

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**BETWEEN**

**WYOMING NATIONAL GUARD**

**AND**

**COMMANDER  
AIR FORCE RESCUE COORDINATION CENTER  
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA**

This is a Memorandum of Understanding for mutual coordination and cooperation for direction of routine civil SAR operations by the State of Wyoming, by and through the Wyoming Military Department, and the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC). When referred to collectively, the State of Wyoming and the AFRCC are referred to as the "Parties".

1. **PURPOSE:** To further delineate the operational procedures pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) dated 15 August 2018 between the State of Wyoming and the SAR Coordinator for the Langley Search and Rescue Region (SRR). The procedures outlined below are intended for use within the geographical boundaries of the State of Wyoming, excluding any federally recognized reservations and land managed by the National Parks Service. For incidents or missions involving overdue General Aviation (GA) interstate flights, Department of Defense (DoD) aircraft, commercial aircraft or missions of national concern, (e.g. National Special Security Events), the general procedures outlined in the Search and Rescue (SAR) MOA will apply.

2. **PERSONNEL:** Each Party is responsible for all costs of its personnel, including pay and benefits, support, and travel. Each Party is responsible for supervision and management of its personnel.

3. **FUNDS AND MANPOWER:** This MOU does not document nor provide for the exchange of funds or manpower between the Parties nor does it make any commitment of funds or resources.

4. **DEFINITIONS:** To develop common terminology and minimize miscommunications, the following definitions are provided:

- a. **ADVISE / NOTIFY** - Communication of actions which have been or will be taken regardless of concurrence.
- b. **ALERT NOTICES (ALNOT)** - A request originated by a flight service station (FSS) or an air route traffic control center (ARTCC) for an extensive communication search for overdue, unreported or missing aircraft.
- c. **CIVIL AIR PATROL (CAP) AUTHORIZATION** - AFRCC authorization and notification to CAP to participate in a mission as an auxiliary of the Air Force; CAP becomes a federal asset for the duration of the mission.

- d. COORDINATION - Collaboration between two or more agencies as to the actions taken.
- e. THE COSPAS-SARSAT SYSTEM - A system using satellites to detect and locate aviators, mariners and land-based users in distress. The satellites relay distress signals from emergency beacons to a network of ground stations and ultimately to the U.S. Mission Control Center (USMCC) in Suitland, Maryland. The USMCC processes the data and alerts the appropriate search and rescue authorities. SARSAT is the United States representation in the international Cospas-Sarsat Programme.
- f. EMERGENCY LOCATOR TRANSMITTER (ELT) - Emergency beacons that most U.S. civil aircraft are required to carry. An ELT sends signals to satellites (Cospas-Sarsat system) on a 406 MHz frequency or transmits an audio signal on 121.5 MHz; these beacons also have a low-power "homing" signal on 121.5 MHz. As of 1 Feb 2009, 121.5 MHz beacons are only reported through airborne and/or ground reports.
- g. EMERGENCY POSITION INDICATING RADIO BEACON (EPIRB) – Devices used in maritime applications that transmit a digital identification code to satellites (Cospas-Sarsat system) on 406 MHz and a low-power "homing" signal on 121.5 MHz.
- h. FEDERAL ASSETS - Federal government SAR capable resources.
- i. FEDERAL MISSION - Incidents that require the activation of federal air or ground assets and the expenditure of federal funds to support civil SAR.
- j. INCIDENT - Notification by any source of a possible distress situation.
- k. MISSING AIRCRAFT MISSION - Searches for missing aircraft believed to be in distress.
- l. MISSING PERSONS MISSION - Searches for persons believed to be in a distress situation not previously or currently involving an aircraft.
- m. NATIONAL ALERT WARNING SYSTEM (NAWAS) - The NAWAS network consists of two warning circuits: a national warning circuit and a state warning circuit. Warning information will be provided to the State by the National Warning Center (NWC) through the NAWAS Warning System via the national warning circuit. The NWC disseminates warning information to the Primary State NAWAS Warning Point located in a State EOC.
- n. PATIENT TRANSFER - Movement of patient(s) from one medical facility to another.
- o. PERSONAL LOCATOR BEACON (PLB) - Portable units that utilize satellite tracking for location purposes. PLBs are designed to be carried by an individual person instead of installed or mounted on a boat or aircraft. This beacon can be activated manually for the sole purpose of transmitting a locatable digital identification code to satellites (Cospas-Sarsat system) on 406 MHz and a low-power "homing" signal on 121.5 MHz. Advanced versions

