog shall hold a current certification demonstrating minimum obedience and proper behavior, for example an AKC K9 Good Citizen certification; other certifications or credentials may be accepted as equivalent by a simple majority vote of the AMRG board of directors.
- 2.8 Candidate shall maintain a checkoff list reflecting skills described below demonstrated to AMRG Land HRD Dog Team Type Other or higher handlers reflecting all the practical skills described below.
- 2.9 In addition to the minimum personal equipment requirements as set forth in the AMRG/ASRC FTL requirements, Candidates seeking Land HRD Dog Team Type Other credential shall demonstrate that their SAR packs contain the following additional personal equipment items.
  - 2.9.1 One – 6' leash or longer leash that can be clipped to itself to make a 6' length. Flexi-leads and other reeled and similar leashes are not suitable substitutes.
  - 2.9.2 One – extra 1-liter or larger water bottle over and above equipment requirements for FTL.
  - 2.9.3 Dog food sufficient to feed the dog for 24 hours.
  - 2.9.4 Sufficient Vet wrap, Ace bandage, or similar product to make a temporary muzzle for an injured dog.
  - 2.9.5 If part of the dog's reward, any toys/treats/etc.
  - 2.9.6 A minimum of 20 flags or two rolls of flagging tape.

### 3 KNOWLEDGE AND PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

- 3.1 The Land HRD Dog Team Type Other handler shall have an understanding of the items listed under each subject. Some items may require the performance of manual skills.
  - 3.1.1 Canine Search Operations
    - 3.1.1.1 Describe how weather affects movement of airscent as reflected in current meteorological science.
    - 3.1.1.2 Describe the differences in training and operations of Air Scent, Trailing, HRD or other ground-scent dogs, and how those differences affect mission and deployment of the resources.

3.1.1.3 Explain how different times of day and weather patterns affect optimal tactics for approaching Land HRD tasks.

3.1.1.4 Discuss approaches that might be taken to search the area, including grid search, perimeter search, and binary search, and their relative strengths and weaknesses.

### 3.1.2 Wilderness Survival.

3.1.2.1 Describe how the presence of a canine partner affects survival situations in the wilderness.

3.1.2.2 Describe how canine physiology and physiognomy affects their risk of heat- and cold-related environmental illness differently than humans, and how a handler can prevent or treat these conditions in their canine partners.

3.1.2.3 Discuss average daily food and water requirements for dogs, including how size of dog, level of activity, and weather affect them.

3.1.2.4 Demonstrate the ability to bivouac in any type weather conditions, with canine partner and without significantly affecting functional ability, using only the equipment carried during operational testing as described below.

### 3.1.3 First Aid

3.1.3.1 Demonstrate treatment of two of the following (simulated) first-aid scenarios on the canine partner:

3.1.3.2 Splinting a fractured leg, including muzzling the dog beforehand

3.1.3.3 Removing a tick

3.1.3.4 Stopping/dressing moderate bleeding, including muzzling the dog beforehand

3.1.3.5 CPR

### 3.1.4 Canine behavior

3.1.4.1 Explain dominance and aggression in dogs, and how aggression toward other dogs and humans can be avoided and/or addressed

3.1.4.2 Explain the value of motivation and reward in shaping canine behavior

## 3.2 Search Skills

3.2.1 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a minimum of one source of at least 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or issue, either elevated or above ground in a randomized location not known to the handler or evaluator, within an area of 1 acre of moderate terrain not familiar to the handler and in the daylight.

3.2.2 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a minimum of three sources of at least 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or tissue, in a randomized location not known to the handler or evaluator, and within 15 feet of a 0.5- to 1.5-mile linear feature such as a trail, ridgetop, creek, etc. in daylight or at night in an area not familiar to the handler. At least one source will be elevated no more than 10 feet, one source will be buried no more than 3 feet deep and one source will be above ground.

3.2.3 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a negative area of a 0.5- to 1.5- mile linear feature such as a trail, ridgetop, creek, etc. in daylight or at night not familiar to the handler.

3.2.4 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search in a building, house, or large outbuilding such as a barn. One source of greater than 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or tissue will be located inside the structure in a location unknown to the handler or evaluator, and may be either elevated or covered by hay, equipment, or other material.

