

Albany County Sheriff's Search & Rescue



Est. 1952

The mission of Albany County Sheriff's Search and Rescue is to provide Albany County and surrounding areas dedicated and trained volunteer resources in the event of lost, overdue, or missing persons, or emergency situations, ensure members receive and maintain high quality training to create proficient search teams and individuals, and to provide community oriented services.

ALBANY COUNTY SHERIFF'S SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATES UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE ALBANY COUNTY SHERIFF. WE ARE ALL TRAINED VOLUNTEERS AND OUR SERVICES ARE PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE. WE RELY HEAVILY ON 501(C)(3) TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS.

Hug-A-Tree and Outreach Goals:

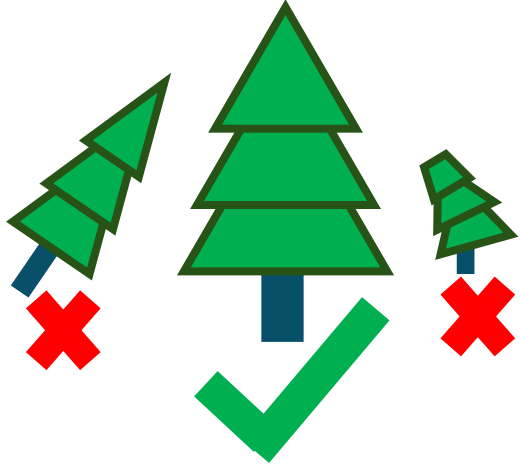
Reach 200+ Albany County school children around 4th grade with the curriculum and “survival kit” based on teacher request.



Provide community outreach primarily to school children (Freedom Has A Birthday, local parades) and young adults (UW, WYOTECH, LCCC).



HUG-A-TREE and Survive

Pick a safe “Mommy” tree

Stay in **1** place, WAIT FOR HELP, DO NOT MOVE!

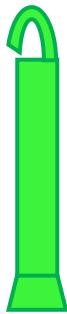
Be “**BIG**”



Tie Streamers



Blow Your Whistle!



Use a Glow Stick



Use a trash bag to stay warm and visible



Hug a tree

Once you think you are lost, hug a tree! One of the greatest fears a person can have is being alone. Hugging a tree or other stationary object and even talking to it can help calm you down and prevent panic. By staying in one place, you are also easier to find and won't be injured in a fall.

Always carry a trash bag and whistle

Whenever you go hiking, you should always carry both a folded trash bag in your pocket and a whistle on a lanyard around your neck. By sitting down and pulling the trash bag over your entire body, after making a hole in the top front of it for your face (so you can breathe), you will stay dry and warm. The whistle can be heard from farther away than your voice, even when you are yelling very loudly, and it takes far less energy than yelling.



Your family will not be angry with you

Sometimes children have avoided searchers because they were ashamed of getting lost, afraid of punishment, or both. Anyone can become lost, even adults; so, don't be ashamed. Just admit it, accept it and make yourself comfortable while you wait for rescuers to arrive. Your family will be so happy to see you again and to know that you are safe. So, there's no need to be frightened or worried about what your family will say. They will be proud of you for using your head—your best survival tool.



Make yourself big

From a helicopter, people are hard to see when they are standing up, in a group of trees, or wearing dark clothing. Find your tree to hug near a small clearing (area of no trees), if possible. Wear brightly colored clothes when you go into the woods or the desert (red and orange are easy to see from far away). Lie down in your clearing when the helicopter flies over and wave your arms. If you are not too hot and you are rested, make a big X or an “SOS” using broken twigs, branches, rocks, by dragging your foot or a stick in the dirt, or by walking it out in the snow.



Animals are afraid of humans

If you hear a noise at night, yell at it! If it is an animal, it will run away to protect itself. If it is a searcher, you will be found.

