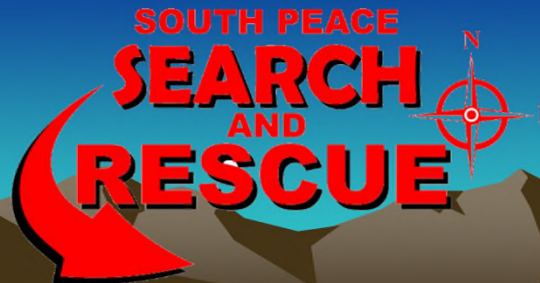


# PRRD Search and Rescue Teams

Activities 2023 and Beyond



- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nWcrE2oa1o4>



# Search and Rescue

## Primary Responsibility

- Tasked with supporting Land and Inland Water search and rescue in the Peace River areas.

## Secondary Responsibility

- Assisting with implementing evacuation alerts and orders.
- Radio communications during emergency events.



- Chetwynd Search and Rescue
- North Peace Search and Rescue
- South Peace Search and Rescue
- Tumbler Ridge Search and Rescue

# Search and Rescue

- We do not work on our own, but are activated by one of the following:
  - R.C.M.P.
  - B.C. Emergency Health Services (BCAS)
  - Local Government
  - Local Fire Departments
  - Emergency Coordination Center (E.M.C.R.)
  - Joint Rescue Coordination Centre



# Search and Rescue

- We are Emergency Management and Climate Readiness recognized, professional volunteer search and rescue groups, and trained to provincial standards of the Emergency Management Division of the Justice Institute of B.C.



# Teams and Commitment during 2022 in the PRRD

- Chetwynd Search and Rescue = 150 training and tasks hours, 17 members.
- North Peace Search and Rescue (Fort St John) = 6,433 training and task hours, 38 members.
- South Peace Search and Rescue (Dawson Creek) = 4,510 training and task hours, 23 members.
- Tumbler Ridge Search and Rescue = 1,500 training and task hours, 19 members.



