

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Alaska Search and Rescue Association****Federal Tax ID: 33-1117695****Project Title:****Project Type: Equipment and Materials**

Alaska Search and Rescue Association - Search and Rescue Training and Equipment Purchase

State Funding Requested: \$200,000**House District: Statewide (1-40)**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

This grant will assist in providing both general and highly specialized training to volunteer search and rescue member organizations around the state, provide continued support to the Alaska Incident Management Team and the ASARA Radio Network.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$200,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2015 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$200,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The Alaska State Troopers rely heavily on local volunteer search and rescue organizations to assist in looking for lost, missing and injured persons. Due to the remote, harsh and technical nature of the Alaska back country, ensuring that there is highly trained search and rescue volunteers is vital to supporting the Alaska State Troopers and emergency first responders in all of our communities. ASARA is seeking this grant to continue providing local search and rescue volunteer organizations expert training and equipment that is vital to accomplish search and rescue missions across Alaska.

ASARA's three primary objectives:

1. Training Funds: Provide training funds to local volunteer organizations for both beginner and advanced courses in general and specialized search and rescue skills (e.g. mountain rescue, search and rescue dogs, river rescue);
2. Alaska Incident Management Team: At the request of the Alaska State Troopers, identify and support highly trained individuals statewide with the capabilities to manage multi-operational period search and rescue missions;
3. ASARA Radio Network: Building from a 2007 PSIC grant, ASARA will maintain interoperability among organizations and upgrade radio equipment as needed.

Project Timeline:

ASARA will allocate approximately \$40,000 per year, over a five year period, towards training and equipment purchase to meet the objectives defined under the project description.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Alaska Search and Rescue Association

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Corey Aist
Title: President, Alaska Search and Rescue Association
Address: P.O. Box 233276
Anchorage, Alaska 99523
Phone Number: (907)563-7048
Email: alaskasar@gmail.com

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No



ALASKA SEARCH and RESCUE ASSOCIATION

ASARA • PO Box 233276 Anchorage, Alaska 99523 • alaskasar@gmail.com

On the Internet: www.alaskasar.org

LEGISLATIVE GRANT PROPOSAL

February 15, 2014

Dear Legislators,

The Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA) is requesting a \$200,000 funding grant to train volunteer search and rescue personnel and provide training and search-related equipment to our member organizations.

ASARA is a statewide, non-profit affiliation of search and rescue organizations and individuals. Our mission is to support the training of search and rescue personnel across the state of Alaska and liaison with the Alaska State Troopers on behalf of search and rescue volunteer organizations. Below are highlights of some of ASARA's accomplishments and information on training opportunities previously sponsored by ASARA as well as a proposed budget for the requested grant.

"With a commissioned count of less than 400 troopers, AST depends heavily upon the professional volunteer search and rescue organizations. There are roughly 48 volunteer organizations statewide. These volunteers drop what they are doing to answer the call for help that often interrupts regular -day jobs and family life."

Alaska State Troopers 2009 Annual Report

Only through continued professional training can ASARA provide highly skilled, competent search and rescue personnel to the critical mission of finding lost and missing persons. We appreciate your consideration of our funding request.

Sincerely,

Corey E. Aist, President
Alaska Search and Rescue Association

ASARA ACHIEVEMENTS:

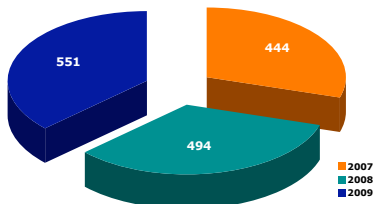
- ASARA trained professional volunteers participate in over 600 search and rescue missions across the state of Alaska every year saving the state hundreds of thousands of dollars in volunteer man-hours.
- Each year, ASARA members are instrumental in saving approximately 350 lives across the state of Alaska.
- ASARA represents over 500 search and rescue professional volunteers throughout Alaska
- Since 2005, ASARA has provided training for over 500 search and rescue personnel, representing over 25 different volunteer organizations, and municipality, state, and federal agencies.
- At the request of the Alaska State Troopers, ASARA developed a training program designed to provide the best search and rescue managers statewide. The AIMTsar deployed for the first time summer 2013.

QUOTES AND STATISTICS: ALASKA STATE TROOPERS ANNUAL REPORTS

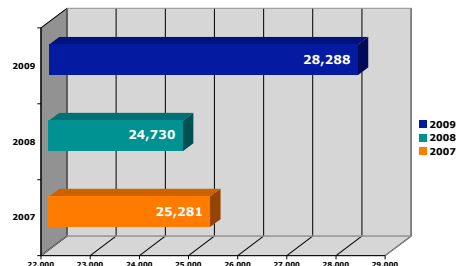
“On any given day in Alaska, someone will go missing. In Alaska over the last five years, a person or group was reported missing or overdue on average of once every 12 hours. Whether it is an overdue hiker familiar with the terrain or a first time visitor to Alaska unprepared for the capricious weather, emergency personnel in Alaska are on constant alert for search and rescues.”