3.2.5 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a sample on the ground in a randomized location unknown to the handler or evaluator in a 20- to 40-acre area of moderate terrain and vegetation, and which is not familiar to the handler. Sample shall be large enough to be smelled by the test administrator at a distance of 7 to 10 feet downwind.

3.3 Demonstrate basic obedience in the form of:

3.3.1 Following the handler off-leash

3.3.2 Jumping into a vehicle on command

3.3.3 Interacting with a human and neutral dog unknown to the dog without overt signs of aggression or fear

3.3.4 Recall off-lead through distractions

3.3.5 Down-stay-off lead, in the presence of distractions

## 4 CREDENTIALING PROCEDURE

### 4.1 Skills checkoffs

4.1.1 The Candidate must demonstrate all skills described in these standards via a checkoff list maintained by the Candidate.

4.1.2 Checkoffs may be made by any AMRG Certified HRD Dog Handler of Type Other or above.

4.1.3 External evaluation and certification to NIMS Type Other (or higher) Land HRD typing is required and may be acquired through any of the following NIMS-compliant entities:

4.1.3.1 National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR)

4.1.3.2 American Mantrailing, Police & Work Dog Association (AMPWDA)

4.1.3.3 American Working Dog Association (AWDA)

4.1.3.4 International Police Work Dog Association (IPWDA)

4.1.3.5 North American Police Word Dog Association (NAPWDA)

4.1.3.6 National Search Dog Alliance (NSDA)

4.1.4 When all other requirements are met, the candidate's credential is confirmed by a majority vote of AMRG members at a regularly scheduled business meeting.

4.1.5 Should the entity granting external Land HRD Dog Team Type Other evaluation require a different time period for recertification, Candidate must re-credential at that time period or one year (see below), whichever is shorter.

#### 4.2 Re-credentialing Procedures

4.2.1 ASRC Land HRD Dog Team Type Other handlers may re-credential as AMRG Land HRD Dog Team Type Other handlers by meeting or exceeding the following continuing education requirements. These will be a combination of training, missions and demonstration of practical skills to recertify. Note that certification of a handler with a new dog is not to be considered a recertification, but a new certification.

4.2.2.1 Presentation of a copy of his or her canine training logbook documenting a minimum of 36 HRD search tasks over a three- year period (with at least 10 in each year), signed off by an AMRG Certified HRD Dog Handler of Type Other or above, Canine Team Leader or AMRG Commander.

4.2.2.2 Demonstration of participation as a Land HRD dog handler in a minimum of three (3) real or full-scale exercise simulated mission tasks over the one-year period. TAFs, other mission records or sign-in sheets signed off by Mission Operations Chiefs or Managers, and attestations by Mission Operations Chiefs or Managers will be recognized for this purpose.

4.2.2.3 Successful external recertification, as outlined above.

4.2.2.4 Successful performance of any additional search or other skill performances mandated for Land HRD Dog Team Type Other credentialing since the team's initial credentialing.

4.2.3 The Land HRD Dog Team Type Other credential may also be renewed by successfully challenging the initial certification procedure, and meeting any other requirements for certification for Land HRD Dog Team Type Other that exist at the time of recertification.

4.2.4 Each Candidate is responsible for making individual arrangements for recertification testing.

4.2.5 If a Candidate fails to perform successfully any portion of the re-credentialing process, the team loses operational status until these requirements are met.

4.2.6 When all other requirements are met, the candidate's credential is confirmed by a majority vote of AMRG members at a regularly scheduled business meeting.

