

Oregon Mountain Rescue Council

To provide centralized representation on mountain rescue matters within Oregon, and to promote mountain safety

September 27, 2016

Letter of Understanding

On December 14th, 1986, the first meeting of what would later be known as the Oregon Mountain Rescue Council (OMRC) took place. The OMRC was organized in order to establish closer coordination between Oregon mountain rescue groups, to provide centralized representation on mountain rescue matters within Oregon, and to promote mountain safety education.

The mountain rescue groups of OMRC provide a system to the county sheriffs of Oregon that ensures well-trained and equipped personnel are available for mountain search and rescue. In 1990, the Oregon State Sheriffs Association entrusted to OMRC the role of establishing and maintaining accreditation of mountain rescue teams.

The OMRC is the official representative to the national Mountain Rescue Association for all mountain rescue teams in the Oregon Region. MRA regions are formed to benefit member teams. Typical purposes are to establish mutual aid procedures, to develop techniques and equipment suited to region needs, to maintain MRA standards within the region, and to interact with state agencies.

The Search and Rescue Advisory Council (SARAC) advises the Oregon State Sheriffs Association (OSSA) on matters pertaining to search and rescue and encourages a coordinated effort on a statewide basis to reduce injury and loss of life due to search and rescue incidents. The SARAC is only advisory and operates under the direction and authority of the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association.

The duties of the SARAC are to promote legislation pertaining to search and rescue, to promote an exchange of information and utilize new techniques used in search and rescue, to develop and promote positive public awareness of search and rescue programs and to develop and standardize search training and certification.

The Oregon Mountain Rescue Council seeks to support the mission and duties of the OSSA Search and Rescue Advisory Council through participation in the SARAC as an Associate Member. It is understood that the OMRC will not be a voting member of the SARAC, but will be eligible to otherwise fully participate in the mission and duties of the SARAC.



Oregon Region
of the Mountain
Rescue Association



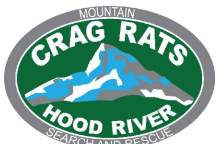
Corvallis Mountain
Rescue Unit
PO Box 116
Corvallis, OR 97339



Deschutes County
Mountain Rescue Unit
PO Box 5722
Bend, OR 97708



Eugene Mountain Rescue
PO Box 20
Eugene, OR 97440



Hood River Crag Rats
PO Box 1159
Hood River, OR 97031



Portland Mountain Rescue
PO Box 5391
Portland, OR 97228

To reduce any redundancies in communication between the two organizations, it is understood that only the three OMRC Executive Board Officers will be added to the SARAC's official member email list, website or other official forms of communication. In recognition of this, the OMRC will ensure that the SARAC Chair has up to date contact information for the OMRC Executive Board Officers.

If at any time in the future this relationship does not function to the satisfaction of the OMRC or the OSSA SARAC, this document may be edited or voided entirely as long as both organizations are aware of and agree to the potential changes.

The OMRC looks forward to formalizing and strengthening our relationship with the OSSA SARAC.

Sgt. Sean Collinson, OSSA SARAC Chair Date

Jerry Heilman, OMRC President Date