“With so many searches across such a great distance, AST works very closely in cooperation with military, federal and local agencies. Without the mutual aid agreements with these agencies and the very essential resource of organized volunteer search associations, this task would be daunting, if not impossible. The significance of volunteers and other agencies for troopers to perform search and rescues is extremely important.”

1489 Lives Saved, 2007-2009



78,299 Mission Hours, 2007-2009



ASARA ORGANIZATION MEMBERS INCLUDE:

- *Alaska Avalanche Information Center (AAIC) – Valdez*
- *Alaska Mountain Rescue Group (AMRG) – Anchorage*
- *Alaska Search & Rescue Dogs (ASARD) – Anchorage*
- *Alyeska Ski Patrol – Girdwood*
- *Anchorage Police Department Auxiliary Search Team (APDST) – Anchorage*
- *Anchorage Nordic Ski Patrol (ANSP) – Anchorage*
- *Bethel Search and Rescue (BSAR) – Bethel*
- *Girdwood Volunteer Fire Department - Girdwood*
- *Ketchikan Volunteer Rescue Squad (KVRS) – Ketchikan*
- *Kodiak Island Search and Rescue (KISAR) – Kodiak Island*
- *Juneau Mountain Rescue (JMR) – Juneau*
- *Juneau Ski Patrol (JSP) – Juneau*
- *MATSAR – Wasilla/Palmer*
- *North Slope Borough Search and Rescue*
- *PAWS – Fairbanks*
- *Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department SAR – Petersburg*
- *SEADOGS – Juneau*
- *Sitka Mountain Rescue (SMR) – Sitka*
- *Wrangell Volunteer Fire Department SAR - Wrangell*
- *WSAR - Fairbanks*

ASARA STATEWIDE DIRECTORS INCLUDE:

Corey Aist, ASARA President - Alaska Search and Rescue Dogs Director at Large, Anchorage
alaskasar@gmail.com

Nick Szabo, Vice-President – Southwest Region Director, Kodiak Island Search and Rescue, Kodiak
herschel@gci.net

John Aspnes, Secretary - Interior Region Director, PAWS, Fairbanks
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John Rodgers, Treasurer – Anchorage Police Department Auxiliary Search Team Director at Large, Anchorage
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Mark Miraglia, Sgt. Of Arms – Alaska Mountain Rescue Group Director at Large, Anchorage
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Lou Holzknicht, - Matsu Region Director, MATSAR, Wasilla
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Don Kluting, - Southeast Region Director, Sitka Mountain Rescue, Sitka
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Brian McGorry, - Kenai Peninsula Region Director, Girdwood
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Tom Plawman, Anchorage Region Director, Anchorage Nordic Ski Patrol, Anchorage
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Jason Waggoner - Western Alaska Region Director, Kodiak Island Search and Rescue, Kodiak
waggoneer@gmail.com

Tom Mattice, - Alaska Director at Large, City of Juneau, Juneau
Tom_Mattice@ci.juneau.ak.us

Lt. Steve Adams, Alaska State Trooper Search and Rescue Coordinator, (non-voting advisory member)
steven.adams@alaska.gov

Additional information on the *Alaska Search and Rescue Association* can be found at www.alaskasar.org.

Legislative Capital Project Request Guidelines

In preparing your capital project requests for legislative consideration, please try to break your information into the following components:

Who is requesting the grant?

ALASKA SEARCH AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION

Federal Tax ID Number: 33- 1117695

What is the physical location of the project?

Statewide.

What is the project title?

Provide training and equipment to search and rescue volunteer member organizations statewide.

Briefly describe the project and objective:

Building on our 2010 Capital Grant, our objective is to continue providing both general and highly specialized training to volunteer search and rescue member organizations around the state. Provide continued support to the Alaska Incident Management Team and ASARA Radio Network. Provide for one of the Senate Finance Committee's top priorities to support critical life, health, and safety projects for our communities.

Funding Plan (Quick Facts):

	Category	\$\$\$	Description
A	Total Project Cost	\$200,000	<i>This should be the most accurate, latest estimate of how much this project is costing from start to finish – inception to completion – regardless of where you are in the process.</i>
B	Funding Already Secured	\$0	<i>This is how much of the project's costs are already in hand, secured, guaranteed, committed, appropriated, etc. If the city has agreed to issue bonds – even if they haven't been approved by the voters, you can include that here. You should include the \$\$ value of in-kind contributions and volunteer labor here – but only if they are based on reasonable assumptions and guaranteed. Should NOT include any hypothetical sources of funds.</i>
C	FY14 State Funding Request	\$200,000	<i>This is how much is being requested from the state in this year's capital budget .</i>
D	Other Funding Requests	N/A	<i>If you have SUBMITTED applications for funds from federal, private or other sources (Denali, Rasmuson, Gates, FAA, EDA, etc.) but HAVE NOT been approved, the totals of those OUTSTANDING requests should go here.</i>
E	Additional Funding Required/Outstanding	N/A	<i>Category E = A – B – C - D. This is the amount of funding that will be needed at some point in the future to complete the project but that has not been secured or formally requested.</i>

If you receive the funding you've requested from the state in this year's budget, will you be requesting additional state funding for this project in the future?