4.2.7 Failure to re-credential within three years in any case requires re-credentialing under the initial process.

## II. Land HRD Dog Team Type III - Forensic HRD Dog Team

### 1 SCOPE

- 1.1 The following credentialing standard is intended to allow the AMRG to field Land HRD dog-and-handler teams that meet NIMS the criteria of NIMS Canine Search and Rescue for Human Remains Detection Type – III.
- 1.2 Nothing in the following document should be construed as contradicting or superseding ASTM F1847–98 or F1848–98 regarding SAR dogs and handlers.
- 1.3 Nothing in the following document should be construed as contradicting or superseding Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, ASRC, and other relevant standards for fielding as a Land HRD dog resources, excepting where the following standards set higher/additional operational requirements consistent with typing.
- 1.4 The operational purpose of the Land HRD Dog Team Type III is two-fold:
  - 1.4.1 To provide an HRD search and detection capability for searches involving either human remains or trace human remains in small, focused areas for SAR incidents and law enforcement investigations.
  - 1.4.2 To provide a follow-up resource for detecting trace or scattered human remains in wide areas narrowed to small areas by Land HRD Dog Team Type Other teams or other resources.
- 1.5 Candidates seeking Land HRD Dog Team Type III credential shall be capable of performing these functions safely at any time of the year, day or night, and in all weather conditions experienced in the environments to which AMRG responds.
- 1.6 A Land HRD Dog Team Type III credential issued by AMRG does not constitute a license to practice skills, but signifies only that the individual holding the credential has met an established standard of knowledge and performance and has demonstrated the ability to function in a competent manner at the level indicated.
- 1.7 Land HRD Dog Team Type III credentialing issued by AMRG shall be valid for as long the required external certification is valid or three years, whichever is shorter.
- 1.8 Land HRD Dog Team Type III credentialing is contingent on maintaining good standing in AMRG and the credential may be suspended or revoked by AMRG, consistent with the section 2.9 of the AMRG Administrative Policies and Standard Operational Guidelines.

### 2 REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1 Minimum age for a credentialed dog for Land HRD Dog Team Type III is 12 months.
- 2.2 Dog Handler meets and maintains all current requirements of AMRG/ASRC FTL.
- 2.3 Land HRD Dog Team Type IV credentialing is not a prerequisite for Land HRD Dog Team Type III.
- 2.4 Shall have successfully completed an hour-length or longer certified course in canine or pet first aid, such as the Red Cross Pet First Aid course; other courses may be accepted as equivalent by a simple majority vote of the AMRG board of directors.
- 2.5 Candidate team shall hold a current certification demonstrating minimum obedience and proper behavior, for example an AKC K9 Good Citizen certification; other

certifications or credentials may be accepted as equivalent by a simple majority vote of the AMRG board of directors.

2.8 Candidate shall maintain a checkoff list reflecting skills described below demonstrated to AMRG Land HRD Dog Team Type III or higher handlers reflecting all the practical skills described below.

2.9 In addition to the minimum personal equipment requirements as set forth in AMRG/ASRC FTL requirements, Candidates seeking Land HRD Dog Team Type III demonstrate that their SAR packs contain the following additional personal equipment items while training or during operations.

2.9.1 One – 6' leash or longer leash that can be clipped to itself to make a 6' length. Flexi-leads and other reeled and similar leashes are not suitable substitutes

2.9.2 One – extra 1-liter or larger water bottle over and above equipment requirements for FTL

2.9.3 Dog food sufficient to feed the dog for 24 hours

2.9.4 Sufficient Vet wrap, Ace bandage, or similar product to make a temporary muzzle for an injured dog

2.9.5 If part of the dog's reward, any toys/treats/etc.

2.9.6 A minimum of 20 flags.

### 3 KNOWLEDGE AND PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

3.1 The Land HRD Dog Team Type III handler shall have an understanding of the items listed under each subject. Some items may require the performance of manual skills.

#### 3.1.1 Canine Search Operations

3.1.1.1 Describe how weather affects movement of air scent as reflected in current meteorological science.

3.1.1.2 Describe the differences in training and operations of Air Scent, Trailing, HRD or other ground-scent dogs, and how those differences affect mission and deployment of the resources.

3.1.1.3 Explain how different times of day and weather patterns affect optimal tactics for approaching Land HRD tasks.

3.1.1.4 Discuss other approaches that might be taken to search the area, including grid search, perimeter search, and binary search, and their relative strengths and weaknesses.

#### 3.1.2 Wilderness Survival

3.1.2.1 Describe how the presence of a canine partner affects survival situations in the wilderness.

3.1.2.2 Describe how canine physiology and physiognomy affects their risk of heat- and cold-related environmental illness differently than humans, and how a handler can prevent or treat these conditions in their canine partners.

