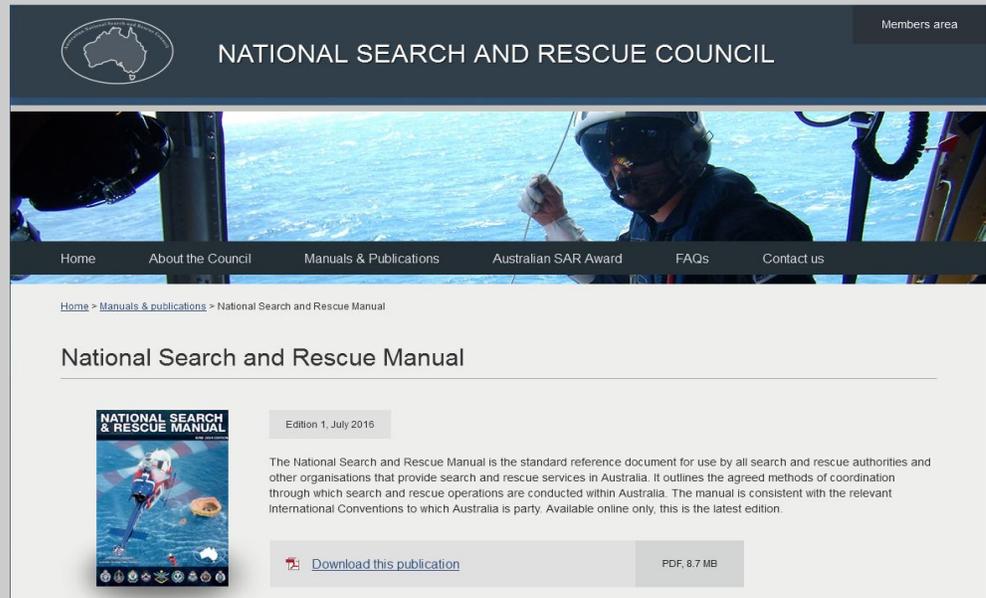


*Name of the Tool*

National Search and Rescue Manual

*Home Page*



The screenshot shows the website for the National Search and Rescue Council. At the top left is the council's logo, which features a map of Australia. To the right of the logo is the text "NATIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE COUNCIL". In the top right corner, there is a "Members area" link. Below the header is a large banner image showing a person in a helicopter cockpit looking out over the ocean. Underneath the banner is a navigation menu with links for "Home", "About the Council", "Manuals & Publications", "Australian SAR Award", "FAQs", and "Contact us". Below the menu is a breadcrumb trail: "Home > Manuals & publications > National Search and Rescue Manual". The main heading is "National Search and Rescue Manual". To the left of the main text is a small thumbnail image of the manual's cover. To the right of the thumbnail, it says "Edition 1, July 2016". Below that is a paragraph of text: "The National Search and Rescue Manual is the standard reference document for use by all search and rescue authorities and other organisations that provide search and rescue services in Australia. It outlines the agreed methods of coordination through which search and rescue operations are conducted within Australia. The manual is consistent with the relevant International Conventions to which Australia is party. Available online only, this is the latest edition." At the bottom of the page, there is a "Download this publication" button and a "PDF, 8.7 MB" button.

*Logo*



*URL*

<https://natsar.amsa.gov.au/natsar-manual.asp>

*Subject*

Rescue work—Australia—Handbooks, manuals, etc.

*Accessibility*

Free

*Language*

English

*Publisher*

Australian National Search and Rescue Council

### ***Brief History***

The National Search and Rescue Council is a cooperative body that is responsible for the national search and rescue response arrangements in Australia. The Council members are from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, the Australian Defense Force and State, Territory and Federal Police, who signed an Intergovernmental Agreement confirming its role as the national coordinating body for search and rescue. The mission of the National Search and Rescue Council is to develop and maintain an effective, efficient and integrated national search and rescue system that meets international obligations and domestic requirements. For this novel job the council has published the National Search and Rescue Manual that standardize techniques and procedures for search and rescue enabling Search and Rescue (SAR) authorities to cooperate and coordinate to best effect. In 1976, the SAR Authorities formed a national conference to ensure consistency and uniformity in SAR procedures within the Australian search and rescue region (SRR). In 1999 a shift in perspective saw the group renamed the National Search and Rescue Council with the role of formulating, discussing and ratifying national search and rescue policies. In 2004, the Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers responsible for search and rescue response in Australia signed an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) on National Search and Rescue Response Arrangements. The IGA confirmed the National Search and Rescue Council's role as the national coordinating body for search and rescue procedures with a function, among others, of sponsoring the National Search and Rescue Manual.

### ***Scope and Coverage***

The National Search and Rescue Manual outline the agreed methods of coordination through which search and rescue operations are conducted within Australia. The handbook covers the topics like the National SAR Plan for organization and coordination, search and rescue communication, awareness and initial actions which should be present in rescue operations, search planning and evaluation, search techniques and operations, rescue planning operations, conclusion of SAR operations.

### ***Kind of Information***

The National Search and Rescue Manual is consistent with the relevant international conventions to which Australia is a party and is supplemented by various legal, informative and instructional documents used within, and between, organizations concerned with search and rescue. It has been developed with due regard to the International Aviation and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual (IAMSAR). The National SAR Manual meets the requirements of international conventions for an Australian Search and Rescue Plan, and includes material covering Abbreviations, terminology and definitions relevant to SAR practitioners, the elements and functions of the Australian SAR system, details of communications, assets and procedures for coordination, SAR planning and techniques including worksheets. As for example, the chapter on “**Rescue Planning Operations**” provides The primary purpose of any SAR action, the relevant factors including the operations, preparation strategies, medical assistance, the necessarily taken actions for the crashed aircraft, all the Health Hazards related to the Aircraft Accidents, rescue process on land, sea, and use of rescue boats and vessels, usage strategies of a aircraft, helicopter for rescue, supply dropping and delivery of survival equipments, training and exercises for rescue actions and other emergency

assistance and Services. Like this above described chapter all the chapters provide different kind of information regarding the subject.

### ***Special Features***

- The National Search and Rescue Manual is reviewed and updated through an annual amendments program. The website provides amendment history.
- All the chapters of this manual are separately arranged at the home page for quick access Users can also download the whole handbook.
- The handbook includes appendices which provides Australian Search and Rescue Region, National Search and Rescue (SAR) Responsibilities and Functions, Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) on National Search and Rescue Response Arrangements, Information exchange requirements – Transfer of Coordination, Distress and Emergency Signals, Maritime SAR Recognition Code , Plotting Symbols , Sighting & Hearing (SHR) Techniques etc. separately from the handbook. In means one can also access ready to use important information by following the links of those appendices.

### ***Arrangement Pattern***

In this handbook the contents are divided into chapters and all the chapters are arranged topic wise.

### ***Remarks***

The National Search and Rescue Manual is the standard reference document for use by all Australian Search and Rescue (SAR) authorities. It is promulgated by the National SAR Council operating under direction from relevant Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers. The Manual promulgates SAR coordination procedures for SAR operations conducted within Australia and the Australian SAR Region (SRR).

### ***Comparable Tools***

- Land Search Operations Manual  
( <https://natsar.amsa.gov.au/land-search-manual.asp>)

### ***Date of Access***

December 16, 2016