ASARA will utilize the funding from this grant over a five year period and does not anticipate the need for further funding requests until 2019.

Detailed project funding data:

The current request for \$200,000 is the total amount required to fund ASARA's projects for the next five years.

Legislative Capital Project Request Guidelines

Although capital grant funds provide for most of the cost associated with specialized trainings and equipment supported by ASARA, some of the cost is generally shared by the requesting member organization and / or the participants.

A report outlining trainings funded with the 2010 capital grant is attached.

Detailed Project Description:

With the number of Alaska State Troopers spread thinly statewide, the Alaska State Troopers rely heavily on local volunteer search and rescue organizations to assist in looking for lost, missing, and injured persons. Due to the remote, harsh and technical nature of the Alaska backcountry, providing highly trained search and rescue volunteers is vital. As our five year 2010 capital grant timeline begins to close, ASARA seeks a second five year capital grant to continue providing local search and rescue volunteer organizations expert training and equipment vital to accomplishing search and rescue missions across the state.

ASARA's three primary projects include:

1) Training Funds: Provide training funds to local volunteer organizations for both beginner and advanced courses in both general and specialized search and rescue skills e.g. mountain rescue, search and rescue dogs, river rescue, etc.

2) Alaska Incident Management Team: At the request of AST, identify and support highly trained individuals statewide with capabilities to manage multi-operational period search and rescue missions.

3) ASARA Radio Network: Built from a 2007 PSIC grant, ASARA will maintain interoperability among organizations and upgrade radio equipment as needed.

Has the project gone through a local public review and approval process?

Yes, the Alaska Search and Rescue Association Directors discussed in detail the pros and cons of such a request. The Directors recognize the need for continued training opportunities and have voted to approve this request.

ASARA Statewide Directors

Corey Aist, ASARA President - Alaska Search and Rescue Dogs Director at Large, Anchorage

alaskasar@gmail.com

Nick Szabo, Vice-President – Southwest Region Director, Kodiak Island Search and Rescue, Kodiak

herschel@gci.net

John Aspnes, Secretary - Interior Region Director, PAWS, Fairbanks

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John Rodgers, Treasurer – Anchorage Police Department Auxiliary Search Team Director at Large, Anchorage

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Mark Miraglia, Sgt. Of Arms – Alaska Mountain Rescue Group Director at Large, Anchorage

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Price Brower – North Slope Region Director, North Slope Borough Search and Rescue, Barrow

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Lou Holzknecht, - Matsu Region Director, MATSAR, Wasilla

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Don Kluting, - Southeast Region Director, Sitka Mountain Rescue, Sitka

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Brian McGorry, - Kenai Peninsula Region Director, Girdwood

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Tom Plawman, Anchorage Region Director, Anchorage Nordic Ski Patrol, Anchorage

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Jason Waggoner - Western Alaska Region Director, Kodiak Island Search and Rescue, Kodiak

waggoner@gmail.com

Tom Mattice, - Alaska Director at Large, City of Juneau, Juneau

Tom_Mattice@ci.juneau.ak.us

Lt. Steve Adams, Alaska State Trooper Search and Rescue Coordinator, (non-voting advisory member)

steven.adams@alaska.gov

Legislative Capital Project Request Guidelines

Member Organizations

- *Alaska Avalanche Information Center (AAIC) – Valdez*
- *Alaska Mountain Rescue Group (AMRG) – Anchorage*
- *Alaska Search & Rescue Dogs (ASARD) – Anchorage*
- *Alyeska Ski Patrol – Girdwood*
- *Anchorage Police Department Auxiliary Search Team (APDST) – Anchorage*
- *Anchorage Nordic Ski Patrol (ANSP) – Anchorage*
- *Bethel Search and Rescue (BSAR) – Bethel*
- *Girdwood Volunteer Fire Department - Girdwood*
- *Ketchikan Volunteer Rescue Squad (KVRS) – Ketchikan*
- *Kodiak Island Search and Rescue (KISAR) – Kodiak Island*
- *Juneau Mountain Rescue (JMR) – Juneau*
- *Juneau Ski Patrol (JSP) – Juneau*
- *MATSAR – Wasilla/Palmer*
- *North Slope Borough Search and Rescue*
- *PAWS – Fairbanks*
- *Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department SAR – Petersburg*
- *SEADOGS – Juneau*
- *Sitka Mountain Rescue (SMR) – Sitka*
- *Wrangell Volunteer Fire Department SAR - Wrangell*
- *WSAR - Fairbanks*

Top-Level Project timeline:

Five Years. ASARA will allocate approximately \$40,000 per year towards training and equipment for the three programs highlighted above.

What entity will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance and operations of this project once it's complete?

Alaska Search and Rescue Association

Name and contact information for the person who will administer this grant if it is approved and who can answer questions about this request.