3.1.2.3 Discuss average daily food and water requirements for dogs, including how size of dog, level of activity, and weather affect them

3.1.2.4 Demonstrate the ability to bivouac in any type weather conditions, with canine partner and without significantly affecting functional ability, using only the equipment carried during operational testing as described below.

### 3.1.3 First Aid

3.1.3.1 Demonstrate treatment of two of the following (simulated) first-aid scenarios on the canine partner:

3.1.3.2 Splinting a fractured leg, including muzzling the dog beforehand

3.1.3.3 Removing a tick

3.1.3.4 Stopping/dressing moderate bleeding, including muzzling the dog beforehand

3.1.3.5 CPR

### 3.1.4 Canine behavior

3.1.4.1 Discuss issues of dominance and aggression in dogs, and how aggression toward other dogs and humans can be avoided and/or addressed

3.1.4.2 Explain the value of motivation and reward in shaping canine behavior

## 3.2 Search Skills

3.2.1 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a minimum of one source of less than 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or tissue, either elevated or above ground in a randomized location not known to the handler or evaluator, within an area of 1 acre of moderate terrain not familiar to the handler and in the daylight.

3.2.2 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a minimum of three sources of less than 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or tissue, in a randomized location not known to the handler or evaluator, and within 15 feet of a 0.5- to 1.5- mile linear feature such as a trail, ridgetop, creek, etc. in daylight or at night in an area not familiar to the handler. At least one source will be elevated no more than 10 feet, one source will be buried no more than 3 feet deep and one source will be above ground.

3.2.3 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a minimum of one source of less than 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or tissue, either elevated or above ground, in a randomized location not known to the handler or evaluator, within an area of 1 acre of moderate terrain at night in an area not familiar to the handler.

3.2.4 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a negative area of a 0.5- to 1.5- mile linear feature such as a trail, ridgetop, creek, etc. in daylight or at night not familiar to the handler.

3.2.5 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search in and around vehicles. One source of less than 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or tissue will be located in a vehicle in a location not known to the handler or evaluator; a total of three vehicles will be searched.

3.2.6 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search in a building, house, or large outbuilding such as a barn. One source of less than 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or tissue will be located inside the structure in a location not known to the handler or evaluator and may be either elevated or covered by hay, equipment, or other material.

3.3 Demonstration of basic obedience in the form of:

3.3.1 Following the handler off-leash

3.3.2 Jumping into a vehicle on command

3.3.3 Interacting with a human and neutral dog unknown to the dog without overt signs of aggression or fear

3.3.4 Recall off-lead through distractions

3.3.5 Down-stay-off lead, in the presence of distractions

## 4 CREDENTIALING PROCEDURE

4.1 Testing/External Evaluation

4.1.1 Skills checkoffs

4.1.1.1 The Candidate must demonstrate all skills described in these standards via a checkoff list maintained by the Candidate.

4.1.1.2 Checkoffs may be signed off by any AMRG Certified HRD Dog Handler of Type III or above.

4.1.2 External evaluation and certification to NIMS Type III (or higher) Land HRD typing is required and may be acquired through any of the following NIMS-compliant entities:

4.1.2.1 National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR)

4.1.2.2 American Mantrailing, Police & Work Dog Association (AMPWDA)

4.1.2.3 American Working Dog Association (AWDA)

4.1.2.4 International Police Work Dog Association (IPWDA)

4.1.2.5 North American Police Word Dog Association (NAPWDA)

4.1.2.6 National Search Dog Alliance (NSDA)

4.1.3 When all other requirements are met, the candidate's credential is confirmed by a majority vote of AMRG members at a regularly scheduled business meeting.

4.1.4 Should the entity granting external Land HRD Dog Team Type III evaluation require a different time period for recertification, Candidate must re-test at that time period or at the three-year period described above, whichever is shorter.

## 4.2 Re-credentialing Procedures

4.2.1 To maintain AMRG Land HRD Dog Team Type III credentials, a team must re- certify before the expiration of their current credential.