can also transmit the unit's GPS position along with the distress signal.

- p. RESCUE - An operation to retrieve persons in distress, provide for their initial medical or other needs, and deliver them to a place of safety.
- q. MEDEVAC - Evacuation of a person for medical reasons.
- r. MERCY MISSION – Moving donor organs, blood, or SAR dogs to assist in the time critical saving of life or limb.
- s. RESPONSIBLE AGENCY - The federal or state agency with overall responsibility to coordinate the search effort regardless of assets being used.

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5. PROCEDURES:

<p><b>TYPE MISSION/INCIDENT</b></p>	<p><b>RESPONSIBLE AGENCY</b></p>	<p><b>PROCEDURES</b></p>
<p>Missing Aircraft Mission</p>	<p><b>WYNG JOC</b></p>	<p>The AFRCC will notify the Wyoming National Guard Joint Operations Center (WYNG JOC) of any assets sourced (including CAP).</p> <p><i>NOTE: The AFRCC will be the Responsible Agency for all incidents or missions involving overdue General Aviation (GA) interstate flights, DoD aircraft, commercial aircraft or missions of national concern.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As the Responsible Agency, the WYNG JOC will notify the AFRCC and the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security (WOHS) during any missing aircraft missions.</li> <li>- The WYNG JOC will request that AFRCC coordinate with the Federal Aviation Administration and other federal agencies in accordance with ELT and ALNOT procedures related to the mission.</li> <li>- WYNG JOC will coordinate with local Sheriff's office and other local agencies involved such as FBO's airport managers and ground search crews.</li> <li>- WYNG JOC will notify AFRCC for requesting CAP or other federal assets.</li> <li>- The WYNG JOC will notify and provide situational awareness to AFRCC, Wyoming Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, WOHS, and the Incident Commander throughout the mission.</li> </ul>
<p>Missing Person Mission</p>	<p><b>County Sheriff</b></p>	<p>The AFRCC will coordinate all federal asset requests (including CAP) through the WYNG JOC as the state agency</p>

		<p>acting for the county sheriff.</p> <p>The State, as the responsible agency, will conduct missing persons missions with the following understandings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Sheriff (or representative) of the involved county will be the Incident Commander.</li> <li>- The Sheriff will request additional SAR resources through the WOHS.</li> <li>- The WOHS will request federal resources through the WYNG JOC.</li> <li>- The WYNG JOC will contact the Incident Commander and gather all necessary information to adequately answer the AFRCC Missing Persons checklist.</li> <li>- The WYNG JOC will contact AFRCC with required information and relay request for SAR assets/assistance.</li> </ul> <p>The WYNG JOC will notify and provide situational awareness to AFRCC, Wyoming Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, WOHS, and the Incident Commander throughout the mission.</p>
Alert Notices (ALNOT) Incident	<b>AFRCC</b>	<p>The AFRCC will, in coordination with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), accomplish a communication check.</p> <p>The ARFCC will notify WYNG JOC prior to opening a mission and will coordinate with CAP to open a mission.</p> <p>The state, as the supporting agency, will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The WYNG JOC will contact local Sheriff of county that beacon is located.</li> <li>- The WYNG JOC will contact and notify local FBO's and airport managers as required if beacon is near an airdrome.</li> <li>- The WYNG JOC will notify and</li> </ul>

