

Pine Ridge Volunteer Fire Department

Road Ranger Mission Statement and SOG



SECTION 1

ROAD RANGER MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Pine Ridge Road Rangers (RR) is to protect the quality and mode of life in the Pine Ridge community for present and future generations through interaction with our community; and compassionate service.

ROAD RANGER ORGANIZATION

SECTION 2

PURPOSE

- The primary purpose of the *Pine Ridge Road Rangers* is to provide directional assistance to emergency vehicles and personnel and to assist with traffic control in the event of any emergency incident within the PRVFD jurisdiction.
- The PRVFD jurisdiction is defined as all properties with entrances off Cressman Road, Glenwood Lane, Pinewood Lane, Lower Cressman Road and Upper Cressman Road.
- Road Rangers assigned to the Quad Squad division may also perform additional tasks, within their capability, as directed by PRVFD or incident officers. Some of these tasks might be delivering messages or equipment, personnel transportation, delivering food and water, advising firefighter spouses of current conditions, patrolling for spot fires, coordinating with and assisting local law enforcement agencies with traffic management, unlocking gates, guiding equipment to ponds, water tanks or properties, etc..

SECTION 3 AFFILIATION

- The Pine Ridge Road Rangers are affiliated with the *Pine Ridge Volunteer Fire Department* (PRVFD), Company 68.

SECTION 4 DIVISIONS

- The Road Ranger organization is composed of two divisions, the ***Traffic Control Division*** and the ***Quad Squad Division***. All members are identified as *Road Rangers* or *Rangers*.

SECTION 5 COMMAND

- Road Ranger personnel are under the direct command of the Road Ranger Captain and/or subsidiary Road Ranger Officers. The RR Captain reports to the PRVFD Fire Chief or, in his absence, the Assistant Chief, Incident Operations Officer or the Incident Commander (IC). The IC has ultimate authority during an emergency incident.

SECTION 6 AUTHORITY

- The primary function of the Road Ranger Organization is to direct emergency equipment and personnel to the incident scene.
- An important secondary function is to courteously inform neighborhood motorists and pedestrians of the current situation and warn them to be careful of incoming emergency traffic.
- It is quite possible that road blockage will occur, particularly around the incident scene. If this situation occurs, the Road Rangers shall deploy warning cones, inform motorists of alternate routes and attempt to direct and control local traffic.
- It is hoped that the local populace will respect the Road Rangers position and obey their instructions. It must be understood that the Road Rangers have **no legal authority** to control neighborhood traffic on Pine Ridge roads. If the local populace protest we must let them go. Law Enforcement Agencies will eventually be on scene to assist in a more

authoritative manner.

SECTION 7 **IDENTIFICATION**

- To simplify radio communication, all Rangers will be assigned a personal Identification name based on seniority (Ranger 1, Ranger 2, Ranger 3, etc.). This will allow Officers to contact a specific Ranger when required.
- Members in the Quad Squad Division will be assigned a personal Identification name based on seniority (Quad 1, Quad 2, Quad 3, etc.).
- During an incident, Rangers may also be contacted by their station location (Ranger 168, Ranger Glenwood, Ranger Rock, Ranger Scene, etc.). This will allow contact to a specific location when personnel are not known.
- Current ID names can be found in the *Radio Call Sign* column of the Membership Roster.

SECTION 8 **ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY**

- All Road Rangers must understand that **THE PERSONAL SAFETY OF EACH ROAD RANGER AND THEIR FAMILIES IS THEIR ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY**. If a major wildfire is developing and evacuation is a possibility, Road Rangers must see to their family's safety and evacuation preparation before any thought of Road Ranger duty. The roads will take care of themselves one way or another.
- The task the Road Rangers perform is very important and very much appreciated by incoming resources, however, to them, it is a luxury. They are very used to coping with unfamiliar localities. They will eventually find their way to the scene.

ROAD RANGER **STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES (SOG)**

SECTION 9 **UNIFORM**

- The Traffic Control personnel shall wear high visibility vests that meets the Performance Class 2 or 3 requirements of the ANSI/ISEA 107–2004 Federal regulation and orange helmets whenever they are on duty. Their accountability tag should be clipped to their

vest.

- The Quad Squad personnel shall wear wildland PPE (yellow wildland shirts and pants and yellow helmets, a web belt with drinking water and a fire shelter, helmet light, gloves and goggles). They shall also wear high visibility vests that meets the Performance Class 2 or 3 requirements of the ANSI/ISEA 107–2004 Federal regulation over their yellow shirt. Their accountability tag should be clipped to the vest.

SECTION 10 **EQUIPMENT**

- Hand held radios (handy-talkies) will be issued to each Ranger. This will allow communication between the Rangers, their Officers and Incident Officers. Rangers should initially tune their handy-talkie radios to the *TAC Blue* channel until directed to a different TAC channel by the Officers.
- The following equipment should also be carried:
 - Flashlights, for use in smoke, fog or darkness.
 - *A warning cone* to place at their station.
 - *A hand held warning signs* with “SLOW” on one side and “STOP” on the other.
 - Extra drinking water.
- RR Officers shall have a supply of *warning cones* to distribute when required.

SECTION 11 **APPARATUS**

- Quad Squad *all-terrain vehicles* (ATVs) shall be well maintained, full of fuel and ready to go at all times.
- All required equipment shall either be on the vehicle or located in one common place ready to quickly stow on the ATV.
- A placard containing the inscription “*Pine Ridge Volunteer Fire Department - Company 68*” shall be attached to each *Quad Squad* ATV. This will associate the vehicle with the *Pine Ridge VFD* even though ownership remains with the member.

SECTION 12 **CALLS**

- As part of the PRVFD, the Road Rangers will be called when the PRVFD is dispatched. The type of incident and location will be communicated during the call. The PRVFD Dispatcher will make preliminary assignments for each Ranger.

SECTION 13 **STATIONS**

- Generally, RR station locations will be at the incident scene, at Highway 168 and Cressman Rd. and at all intersections in-between. Additional stations may be required at hazards, Water supply locations, congested areas, etc.

SECTION 14 **ASSIGNMENTS**

- Road Rangers will usually receive their initial assignment from the PRVFD Dispatcher. Alternant or Subsequent assignments will be conveyed by the RR Officers.
- The RR Officers shall evaluate each incident, determine preferred station locations and confirm or adjust initial personnel assignments.
- The RR Officers shall maintain close contact with all Rangers, PRVFD Officers and incident Officers. Rangers must be relieved when necessary and additional assignments made as required.
- Each Ranger must carry out their assignment as conscientiously and thoroughly as possible.
- Each Ranger must keep the RR Officer's apprised of changing conditions. Problems, or needs.
- Rangers must attempt to maintain their location or assignment until released by a RR Officer. If you must leave to take care of personal responsibilities, notify the RR Officer and try to maintain your position until a replacement arrives.

SECTION 15 **COMMUNICATION RELAY**

- Often times the RR Officer's handy-talkie radio traffic will not reach Rangers at distant locations. In that case, intermediate Rangers will have to relay the traffic to Rangers down the line.
- Various strategies can be employed to determine if a relay is required and how to perform it. RR Officers will advise the Rangers how to proceed at that time.