You have hundreds of friends looking for you

If you stay in one place, finding you is much easier. This is one reason why hugging a tree is such a great idea: it keeps you in one place. Searchers will be yelling your name, but they are not angry. They are just worried about you and want to find you as quickly as possible. Don't be afraid to let them know where you are.

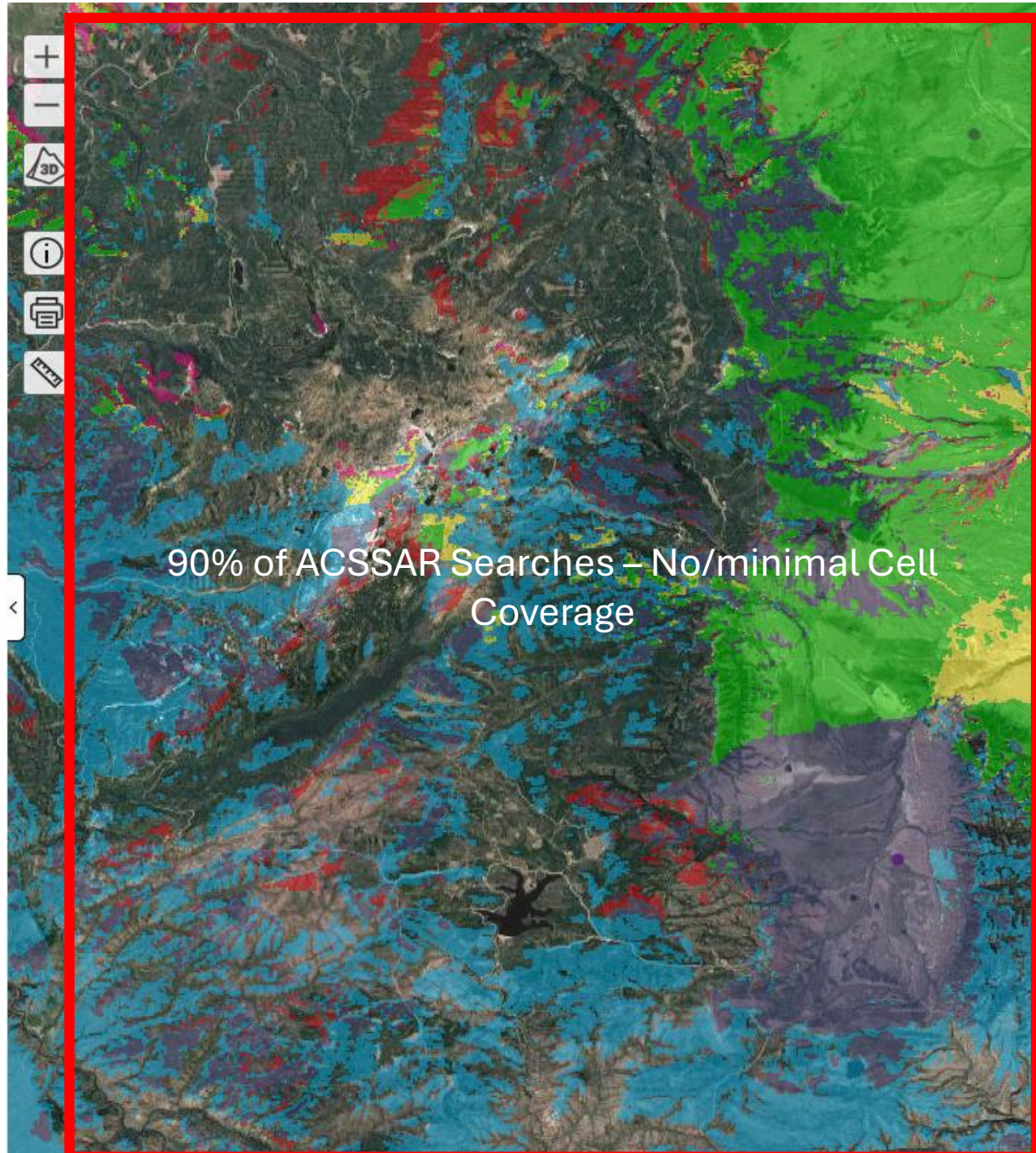
HUG-A-TREE and SURVIVE!

