



Standard Guide for Evaluating Area Search Dog Crews or Teams¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F3070; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This guide defines the knowledge, skills, and abilities required for a dog crew or team to perform an area search.

1.2 Area search dog crews or teams perform searches on the surface of the land, including open urban or wilderness areas, as well as mountainous terrain, and alpine environments.

1.2.1 Additional training shall be required for area search dog crews or teams that search in mountainous terrain, alpine environments, or underground.

1.3 This guide does not include the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to search in partially or fully collapsed structures, confined spaces, or on bodies of water, inland or oceanic.

1.4 Area search dog crews or teams trained to meet the requirements of this guide may operate in urban and disaster areas that may be isolated, or have lost their infrastructure.

1.5 Area search dog crews or teams must work under qualified supervision deemed appropriate by the AHJ.

1.6 This guide does not provide a theoretical basis for how an area search dog crew or team functions.

1.7 Search dog crews or teams are eligible to be members of Type I and II SAR crews or teams of the following Kinds, as defined in Classification **F1993**:

- 1.7.1 Kind A (Wilderness),
- 1.7.2 Kind B (Urban),
- 1.7.3 Kind C (Mountainous),
- 1.7.4 Kind G (Cave),
- 1.7.5 Kind H (Mine),
- 1.7.6 Kind I (Avalanche),
- 1.7.7 Kind K (Aircraft), and
- 1.7.8 Kind L (Unclassified).

1.8 Further training may be required before an area search dog crew or team can fully participate on a particular Type and Kind of team or crew, based on specific local need, regulations, or policies.

1.9 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

F1633 [Guide for Techniques in Land Search](#)

F1847 [Guide for Minimum Training of Search Dog Crews or Teams](#)

F1848 [Classification System for Canine Search Resources](#)

F1879 [Guide for Demonstrating Obedience and Agility in Search and Rescue Dogs](#) (Withdrawn 2014)³

F1993 [Classification System of Human Search and Rescue Resources](#) (Withdrawn 2014)³

F2209 [Guide for Training of Land Search Team Member](#)

F2685 [Guide for Training of a Land Search Team Leader \(STL\)](#)

F3068 [Guide for Contents and Use of a Position Task Book \(PTB\)](#)

F3072 [Guide for Intermediate Wilderness GPS/GNSS Use \(GPS/GNSS-IIW\) Endorsement](#)

2.2 Other References:

SWGDOG [approved guideline SC1 – TERMINOLOGY \(abcdefghijkl\)](#)

[Work Capacity Testing for Wildland Firefighters, The United States Department of Agriculture](#) (March 2002)

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *air scent dog, n*—a search dog trained to detect human scent by air scenting.

3.1.2 *air scenting, v*—a search dog action whereby a dog attempts to detect the presence of human scent in air currents and, if found, follow that airborne scent to its source.

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **F32** on Search and Rescue and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **F32.02** on Management and Operations.

Current edition approved Oct. 1, 2014. Published November 2014. DOI: 10.1520/F3070-14.

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.