*Corey Aist, President, Alaska Search and Rescue Association
907-563-7048, alaskasar@gmail.com*

Additional Backup - *You are encouraged to include with your request as much backup and supporting documentation as possible – financials, cost estimates, diagrams, photos, design documents, letters of support, resolutions, etc.*

Attachments include:

- *Cover Letter including Director contacts.*
- *Proposed budget.*
- *Detailed report of training and equipment funded with the 2010 capital grant through June 30, 2013.*
- *AIMT program documentation.*
- *ASARA Radio Network program documentation.*

PROPOSED BUDGET – 2015– 2019

Trainings	Certification Agency	Five Year Budget
<i>Specialty Skills</i>		
Avalanche Level I	Alaska Avalanche School	\$8,000
Avalanche Level II	Alaska Avalanche School	\$8,000
Ice Rescue	Alaska Avalanche School	\$5,000
Mountain Skills and Rescue	Alaska Avalanche School	\$3,000
Helicopter Escapement Training (3)	Learn to return	\$7,000
Rigging for Rescue Course (2)	MRA	\$25,000
Track Aware / Tracker I – (2)	Universal Tracking Corp	\$10,000
Navigation – (2)		\$6,000
River Rescue		\$10,000
		\$82,000
<i>Search and Rescue Fundamentals</i>		
Intro to SAR (ISAR) (6)	NASAR	\$10,000
Fundamentals of SAR (FUNSAR) (6)	NASAR	\$25,000
Incident Command System 300	NASAR	\$5,000
Managing Lost Person Incident (2)	NASAR	\$9,000
Planning Section Chief Course	NASAR	\$5,000
		\$54,000
<i>First Aid Training</i>		
Wilderness First Responder	Wilderness Medical Associates	\$10,000
Wilderness First Responder Recertification	Wilderness Medical Associates	\$5,000
Wilderness First Aid	Wilderness Medical Associates	\$5,000
		\$20,000
<i>Search Dog Workshops</i>		
Human Remains Detection Workshop (2)	Specialized Trainers	\$8,000
Canine Working Dog Behavior Workshop	Specialized Trainers	\$5,000
Urban Trailing for Dogs	Specialized Trainers	\$5,000
Advanced Tracking for Dogs	Specialized Trainers	\$5,000
Avalanche Workshop	Specialized Trainers	\$4,000
		\$27,000
	Total Training	\$183,000
Equipment		
AIMT Training and Equipment		\$10,000
ASARA Radio Equipment & Maintenance		\$7000
Total Equipment		\$17000
Total ASARA five year budget		\$200,000



ALASKA SEARCH and RESCUE ASSOCIATION

ASARA • PO Box 233276 Anchorage, Alaska 99523 • alaskasar@gmail.com

On the Internet: www.alaskasar.org

Alaska Incident Management Team for SAR (AIMT-SAR)

Purpose: AST and ASARA recognize the need to identify and support highly trained individuals with capabilities to manage multi-operational period searches. With ASARA's assistance, AST would like to develop ICS capabilities across the state of Alaska. Members of the Alaska Incident Management Team for SAR will specialize in the Incident Command System, additional search and rescue management techniques and support.

Objectives: AST has asked ASARA to:

- identify qualified personnel.
- Set AIMT-SAR criteria and manage the application process.
- support, schedule, and encourage ICS level training.
- develop resources to support AIMT-SAR teams.
- Develop Standard Operating Procedures.

Deployment: AST is the authorized agency to deploy AIMT-SAR resources. IN the event AIMT-SAR resources may be needed, Federal, state and local agencies should contact AST.

Participation in AIMT-SAR does not limit individuals from deploying with their member organization.

Participation with AIMT-SAR: As a member of the AIMT-SAR, individuals will:

- be prepared and available to deploy two (2) hrs from time of notification anywhere in Alaska for multiple days at a time.
- participate in AIMT-SAR scheduled trainings on a regular basis.
- continue to build ICS related skills through professional development and participation on SAR missions.

Criteria: The AIMT committee will set AIMT-SAR qualifications based on NIMS standards and Alaska specific experience and training needs. Please see the 2012 AIMT-SAR Position Qualification document for details.



ALASKA SEARCH and RESCUE ASSOCIATION

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ASARA RADIO NETWORK

Purpose: The purpose of this document is to outline procedures and guidelines for organizations choosing to participate in the ASARA Radio Network. Any equipment distributed will remain the property of ASARA as dictated by the grant funding. The primary goal is to provide common interoperable radios and accessories to trained volunteer search and rescue (SAR) organizations across the State of Alaska. ASARA may modify these procedures by a majority vote of the ASARA Board of Directors.

Participation Guidelines

Organizations participating in the ASARA Radio Network must continue to:

- 1) maintain current ASARA organization membership
- 2) be recognized as a SAR resource by AST or other municipal, state or federal agency
- 3) provide annual reports on the status of ASARA Radio Network issued equipment

Organization responsibilities:

Organizations may deploy ASARA Radio Network equipment in the manner that meets their organizations needs.

Every year, between January 1st and the quarterly ASARA board meeting in February, organizations will provide a report to ASARA on the status of ASARA Radio Network equipment including a plan for repairing any malfunctioning equipment. In addition, organizations will keep their annual dues current by the quarterly ASARA board meeting in February.