4.2.2 Individuals applying for recertification must meet or exceed the following continuing education requirements. These will be a combination of training, missions and demonstration of practical skills to recertify. Note that certification of a handler with a new dog is not to be considered a recertification, but a new certification.

4.2.2.1 Presentation of a copy of his or her canine training logbook documenting a minimum of 72 search tasks over a three-year period (with at least 20 in each year), signed off by a certified AMRG Land HRD Canine Handler of Type III or above, Canine Team Leader or AMRG Commander.

4.2.2.2 Demonstration of participation as a Land HRD dog handler or canine management liaison in a minimum of nine (9) real or full-scale exercise simulated mission tasks over the three-year period. TAFs, other mission records or sign-in sheets signed off by Mission Operations Chiefs or Managers, and attestations by Mission Operations Chiefs or Managers will be recognized for this purpose.

4.2.2.3 Current and valid recognized external recertification, as described above.

4.2.2.4 Successful performance of any additional search or other skill performances mandated for Land HRD Dog Team Type III credentialing since the team's initial credentialing.

4.2.3 The Land HRD Dog Team Type III credential may also be renewed by successfully challenging the initial credentialing process, and meeting any other requirements for certification for Land HRD Dog Team Type III that exist at the time of recertification.

4.2.4 Each Candidate is responsible for making individual arrangements for recertification testing.

4.2.5 If a Candidate fails to perform successfully any portion of the re-credentialing process, the team loses operational status until these requirements are met.

4.2.6 Failure to re-credential within a year of the expiration of the external certification requires re-credentialing under the full initial process.

4.2.7 When all other requirements are met, the candidate's credential is confirmed by a majority vote of AMRG members at a regularly scheduled business meeting.

### **III. Land HRD Dog Team Type III / Other - Combined Wilderness / Forensic Certification**

#### **1 SCOPE**

1.1 The following credentialing standard is intended to allow the AMRG to field Land HRD dog-and-handler teams that meet NIMS the criteria of NIMS Canine Search and Rescue for Human Remains Detection Type – III with the additional ability to conduct wide-area searches for large amounts of human remains (e.g., deceased wilderness subjects).

1.2 Nothing in the following document should be construed as contradicting or superseding ASTM F1847–98 or F1848–98 regarding SAR dogs and handlers.

1.3 Nothing in the following document should be construed as contradicting or superseding Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, ASRC, and other relevant standards for fielding as a Land HRD dog resources, excepting where the following standards set higher/additional operational requirements consistent with typing.

1.4 The operational purpose of a Land HRD Dog Team Type III / Other is to provide a mechanism by which Land HRD Dog Team Type III resources can add the wide-area search capabilities of a Land HRD Dog Team Type Other without extensive redundant testing.

1.4 Candidates seeking Land HRD Dog Team Type III credential shall be capable of performing these functions safely at any time of the year, day or night, and in all weather conditions experienced in the environments to which AMRG responds.

1.5 A Land HRD Dog Team Type III credential issued by AMRG does not constitute a license to practice skills, but signifies only that the individual holding the credential has met an established standard of knowledge and performance and has demonstrated the ability to function in a competent manner at the level indicated.

1.6 Land HRD Dog Team Type III credentialing issued by AMRG shall be valid for as long the required external certification is valid or three years, whichever is shorter.

1.7 Land HRD Dog Team Type III credentialing is contingent on maintaining good standing in AMRG and the credential may be suspended or revoked by AMRG, consistent with the section 2.9 of the AMRG Administrative Policies and Standard Operational Guidelines.

#### **2 REQUIREMENTS**

2.1 Minimum age for a credentialed dog for Land HRD Dog Team Type III is 12 months.

2.2 Dog Handler meets and maintains all current requirements of AMRG/ASRC FTL.

2.3 Land HRD Dog Team Type IV credentialing is not a prerequisite for Land HRD Dog Team Type III.

2.4 Shall have successfully completed an hour-length or longer certified course in canine or pet first aid, such as the Red Cross Pet First Aid course; other courses may be accepted as equivalent by a simple majority vote of the AMRG board of directors.