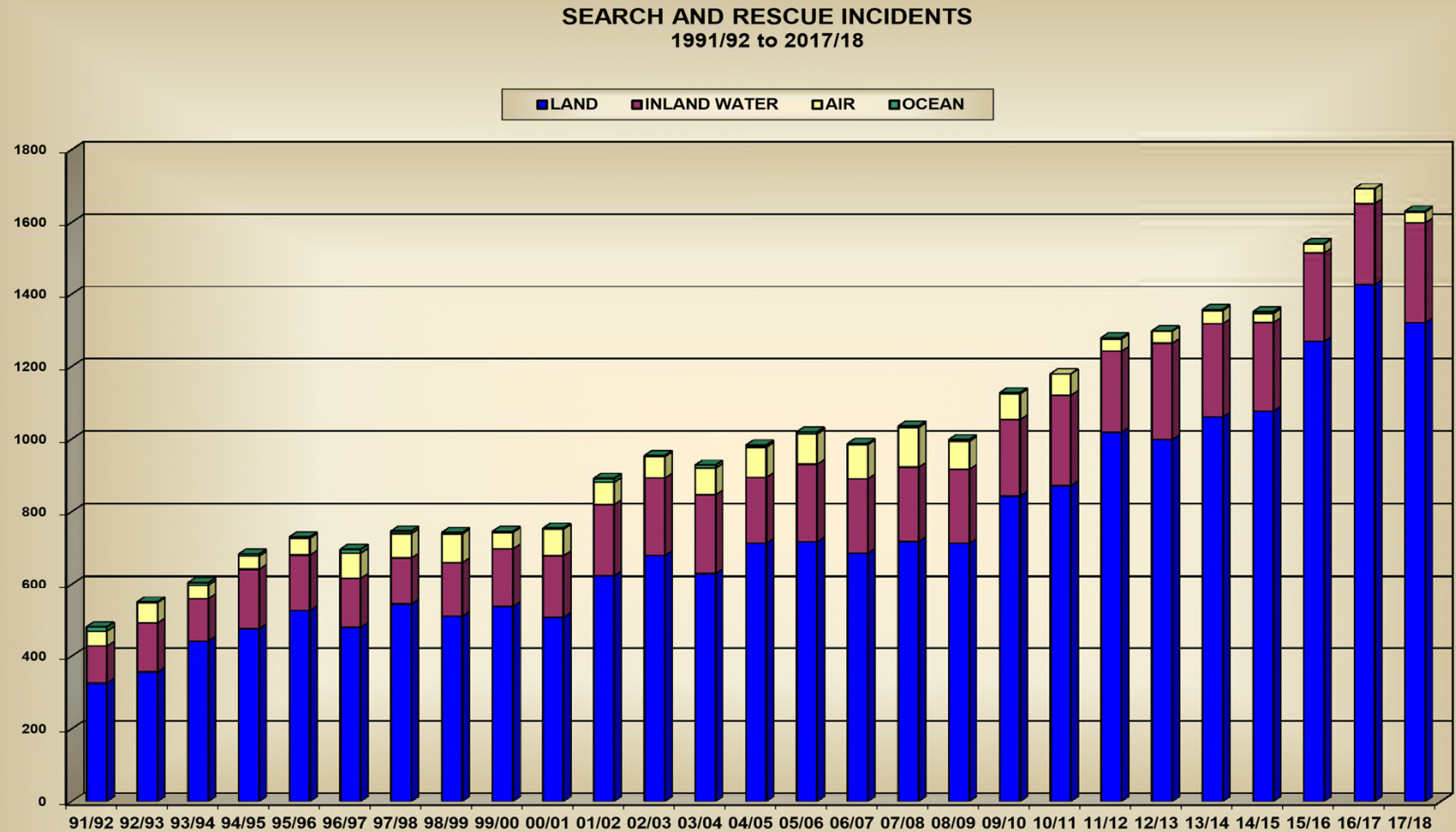
# Task numbers by Area

Team	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 YTD	Total
Chetwynd	5	5	2	1	4	2	19
North Peace	20	20	29	20	17	29	135
South Peace	1	4	2	11	18	13	49
Tumbler Ridge	1	6	9	7	4	6	33