		provide situational awareness to AFRCC, Wyoming Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, WOHS, and the Incident Commander throughout the mission.
Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) / Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB)	<b>AFRCC</b>	<p>The AFRCC will, in coordination with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), accomplish a communication check and will coordinate with CAP to open a mission and notify WYNG JOC prior to opening mission.</p> <p>The state, as the supporting agency, will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The WYNG JOC will contact local Sheriff of county that beacon is located.</li> <li>- The WYNG JOC will contact and notify local FBO's and airport managers as required if beacon is near an airdrome.</li> <li>- The WYNG JOC will notify and provide situational awareness to AFRCC, Wyoming Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, WOHS, and the Incident Commander throughout the mission.</li> </ul>
Personal Locator Beacon (PLB)	<b>County Sheriff</b>	<p>The AFRCC will notify the WYNG JOC of assets sourced to include CAP.</p> <p>PLB alerts will be sent to the WYNG JOC. The WYNG JOC will notify and coordinate with the local Sheriff. As the Responsible Agency, the Sheriff will request additional SAR resources as required through the WOHS and/or the WYNG JOC. The WYNG JOC will notify AFRCC of all federal assets (including CAP) upon mission activation.</p>
Rescue/Medevac/Mercy	<b>AFRCC</b>	The AFRCC will receive the mission request from WYNG JOC or appropriate agency. AFRCC will notify the WYNG JOC if request is received from a source other than WYNG JOC. AFRCC will

		locate and coordinate for appropriate resource if available to accomplish the mission. <i>NOTE: Mission will be conducted only if local, state or civilian resource is not available. Financial constraints will not be an acceptable reason to not use civilian resources.</i>
National Alert Warning System (NAWAS)		No restrictions within the State of Wyoming.

**6. POINTS OF CONTACT:**

<b>STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY</b>	<b>DSN (Defense Switch Network)</b>	<b>COMMERCIAL</b>
WYOMING NATIONAL GUARD JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER (WYNG JOC)	388-5112 388-3044	307-772-5112 307-256-3044
WYOMING OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY (WOHS)		307-777-4900
HIGHWAY PATROL		307-777-4321
Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC)	523-5955	1-850-283-5955 1-800-851-3051
AFRCC Administration	523-5129	1-850-283-5129
AFRCC Mailing Address – 650 Florida Avenue, Stop 73, Tyndall AFB, FL 32403-5010		

7. **MODIFICATION OF MOU:** This MOU may only be modified by the written agreement of the Parties, duly signed by their authorized representatives. This MOU should be reviewed annually on or around the anniversary of its effective date, and triennially in its entirety.

8. **DISPUTES:** Any disputes relating to this MOU will, subject to any applicable law, Executive Order, directive, or instruction, be resolved by the consultation between the Parties involved.

9. **TERMINATION OF UNDERSTANDING:** This MOU may be terminated in writing at will by either Party given 180 days advanced notice.

10. **TRANSFERABILITY:** This MOU is not transferable except with the written consent of the Parties.

11. **ENTIRE UNDERSTANDING:** It is expressly understood and agreed that this MOU embodies the entire understanding between the Parties regarding the MOU's subject matter.

12. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** This MOU takes effect beginning on the day after the last Party signs


and shall have no expiration date.


13. **CANCELLATION OF PREVIOUS MOU:** This MOU cancels and supersedes any previously signed MOUs between the same Parties with the same subject.

14. **SIGNATURES:**

**Air Force Rescue Coordination Center**

**Wyoming Military Department  
State of Wyoming**

  
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GENE M. MANNER, Lt Col, USAF  
Commander

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GREGORY C. PORTER  
MG, WY ARNG  
The Adjutant General

1 Nov 2019  
DATE

8 Oct 2019  
DATE

# Wyoming Search and Rescue Assets

WY JOC: 307-772-5112