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911



Albany County Sheriff's Search and Rescue
A non-profit all volunteer public service group.
Albanycountysar.org
Funded in part by an
Albany County (WY) Community Partnership Grant

Somebody who cares about you will find you, just wait.



90% of ACSSAR Searches – No/minimal Cell Coverage



Goal: Ensure enhanced search technologies are available to ACSSAR for use in this area.



ACSSAR Search Technologies SARTopo + Starlink + Tracking devices

The screenshot displays the SARTopo web application interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Enter coordinates or a location name" and a "07MAR26 Mock Search" button. The main map area shows a topographic map with a red line representing a ski track, a yellow line for another track, and a red dot for a "Pt location". The map is overlaid with a shaded relief and terrain data. On the right side, there is a "Map Layers" panel with options for "Base Layers" (Imagery, Topo), "Shaded Relief" (Normal, Enhanced, Terrain), "Map Sheets" (Add Map Sheet), "Terrain" (Contours, Slope Angle Shading, Gradient Slope Shading), "Route Discovery" (MapBuilder Overlay, Recreation, Shared CalTopo Maps), "Ownership" (Parcel Data, Public Lands), and "Conditions" (Weather Stations, Wind Plot, Avy Forecast, Sun Exposure). The "Your Data" section shows "Your Maps" and "Your Tracks".

Map Objects (Ctrl O)

- Import Export Add
- Markers**
 - 3/7/26, 11:02 AM (Ski tracts)
 - Last Known Point (LKP)
 - Pt location
 - Ski Track, T2 Start (Tracks leaving main trail heading south.)
- Lines & Polygons**
 - J Schaeffer
 - K Ridenour
 - M Helling
 - R Anderson
 - T2 ski knock
 - T2-C Schwad

Map Layers (Ctrl L)

- Base Layers
 - Imagery
 - Topo
 - Add Base Layer
- Shaded Relief
 - Normal
 - Enhanced
 - Terrain
- Map Sheets
 - Add Map Sheet (7)
- Terrain
 - Contours
 - Slope Angle Shading
 - Gradient Slope Shading
- Route Discovery
 - MapBuilder Overlay
 - Recreation
 - Shared CalTopo Maps
- Ownership
 - Parcel Data
 - Public Lands
- Conditions
 - Weather Stations
 - Wind Plot
 - Avy Forecast
 - Sun Exposure
- Your Data
 - Your Maps
 - Your Tracks
 - Shared Locations

Connect (X)

