

Basic disaster teams shall re-certify every two years by successfully completing a re-certification test according to the re-certification policy.

The evaluation shall be conducted by a primary evaluator and another primary or associate evaluator as the co-evaluator.

To re-certify in SWSD basic disaster, the team shall have current certification in SWSD area search or trailing. Should a team fail to re-certify in area search or trailing, the team's basic disaster certification will become invalid.

### **Evaluator Guidelines**

The test shall consist of searching a single rubble site for one live subject. The team will have up to 20 minutes to find the subject. There shall be two designated SWSD basic disaster evaluators. The test site shall be approximately one eighth acre (3500 square feet). The rubble may consist of concrete, wood, or mixed elements. The rubble should be dense and high enough that the dog must climb on it during much of the search. The subject shall be concealed, inaccessible to the dog, and unresponsive during the test. An area of no more than 20 percent (700 square feet) of the search area shall be designated as hypothetically inaccessible to the handler. The designated area shall remain inaccessible unless the handler informs an evaluator that the dog has found a subject in the inaccessible area. While on the rubble, the handler must wear a helmet, gloves, long sleeves, long pants, and sturdy boots. Evaluators shall not deliberately place or include distractions to the dog on the test pile. The dog may indicate the location of the subjects in any manner that the handler can accurately read. The team must correctly indicate the location of the subject to pass the test.

### **Southwest Search Dogs (SWSD) Basic Disaster Dog Re-certification Test**

**Handler** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dog** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_ Subject \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluators' Signatures #1 \_\_\_\_\_ #2 \_\_\_\_\_