ASARA Responsibilities:

With the assistance of the Alaska State Troopers, ASARA will help organizations with maintenance needs. Being one-time funds, ASARA Radio Network equipment may be issued, replaced, recalled, updated, or repaired at the discretion of the ASARA board of directors in accordance with ASARA equipment policies. ASARA may share shipping costs with organizations at ASARA in accordance with ASARA equipment policies.

ASARA will provide a form online where organizations can submit annual reports on the status of ASARA Radio Network equipment.

ASARA 2010 - \$200,000 State Grant Report - REPORT BY CATEGORY

This report highlights the trainings the ASARA Directors have approved as of June 30, 2013. The grant period ends in 2015.

Training Requested	Group Requested	Training Dates	Training Location	Number of Participations
General SAR				
ISAR	South Central Teams	Jul-10	Anchorage	
FUNSAR	WSAR - PAWS	Dec 17-19 2010, Jan 15-16, 2011	Fairbanks	6 WSAR Participants
Man-Tracking	APDST	August 12-14, 2011	Anchorage	CANCELLED
WFR Recert	ASARA	Sept 9-11. 2011	Anchorage	12 participants: 3 AMRG, 2 ANSP, 8 ASARD
NASAR SAR Tech II / Fundamentals of SAR	ASARA	Sept 23 - Oct 2, 2011	Anchorage	24 participants: 5 AMRG, 5 ASARD, 5 MATSAR, 5 ANSP, 3 ADPST, 1 ASP
SafetyEd WFR Course	MATSAR	June 21-24, 2012	MATSU	13 participants: 2 ASARD, 2 AMRG, 1 ANSP, 1 ADPST, 7 MAT+SAR
NASAR SAR Tech II / Fundamentals of SAR	ASARA	Oct 12-14 & 19-21 2012	Anchorage	16 Participants: 1 APDST, 2 ASARD, 2 GVFD, 4 ANSP, 7 AMRG
WFR Course	AMRG	Nov 14 - Dec 4, 2012	Anchorage	17 Participants 10 AMRG, 5 Alyeska Ski Patrol, 1 ASARD, 1 GVFD
WFA Course	KISAR	Dec 7-8, 2012	Kodiak	To be announced.
Navigation Course	ASARD		Anchorage	To be announced.
Equipment Request	GVFD	Winter 2013	Girdwood	To be announced.
Navigation Course	APDST	September 28-29, 2013	Anchorage	To be announced.
WFR Recert	ASARA	Oct/Nov 2013	Anchorage	To be announced.
NASAR SAR Tech II / Fundamentals of SAR	KISAR	Fall 2013	Kodiak	To be announced.
Wilderness 1st Aid Refresher	KISAR	Nov/Dec 2013	Kodiak	To be announced.

Specialty SAR (Mounatin, Water, Ice, etc.)				
SAR Academy (Equipment)	DMRG	Nov 2010	Juneau	12 Participants: DMRG, JMR, Petersburg VFSAR
Rigging For Rescue	AMRG	March/April 2011	South-Central	10 Participants: 1 MATSAR, 2 ASARD, 1 ASP, 1 ANSP, 5 AMRG
Rigging For Rescue	JMR	April 21-24, 2011	Juneau	18 participants: 15 Juneau MR, 2 Juneau Ski Patrol, 1 Sitka MR
AMSEA Ice Rescue	KISAR	January 6-7, 2012	Kodiak	12 Participants KISAR
Equipment Request	KISAR	Fall 2012	Kodiak	N/A
Rope Rescue Techniques	KISAR	March 9-10, 2013	Kodiak	To be announced.
Rigging For Rescue - Sitka	AMRG / SMR	April 12-15, 2013	Sitka	17 Participants: SMR
Rigging For Rescue - Juneau	AMRG / JMR	April 18, 23 2013	Juneau	21 Participants: 18 JMR, 2 Alyeska Ski Patrol, 1 Juneau Ski Patrol
River Rescue Course (level 3)	GFVD	June 14-16, 2013	Girdwood	To be announced.
Alaska DSAR Conference - October '13				
Region Allocation - 10 southeast, 3 southwest, 3 Interior, 2 Northe Slope, 2 southcentral				
ASARA				To be announced.