2.5 Candidate team shall hold a current certification demonstrating minimum obedience and proper behavior, for example an AKC K9 Good Citizen certification; other certifications or credentials may be accepted as equivalent by a simple majority vote of the AMRG board of directors.

2.6 Candidate shall maintain a checkoff list reflecting skills described below demonstrated to AMRG Land HRD Dog Team Type III or higher handlers reflecting all the practical skills described below.

2.7 In addition to the minimum personal equipment requirements as set forth in AMRG/ASRC FTL requirements, Candidates seeking Land HRD Dog Team Type III demonstrate that their SAR packs contain the following additional personal equipment items while training or during operations.

2.7.1 One – 6' leash or longer leash that can be clipped to itself to make a 6' length. Flexi-leads and other reeled and similar leashes are not suitable substitutes

2.7.2 One – extra 1-liter or larger water bottle over and above equipment requirements for FTL

2.7.3 Dog food sufficient to feed the dog for 24 hours

2.7.4 Sufficient Vet wrap, Ace bandage, or similar product to make a temporary muzzle for an injured dog

2.7.5 If part of the dog's reward, any toys/treats/etc.

2.7.6 A minimum of 20 flags.

### 3 KNOWLEDGE AND PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

3.1 The Land HRD Dog Team Type III handler shall have an understanding of the items listed under each subject. Some items may require the performance of manual skills.

#### 3.1.1 Canine Search Operations

3.1.1.1 Describe how weather affects movement of airscents as reflected in current meteorological science.

3.1.1.2 Describe the differences in training and operations of Air Scent, Trailing, HRD or other ground-scent dogs, and how those differences affect mission and deployment of the resources.

3.1.1.3 Explain how different times of day and weather patterns affect optimal tactics for approaching Land HRD tasks.

3.1.1.4 Discuss other approaches that might be taken to search the area, including grid search, perimeter search, and binary search, and their relative strengths and weaknesses.

#### 3.1.2 Wilderness Survival

3.1.2.1 Describe how the presence of a canine partner affects survival situations in the wilderness.

3.1.2.2 Describe how canine physiology and physiognomy affects their risk of heat- and cold-related environmental illness differently than humans, and how a handler can prevent or treat these conditions in their canine partners.

3.1.2.3 Discuss average daily food and water requirements for dogs, including how size of dog, level of activity, and weather affect them

3.1.2.4 Demonstrate the ability to bivouac in any type weather conditions, with canine partner and without significantly affecting functional ability, using only the equipment carried during operational testing as described below.

### 3.1.3 First Aid

3.1.3.1 Demonstrate treatment of two of the following (simulated) first-aid scenarios on the canine partner:

3.1.3.2 Splinting a fractured leg, including muzzling the dog beforehand

3.1.3.3 Removing a tick

3.1.3.4 Stopping/dressing moderate bleeding, including muzzling the dog beforehand

3.1.3.5 CPR

### 3.1.4 Canine behavior

3.1.4.1 Discuss issues of dominance and aggression in dogs, and how aggression toward other dogs and humans can be avoided and/or addressed

3.1.4.2 Explain the value of motivation and reward in shaping canine behavior

## 3.2 Search Skills

3.2.1 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a minimum of one source of less than 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or tissue, either elevated or above ground in a randomized location not known to the handler or evaluator, within an area of 1 acre of moderate terrain not familiar to the handler and in the daylight.

3.2.2 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a minimum of three sources of less than 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or tissue, in a randomized location not known to the handler or evaluator and within 15 feet of a 0.5- to 1.5- mile linear feature such as a trail, ridgetop, creek, etc. in daylight or at night in an area not familiar to the handler. At least one source will be elevated no more than 10 feet, one source will be buried no more than 3 feet deep and one source will be above ground.

3.2.3 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a minimum of one source of less than 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or tissue, either elevated or above ground, in a randomized location not known to the handler or evaluator, within an area of 1 acre of moderate terrain at night in an area not familiar to the handler.

3.2.4 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a negative area of a 0.5- to 1.5- mile linear feature such as a trail, ridgetop, creek, etc. in daylight or at night not familiar to the handler.

