

AVALANCHE SITE ACTION PLAN

ROLES

Incident Coordinator; - Request helicopter & SARDA; Incident info & full team deployment

Hasty Team Coordinator; - Calls selected hasty team, safety info for hasty team & equipment
On site

Avalanche site Co-ordinator; - In Control of incident on site & delegate tasks as required

Briefing / Tasking / Comms; Record personnel & equipment into site, Beacon check

Medical Officer; - Ideally Doc - Depending on initial reports need not go in Hasty Party lift

Probe Team leaders; Assign roles for probing & digging, Communicate with site Coordinator

SAFETY

Incident info:- Slope Aspect, Slope Angle, Altitude & Terrain Type, Visibility

Conditions Info:- Avalanche & Weather Forecast, Blogs, team member, Witnesses on scene

Route to site:- Expected hazards, Terrain Traps, Convexities, Group Management

Assess Risks:- Recent Avalanches!! Increasing accumulations, Wetness & instabilities of snow.

Safe to proceed:- Unstable slopes, Cornices, People descending from above?

Identify Safe Zone:- Is there a need for a look out, Agree & advise warning signal

Mitigate Risk:- Access site from air, Identify & extract casualties from air, Consider holding back majority of the team at safe zone for small group to assess area!!!

Transceiver check:- All rescuers attending incident

HASTY PARTY

Contact witnesses:- Nr's involved, Wearing transceivers, Nr's trapped & injured survivors

Transceiver Search:- All searchers on Search mode, 20m search spacing, Mark clues & entry point with **Blue** flags, Last Known Position with **Crossed Blue** flags.

Avalanche Search Dog:- As soon as possible but don't delay Hasty Party

Recco Search:- Across slope, 20m, 10m, 5m & 1m effective search widths

Spot Probe:- 2m around surface clues, Survivors found, Buried victims, Likely areas

Communicate:- Resources Required - Personnel - Additional teams
Equipment

Sit-rep - casualties / witnesses; route in; safety concerns

Equipment:- Personal - Transceiver, Probe & Shovel, Radio

Team- Airwave, **Blue Flags**, Bivi Shelter, Recco, Camera

Recording:- Take Photographs

FULL TEAM DEPLOYMENT

Search Tactics:- Recco Search - started or continued with reducing search strip widths

Spot probe - around surface clues & terrain traps (hasty party & first team)

Fine & rapid visual & audible search - 2m spacing between searchers

Mark clues with **Blue flags** including where survivors ended up

Mark extent of tip site with **Yellow Flags**

Identify & Prioritise likely burial sites; Toe of avalanche, Bends in slide path,
Behind or in front of obstacles such as boulders, Levelling of terrain,
Depressions in the ground.

Probe line up - Probe leader, equipment, medical team, Limit probe depth

Search dog to follow probing team (scent released through probe holes)

Take GPS position of clues etc

Take photographs during daylight hours

Trenching

Equipment:- Avalanche Grab bags (**Red / Yellow / Blue** Flags, spare probes, heavy duty shovels, Guidon cord, High Viz Bibs, Clip board with water proof paper & pens); Medical equipment incl Oxygen & Defibrillator; Stretcher, Vac mat & Cas bag; Para flares & smoke; Ropes.

Communication:- Resources required, contact on arrival, Route to site