Follow for tips, tricks, and more

Get the app

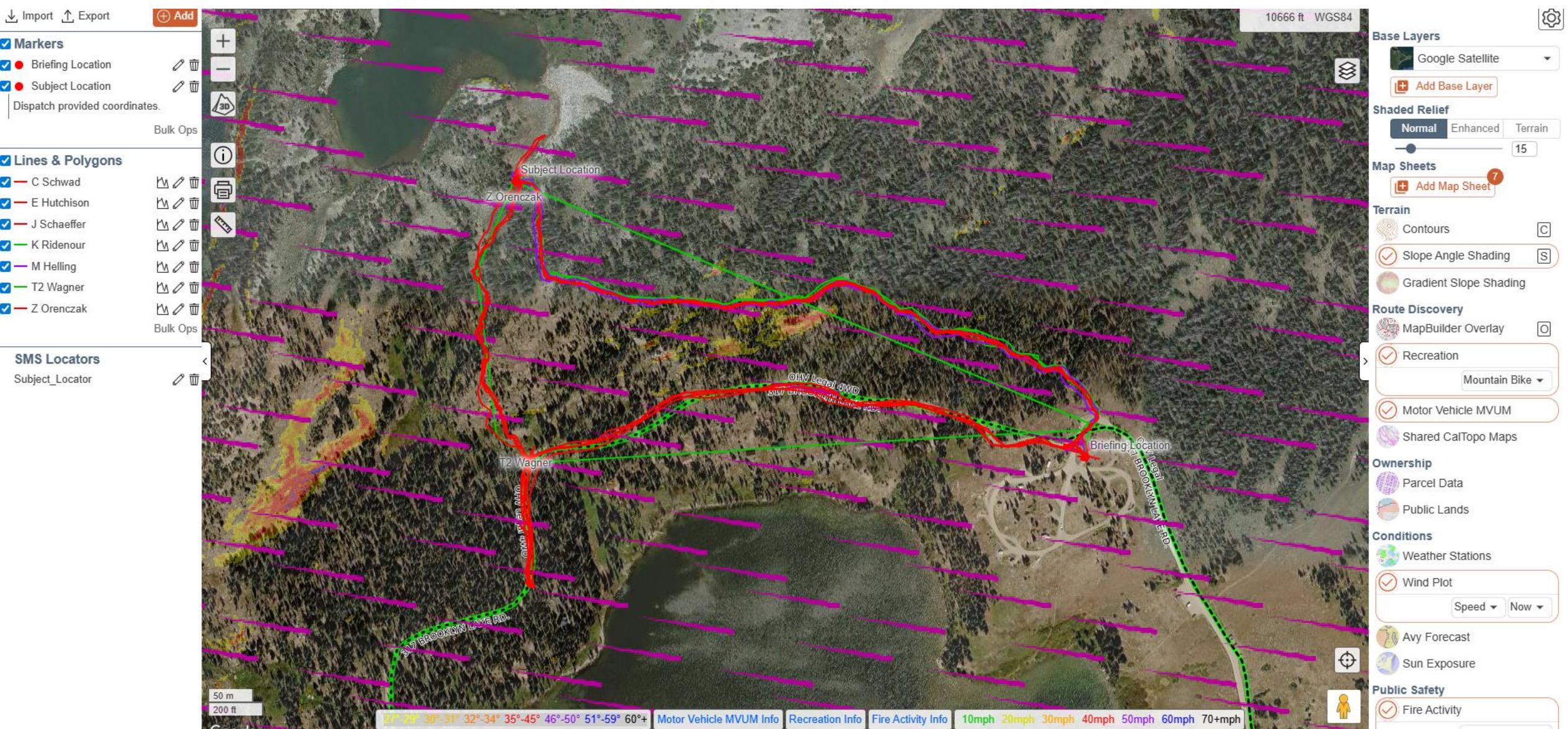
Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

100 m | 500 ft

Topo Info | 27°-29° 30°-31° 32°-34° 35°-45° 46°-50° 51°-59° 60°+

© CalTopo, MapBox, Maxar, USDA Farm Service Agency, EOX IT, contains modified Copernicus data (2019), OpenStreetMap contributors, Various DEM sources | N: MN 8° E | Keyboard shortcuts | Image may be subject to copyright | Terms

ACSSAR Search Technologies SARTopo + Starlink + Tracking devices



Enhanced Medical Training for ACSSAR Members and Community



Wilderness and Remote First Aid: To provide individuals a foundation of first aid principles and skills to be able to respond to emergencies and give care in areas that do not have immediate emergency medical services (EMS) response. This includes wilderness and remote environments including urban disasters such as earthquakes and hurricanes.

Goal:

Ensure All ACSSAR Members have BLS and WFA. Provide for the cost of this for members every two years (concentrating on members who may be financially challenged).

Train 20 Community members in WFA based on a lottery-sign up. Typical courses are \$200-400 which can deter participation.

Build a trainer base to continue to provide the service within ACSSAR and for the Community

Albany County Sheriff's Search & Rescue is an authorized Red Cross Authorized Training Partner