Total tasks -236

# Search and Rescue Incidents

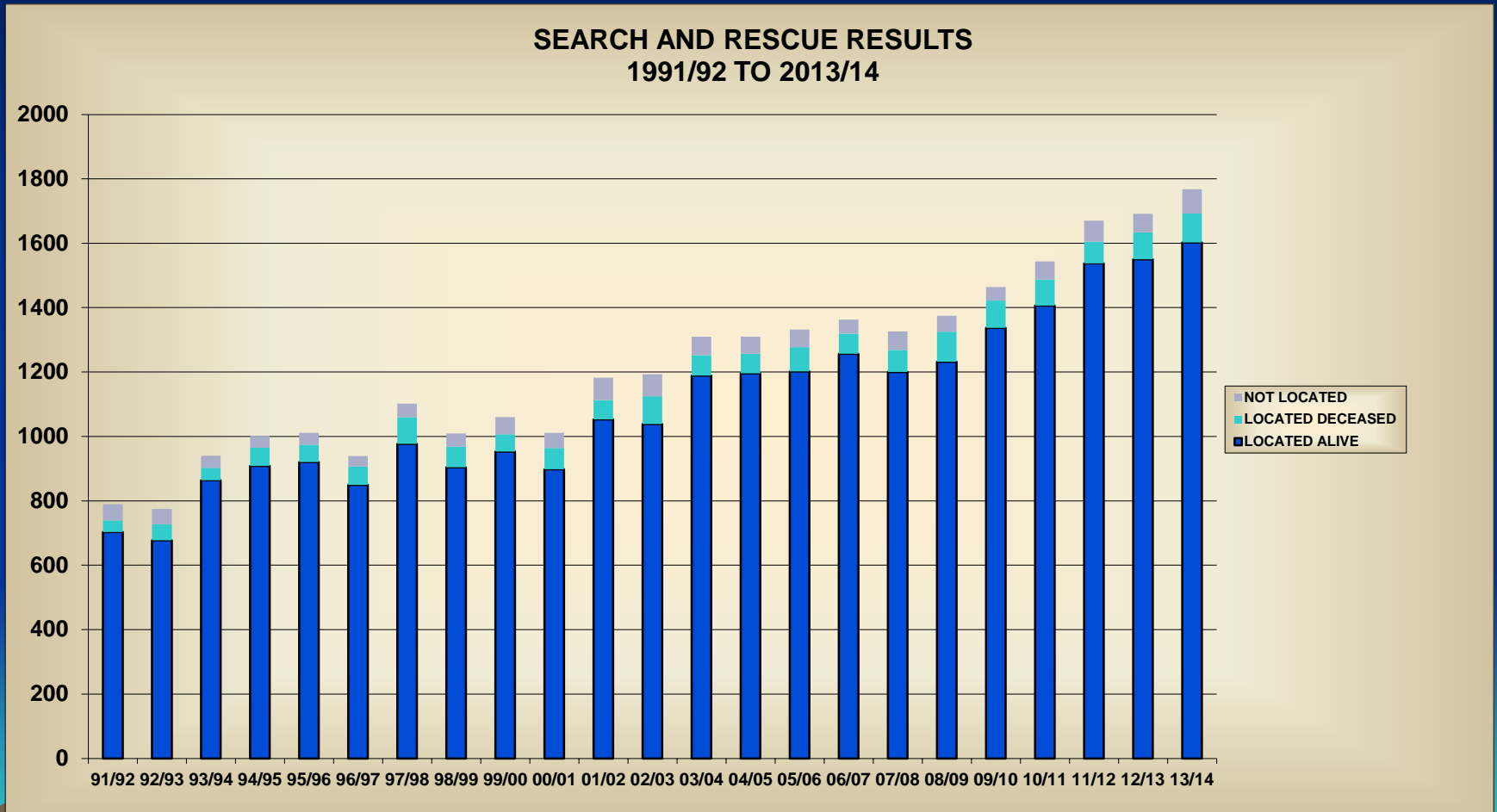
- Provincial Statistics






# Search and Rescue Results

- Provincial Statistics



# Current State of SAR in the Peace



- Increasing volunteer turnover, means a new group of volunteers requires training each year (minimum 80 hours of training per person to start).

- A formalized occupational health and safety program means more training and equipment requirements for all members.

- Increasing public expectations that individuals can go further into the backcountry and that someone will assist them if they are lost or injured.

- Increasing accountability means more administrative and record keeping requirements.

- Technology improvements (SPOT's and InReach).

- Increased call volume.



- No increase in funding reimbursement by Emergency Management and Climate Readiness for responding to tasks.

- Decreased access to no fee courses and training and expenses.

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Costs

# Search and Rescue

- Operationally available resources for 24/7 tasks:
  - Search Management
  - Ground Search and Rescue teams
    - GSAR lost person
    - Rope Rescue
    - Swift Water
    - Avalanche (Winter Operations)
    - Tracking
    - Evidence
    - Body Recovery
    - Wilderness First Aid
    - Civil Emergencies
    - Support for other duties as requested by tasking agencies



# Search and Rescue

- All our members are trained in Ground Search and Rescue (G.S.A.R.). From this basic training they are able to get involved in one or more of our specialty teams.



# Search and Rescue

- Some Teams Support Specialty Teams :
  - Rope Rescue



# Search and Rescue

– Tracking/Evidence



# Search and Rescue

- Ice and Swiftwater Rescue



# Search and Rescue

- Winter Operations





# Backcountry First Aid



# Search and Rescue

- Part of our training and tasks are to support the R.C.M.P. with evidence search's and the Coroner with body recovery.



# Search and Rescue

- Civil Emergencies
  - Support for Local Government:
    - Evacuation Order delivery to residents.
    - Evacuation Alert notification to affected residents.
    - Emergency Communications during Local Government emergency conditions.
    - Coordinating/assisting with other non SAR related local emergencies.



# 2023 Civil Emergency Activity in the PRRD

Team	Fire	SAR Members	Hours
Chetwynd	Stoddart Creek	2	5
	Tumbler Evac	5	40
North Peace	Boundary Lake/Red Creek	29	479
	Stoddart	30	538
	Stoddart	22	157
	Kelly Lake	9	66
	Tumbler Evac	23	220
	Donnie Creek	7	49
	Donnie Creek	4	20
	Stoddart	16	95.5
South Peace	Red Creek	10	122
	Stoddart	6	50
	One Island Lake/Kelly Lake	17	97
	Tumbler Evac	10	128
Tumbler Ridge	Stoddart	11	127
	Tumbler Evac	9	77
			2270.5

# Search and Rescue

## Public Education

- We get involved in preventative education with the public about outdoor activities:
  - Trade Shows
  - Adventuresmart
    - Hug a Tree program in the schools
    - Survive Outside



# Search and Rescue

- Along with training and operational tasks, we also do fundraising:
  - Supporting local events (Emperors Challenge, FSJ Airshow ) etc.
  - Corporate sponsorship
  - PRRD funding (currently 50 K)
  - B.C. Gaming Fund applications



# What SAR Teams in the Peace need.

- Sustainable delivery of training to meet the needs of the public
- Lower exposure to risk
- Appropriate and timely training for all team members
- Sustainable funding
- Dedicated, secure training area and equipment storage facilities



# Search and Rescue

- Request
  - The Peace River Regional District Board to provide the SAR Groups with sustainable and predictable Operational funding.
  - Commitment from the PRRD and Member Municipalities to discussions with their local SAR Groups, the need for secure training and equipment storage facilities.





# Search and Rescue

Don't make us come  
out there looking  
for you!

QUESTIONS?