Avalanche SAR				
NSP Avalanche I Course	MATSAR	Nov 30 -Dec 5, 2010	South-Central	21 Participants
NSP Avalanche I Course	MATSAR	Jan/Feb 2011	South-Central	16 Participants: 11 MATSAR, 1 ASARD, 1 AMRG, 3 ANSP
NSP Avalanche Level II Course	ANSP	Jan/Feb/Mar 2011	South-Central	7 Participants: 5 ANSP, 2 ASP, 1 ASARA
NSP Avalanche I Course	ANSP	Nov 14 - Dec 4, 2011	South-Central	16 participants: 12 ANSP, 3 ASP, 1AMRG
NSP Mountain Travel I Course	ANSP	Nov 2011 – April 2012	South-Central	12 Participants: 11 ANSP, 1 ASARD.
AAS Avalanche II Course	AMRG	Feb - Mar 2012	South-Central	15 Participants: 5 ASARD, 5 AMRG, 4 MATSAR, 1 ASP
NSP Avalanche II Course	ANSP	Feb - Mar 2012	South-Central	9 Participants:3 ANSP, 5 ASP, 1 ASARD.
AAS Avalanche Refresher	KISAR	Feb 24-25, 2012	South-Central	DELAYED till Dec 2012
NSP Mountain Travel Course I & II	JMR & JSP	Mar-Apr 2012	Juneau	14 participants: 2 WrVFD, 7 Juneau Ski Patrol, 5 Juneau Mt. Rescue.
NSP Avalanche I Course	ANSP	Nov-Dec 2012	South-Central	12 Participants: 10 ANSP, 2 AMRG
NSP Mountain Travel I and II Courses	ANSP	Nov-Dec 2012	South-Central	Level I: 8 ANSP Participants. Level II: 4 Participants
AAS Avalanche Refresher	KISAR	Nov 30 2011-Dec 1, 2012	Kodiak	To be announced.
NSP Avalanche II Course	ANSP	Jan-Mar	Anchorage	Not funded
Avalanche I Course	KISAR	March 2-4, 2013	Kodiak	7 Participants: KISAR
Avy Refresh Course	KISAR	December 6-8, 2013	Kodiak	To be announced.
NSP Avy I Course	ANSP	Dec-13	Anchorage	To be announced.
NSP Avy II Course	ANSP	Mar-14	Anchorage	To be announced.
ISSW 2012 Conference Allocation				
Director Allocation - Four (4) directors: Northslope, Interior, Southwest, Southeast. Seven (7) directors from Anchorage, Matsu, Kenai, and at large directors: AMRG, ASARD, APDST, Alaska.				
	ASARA	Sept 17-21, 2012	Anchorage	6 Participants: 1 southwest, 2 ASP, 1 ANSP, 1 AMRG
Region Allocation - Southeast, Interior: two (2) from each region. North Slope and Southwest: one (1) from each region. Ten (10) from South-central and Kenai Peninsula organizations.				
	ASARA	Sept 17-21, 2012	Anchorage	19 Participants: 3 southeast, 2 sothwest, 3 ASP, 4 AMRG, 5 ANSP, 2 AAIC.

Incident Command System				
NASAR MLPI Course x2	AST / ASARA	May 21-25, 2012 & May19-20 & May 25-27, 2012	Anchorage	16 participants: 5 ASARD, 2 ANSP, 5 AMRG, 4 APDST

SAR Dog				
Avalanche Dog Workshop	ASARD	Jan 28 - Feb 2, 2011	Girdwood	18 participants: 2 SEADOGS, 15 ASARD, 1 CES
Advanced Trailing Workshop	PAWS	June 2-5, 2011	Fairbanks	17 participants: 9 PAWS, 5 ASARD, 2 MATSAR, 1 SEADOGS
Track/Trailing/HRD SAR Dog Workshop	PAWS	June 13-17, 2013	Fairbanks	To be announced.



ALASKA SEARCH and RESCUE ASSOCIATION

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On the Internet: www.alaskasar.org

March 3, 2014

Senator Meyer
733 W. 4th Ave. Suite 209
Anchorage AK, 99501-2133

Dear Senator Meyer,

I am writing in support of ASARA's 2015 Capital Budget request. I have been a member of the Alaska Mountain Rescue Group since 1994 and the Alaska Search & Rescue Dogs since 2010. Prior to the previous state grant to ASARA, individual volunteer SAR organizations were limited by their budgets as to how much training and medical/technical certifications there were able to afford. Medical certifications cost hundreds of dollars for each member and need to be renewed periodically. The cost to bring trainers from the lower 48 for dogs or technical rope work runs in the thousands of dollars. Without the training funds provided by ASARA for the last few years many of the volunteer SAR organizations would have been unable to receive his training.

I want to thank you for your efforts to assist the SAR community with this Capital Budget request. Approval of this request will ensure that the life savings efforts of the volunteer SAR community will continue to be of the highest quality that the citizens of the State of Alaska deserve.

Sincerely,

Mark Miraglia, Director
Alaska Search and Rescue Association
Member, AMRG/ASARD



ALASKA SEARCH & RESCUE DOGS
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Anchorage, Alaska 99503
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Member
Non-Profit
IRS 501c3

Organized 1986

On the Internet: www.asard.org

March 4, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

ASARD supports ASARA as they seek assistance through the state legislative process for training funds. We are one of many volunteer organizations they support and would appreciate your consideration of supporting their efforts.

Specifically, ASARA has supported navigation courses and avalanche dog workshops for our group in south central Alaska. We are also frequently participants in courses financially supported by ASARA through other organizations around the state. These courses help our members maintain and improve their skills and help our organization assist AST and local authorities with SAR efforts around the state.

