



## PURPOSE

Explore potential options to receive federal funding to reimburse the Department of Public Safety for Aero Bureau operations in support of search and rescue efforts on federal lands.

## STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

### **53-8-303 Utah Public Safety Code, Utah Highway Patrol, Aero Bureau**

- 1) As used in this section, "account" means the Utah Highway Patrol Aero Bureau Restricted Account created by this section.
- (2) There is created a restricted account in the General Fund known as the "Utah Highway Patrol Aero Bureau Restricted Account."
- (3) The account shall consist of:
  - (a) money deposited into the account in accordance with Section 41-22-19;
  - (b) money appropriated to the account by the Legislature; and
  - (c) any other public or private money received by the division that is:
    - (i) given to the division for purposes consistent with this section; and
    - (ii) deposited into the account at the request of:
      - (A) the division; or
      - (B) the person giving the money.
- (4) Money in the account may only be expended for:
  - (a) the purchase of aircraft and helicopters for use by the Aero Bureau in search and rescue operations;
  - (b) replacement, maintenance, and upgrade of search and rescue equipment;
  - (c) search and rescue training and certification for division officers and employees;
  - (d) personnel and fuel costs of the Aero Bureau associated with providing search and rescue services; and
  - (e) any other equipment or expenses necessary or appropriate for conducting search and rescue activities.

### **17-2-2 Utah County Code, Sheriff, General Duties**

- (1) The Sheriff Shall:
  - (p) Manage search and rescue in his county

### **Title III Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) Section 312**

[43 U.S.C. 1742] Search, rescue, and protection forces; emergency situations authorizing hiring Where in his judgment sufficient search, rescue, and protection forces are not otherwise available, the Secretary is authorized in cases of emergency to incur such expenses as may be necessary (a) in searching for and rescuing, or in cooperating in the search for and rescue of, persons lost on the public lands, (b) in protecting or rescuing, or in cooperating in the protection and rescue of, persons or animals endangered by an act of God, and (c) in transporting deceased persons or persons seriously ill or injured to the nearest place where interested parties or local authorities are located.

## POTENTIAL IMPACT

### FY 2018 Total Aero Bureau Operations in Support of Search and Rescue: 112

By Land Jurisdiction:

Fee Areas - National Parks / Monuments	15
Bureau of Land Management	23
US Forest Service	70
State Lands	2
Local	1
Private	1

\* Estimated Flight Time / Operation (2 - 4hrs)

\* Current Fee Charge / Hour (\$1350.00)

## CURRENT EFFORTS FOR FEDERAL FUNDING / REIMBURSEMENT

- Establish a contract with the US Department of Interior (DOI), Office of Aviation Services, to provide reimbursable Search and Rescue Services, by the DPS Aero Bureau, on federal lands administered by the National Park Service.
  - Requires certification through the Office of Aviation Services
  - Only allows reimbursement for operations which occur within fee areas
    - National Parks and Monuments operated by US Park Service
  - Meets requirements for utilization by DOI personnel and resources
  - Program currently exists
  
- Establish a contract with Bureau of Land Management to provide reimbursable specialized Search and Rescue Services for the rescue / recovery of persons who are lost or deceased on federal public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.
  - Specific to seven counties that have realized substantial increases in visitation associated with high profile National Parks and Monuments on remote federal public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management
  - Contract would be established and coordinated with and through the Sheriff's Office(s) within the effected counties
  - Operate in cooperation with State Search and Rescue Reimbursement Committee / Fund
  - Contract / Program currently does not exist

## CURRENT AGENCY / STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

- Utah Department of Public Safety / Utah Highway Patrol
- Sheriff Tracy Glover – Kane County Sheriff's Office
- Sheriff Steve White – Grand County Sheriff's Office
- William Woody – Bureau of Land Management Law Enforcement Director
- Ed Roberson – BLM State Director for the State of Utah
- Jason Moore – Chief Ranger BLM, for Utah
- US Department of Interior – Office of Aviation Services
- US Department of Interior – Office of the Solicitor