3.2.5 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search in and around vehicles. One source of less than 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or

tissue will be located in a vehicle in a location not known to the handler or evaluator; a total of three vehicles will be searched.

3.2.6 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search in a building, house, or large outbuilding such as a barn. One source of less than 15 grams of aged blood, bodily fluid, bone or tissue will be located inside the structure in a location not known to the handler or evaluator, and may be either elevated or covered by hay, equipment, or other material.

3.2.7 Successfully demonstrate a canine Land HRD search for a sample on the ground in a randomized location not known to the handler or evaluator, in a 20- to 40-acre area of moderate terrain and vegetation and which is not familiar to the handler. Sample shall be large enough to be smelled by the test administrator or evaluator at a distance of 7 to 10 feet downwind.

3.3 Demonstration of basic obedience in the form of:

3.3.1 Following the handler off-leash

3.3.2 Jumping into a vehicle on command

3.3.3 Interacting with a human and neutral dog unknown to the dog without overt signs of aggression or fear

3.3.4 Recall off-lead through distractions

3.3.5 Down-stay-off lead, in the presence of distractions

## 4 CREDENTIALING PROCEDURE

4.1 Testing/External Evaluation

4.1.1 Skills checkoffs

4.1.1.1 The Candidate must demonstrate all skills described in these standards via a checkoff list maintained by the Candidate.

4.1.1.2 Checkoffs may be signed off by any AMRG Certified HRD Dog Handler of Type III or above.

4.1.2 External evaluation and certification to NIMS Type III (or higher) Land HRD typing is required and may be acquired through any of the following NIMS-compliant entities:

4.1.2.1 National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR)

4.1.2.2 American Mantrailing, Police & Work Dog Association (AMPWDA)

4.1.2.3 American Working Dog Association (AWDA)

4.1.2.4 International Police Work Dog Association (IPWDA)

4.1.2.5 North American Police Word Dog Association (NAPWDA)

4.1.2.6 National Search Dog Alliance (NSDA)

4.1.3 When all other requirements are met, the candidate's credential is confirmed by a majority vote of AMRG members at a regularly scheduled business meeting.

4.1.4 Should the entity granting external Land HRD Dog Team Type III evaluation require a different time period for recertification, Candidate must re-test at that time period or at the three-year period described above, whichever is shorter.

#### 4.2 Re-credentialing Procedures

4.2.1 To maintain AMRG Land HRD Dog Team Type III credentials, a team must re-certify before the expiration of their current credential.

4.2.2 Individuals applying for recertification must meet or exceed the following continuing education requirements. These will be a combination of training, missions and demonstration of practical skills to recertify. Note that certification of a handler with a new dog is not to be considered a recertification, but a new certification.

4.2.2.1 Presentation of a copy of his or her canine training logbook documenting a minimum of 72 search tasks over a three-year period (with at least 20 in each year), signed off by a certified AMRG Land HRD Canine Handler of Type III or above, Canine Team Leader or AMRG Commander.

4.2.2.2 Demonstration of participation as a Land HRD dog handler or canine management liaison in a minimum of nine (9) real or full-scale exercise simulated mission tasks over the three-year period. TAFs, other mission records or sign-in sheets signed off by Mission Operations Chiefs or Managers, and attestations by Mission Operations Chiefs or Managers will be recognized for this purpose.

4.2.2.3 Current and valid recognized external recertification, as described above.

4.2.2.4 Successful performance of any additional search or other skill performances mandated for Land HRD Dog Team Type III credentialing since the team's initial credentialing.

4.2.3 The Land HRD Dog Team Type III credential may also be renewed by successfully challenging the initial credentialing process, and meeting any other requirements for certification for Land HRD Dog Team Type III that exist at the time of recertification.

4.2.4 Each Candidate is responsible for making individual arrangements for recertification testing.

4.2.5 If a Candidate fails to perform successfully any portion of the re-credentialing process, the team loses operational status until these requirements are met.

4.2.6 Failure to re-credential within a year of the expiration of the external certification requires re-credentialing under the full initial process.

4.2.7 When all other requirements are met, the candidate's credential is confirmed by a majority vote of AMRG members at a regularly scheduled