Our members are trained professional search and rescue volunteers who are capable and responsive when requested by AST and/or local authorities. We are a specialized tool that responds to searches on snow, water, and land. Continuous improvement of our skills and the skills of our dogs allows us to maintain and develop the high quality search and rescue skill set ASARD is known to deliver when called upon. This is only possible through training and practice, which ASARA supports.

Thank you for your consideration and your time.

Respectfully,

Melissa Becker, Unit Leader
Alaska Search & Rescue Dogs

"S.E.A.D.O.G.S."



SouthEast Alaska Dogs Organized for Ground Search
P.O. Box 35641
Juneau, Alaska 99803
February 27, 2014

Re: Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA) request for \$200,000 funding grant to train volunteer search and rescue personnel.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This letter is intended to be a notice of support for the Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA) statewide SAR Training program as they seek assistance through the legislative process. This request is to continue an ongoing process approved by the 2010 legislature.

So much of their efforts are conducted through volunteer organizations such as ours. The small amount of funding being requested is critical to their life-saving mission.

Please support of the efforts of ASARA during your deliberations.

I realize that times are tough and the budget is even tougher this session and I wish you the best of luck in your deliberations.

Respectfully,

L. Bruce Bowler
SEADOGS K-9 Search & Rescue Team
Juneau, Alaska

RE: Letter of Support for ASARA

3-2-14

To Whom It May Concern:

I've just learned that ASARA Directors have chosen to pursue an additional grant in this legislative session. This new grant would allow member organizations to have access to training funds through 2019.

I'd like to offer my support for ASARA's mission to facilitate training and interactions between Search & Rescue organizations. I believe it's made a significant impact on the SAR communities and their fluidity together.

I represent the Alyeska Ski Patrol, a group of over 130 people Professionals and Volunteers who dedicate themselves to helping rescue people from the slopes at Alyeska Resort- winter and summer. ASARA has provided opportunities for many of these people (including myself) to improve their personal skills in areas such as- avalanche rescue, snow stability, and rope rescue. Through ASARA we've made ourselves available to help when called by the Alaska State Troopers and are the closest available responders to many winter recreation areas around Turnagain Pass.

It is my hope that ASARA and its members will benefit from another grant to help continue the positive growth that we've been seen in recent years. We appreciate your support.

Sincerely,



Ben Habecker
Ski Patrol Director
Alyeska Resort
907-754-2271
bhabecker@alyeskaresort.com



P.O. Box 249

GIRDWOOD, ALASKA 99587

TELEPHONE (907) 754-1111

FAX (907) 754-2200





KISAR • PO Box 1910 Kodiak, Alaska 99615 •

My name is Jason Waggoner, from Kodiak, and I am writing to thank you for the support of the legislature in the past, and to urge continuing support for the state grant to the Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA).

Upon completion of college, I moved to Alaska in 2008 and immediately sought out our local search group. Personally, I had a strong desire to help others in distress, and wanted to use my love of the outdoors in a way to support the community.

However, while I had dedication to the cause, I had very little practical experience. That is why state support to Search & Rescue is so critical. The best practices for preplanning, strategy, and tactics are not intuitive so professional training is a must. As volunteer organizations we have to be able to take the average community member and train them to a professional standard. We truly have to grow our own SAR community, state wide.

As a volunteer organization KISAR expect our members to provide their own required uniforms, gear, and to attend 100 hours of initial training to get “up to speed.” And that is what makes legislative support a critical piece of our organization. The training we provide to our members in nationally recognized Wilderness First Aid, SAR Technician, Avalanche, Incident Command System, High Angle Rescue, and Helicopter Operations have a cost.

But, in my case, the investment can pay dividends. I have continuously sought our SAR training, and taken advantage of any opportunities I could find. Because of this, I have been accepted to the Alaska Incident Management Team and can be called to help manage SAR events, state wide. And I honestly could not have done this, without legislative support.

Because the state asks volunteers to assist the Department of Public Safety to assist in preserving life safety, I believe it places an obligation both on the volunteers, and the legislature. If you provide the funding, we will provide the man power. The volunteers will attend the training, buy the gear, answer the 2am phone calls, and take leave from work and family to respond when we are needed, ***so that others may live.***

Sincerely,

Jason Waggoner
1517 E Rezanof
Kodiak, AK 99615



Kodiak Island Search And Rescue
Post Office Box 1910, Kodiak, Alaska 99615
24 Hour Dispatch: (907) 486-4121

March 4, 2014

Senator Kevin Meyer
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol Room 518
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Meyer,

The Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA) is requesting a \$200,000 grant to train volunteer search and rescue personnel and provide search-related equipment to its member organizations. ASARA is a statewide, nonprofit affiliation of search and rescue organizations and individuals. Its mission is to support the training of search and rescue personnel across the state of Alaska and provide liaison with the Alaska State Troopers on behalf of search and rescue volunteer organizations. There are forty-eight volunteer organizations statewide. These volunteers drop what they are doing to answer the call for help that often interrupts regular day jobs and family life.

Kodiak Island Search and Rescue (KISAR) is an ASARA member and has greatly benefited from the training opportunities that have been provided. Since our formation in 1986 we have assisted the Alaska State Troopers with many cases that have saved lives or recovered those that could not be rescued. This could not have been accomplished without extensive training in wilderness first aid, avalanche awareness and rescue, high angle rope rescue, search and rescue techniques and search management training.

Only through continued professional training can ASARA provide highly skilled, competent search and rescue personnel to the critical mission of finding lost and missing persons.

We appreciate your consideration of our funding request.

Sincerely yours,

Steve Wielebski
President

MAT+SAR Search & Rescue

PO Box 876467, Wasilla Alaska 99687
907-745-6727



February 27, 2014

Subject: ASARA FY14 Capital Project Request

Senator Huggins;

My name is Lou Holzknacht, former VP for Craig Taylor Equipment Co. in Wasilla. Since my retirement in 2010 I have been actively involved as a volunteer and first responder for the valley's only search & rescue organization; MAT+SAR.

MAT+SAR is a volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to search and rescue as a service to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the state of Alaska. We are on call 24/7 at the behest of the Alaska State Troopers under the direction of Lt. Steven Adams (AST-SAR division operations).

Since my involvement in MAT+SAR, we have been called upon by the AST on dozens of occasions to assist with search missions involving a threat of life or death to our Alaska residents.

Although our members are required to individually purchase their personal survival gear used on assigned missions, the cost of support equipment and training classes are partially subsidized through fund raising events and money from state grants awarded to the Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA) through the State Legislative process.

ASARA is responsible for the distribution of all legislative grant awards to their Alaska volunteer member SAR Organizations throughout the state. MAT+SAR has been the recipient of thousands of dollars from past grant awards through ASARA, which has allowed us to acquire vital equipment to support our missions.

Please consider your support for ASARA in the FY14 Finance Deliberations, while encouraging Senator Meyer and the Finance Committee to approve ASARA's Grant Request in the amount of: \$200,000.

On behalf of MAT+SAR Search and Rescue, I thank you for your service to our great state of Alaska.

Respectfully, Lou Holzknacht, President
MAT+SAR Search and Rescue
PO Box 876467, Wasilla, AK 99687
Ph# 232-2723

Greetings elected officials:

This email follows up on a meeting I had by teleconference last night with the Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA). I was representing Price Brower who's at a helicopter expo in Anaheim, CA. Anyway, a discussion ensued about state grant funds for the ASARA organization located in Anchorage. They're closely allied with the Alaska State Troopers through Lt. Steve Adams, and Corey Aist, ASARA President. Their legislative efforts have been made known to, or coordinated through Sen. Kevin Meyer's office.

I just wanted to put in a notice of support for the ASARA program as they seek assistance through the state legislative process. So much of their efforts are conducted through volunteer organizations as is our search & rescue activities in our respective villages on the north slope. However we are most fortunate with a borough Search & Rescue department unlike any other municipality or state agency. We still depend on those volunteer organizations nevertheless.

With Donny as a pilot (legislative off-session) and Ben as a Barrow resident, please consider your support of the efforts of ASARA during your deliberations, or if Sen. Meyer would consider your knowledge and support. I know in the legislative district encompassing the Northwest Arctic Borough (11-villages), they are your constituents, and personally having previous knowledge of their limited resources compared to the North slope borough, although we occasionally feel the lack of resources from time to time as well.

Sometimes these things are simply reminders as you balance the needs of statewide concerns, and how they impact your legislative districts specific to search and rescue as well.

I hope you have a fruitful session in these trying times, and I wish you both the best of luck in your deliberations. There are just so many concerns to balance in your elected roles.

Respectfully,

Dennis J Tiepelman, Deputy Director
NSB-Search & Rescue
Barrow, AK 99723

March 3, 2014

Dear Legislators,

I ask your support for a Legislative Grant Proposal from The Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA) currently submitted to the Alaska legislature for a total of \$200,000 over a four year period or \$50,000/year. The proposed grant will fund continued training of volunteer search and rescue (SAR) personnel and also provide search related equipment to ASARA member organizations.

As a member of PAWS Search and Rescue Dogs in Fairbanks for the past 23 years and a volunteer on many searches, I cannot overemphasize the importance of training opportunities funded by ASARA and hope these opportunities will continue to be available through the approval of the current Legislative Grant Proposal.

Every year, volunteers who have benefited from ASARA sponsored training programs participate in more than 600 SAR missions throughout Alaska, saving many lives and bringing closure to families of deceased subjects. I and others in PAWS have additionally been personally involved in utilizing our K9s to help Alaska State Troopers with crime scene investigations.

I believe that the funds requested in the ASARA Legislative Grant Proposal represent an excellent investment in increased effectiveness of SAR volunteers, which is repaid many times over by saving search time spent by Alaska State Troopers and other law enforcement personnel.

I realize that funding is tight this year, but I hope that the value of SAR volunteer training and the value that SAR volunteers provide to Alaska are recognized and can be rewarded.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

John Aspnes
Secretary, PAWS Search and Rescue Dogs
Secretary, ASARA Board of Directors
2003 Swallow Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99709
jdaspnes@alaska.edu