



American Rescue Dog Association Unit Evaluation Check Sheet Dense Brush Problem

ARDA Unit: _____

Date: _____ Evaluator: _____

Handler: _____ Dog: _____

Subject: _____ Time Subject Placed: _____

Weather: Temp - _____° Humidity - _____% Wind Speed/Direction - _____

Condition: Clear Cloudy Fog Rain Snow

Start Time: _____ Finish Time: _____

Items Being Evaluated (as defined by ARDA Standards)

	Pass/Fail	Comments
Eagerness of the dog to work the problem	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	
Ability of the dog to navigate conditions (agility)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	
Eagerness of the dog to approach the subject	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	
Appropriate found indication - recall/refind or bark alert	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	
Ability of handler to work the problem efficiently	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	
Ability of the handler to work the problem effectively	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	
Handler ability to recognize and follow-up on alert	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	
Appropriate handling of dog	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	
Ability of handler to grid the search area appropriately	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	
Cover assigned area thoroughly	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	
Map of search area	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Fail	

Additional Comments (Evaluator): _____

Testing Instructions/Criteria

- ◆ Setup—Start with a tired dog (gait the dog or have the dog retrieve for 1 hour prior to evaluation). The problem will be in an area entirely covered in dense brush. The subject may be placed anywhere within the given area and must be found by air scenting.
- ◆ Objective—To observe the handler’s ability to problem solve and evaluate the physical capabilities and adroitness of both the handler and dog given the terrain. The dog must find the subject by air scenting and perform an adequate “found” indication.
- ◆ Time Limit—ARDA standards require that a dense brush problem must last at least 2 hours.
- ◆ Evaluator Instructions—Evaluators will not only consider the successful conclusion, but will also consider the following factors:
 - Eagerness of the dog.
 - Ability of the dog and handler to work and navigate in dense brush efficiently and effectively.
 - Ranging and working ability of the dog in dense brush.
 - Ability of the handler to recognize and correctly interpret what the dog is doing.
 - Eagerness of the dog to approach a strange person.
 - A good “found” indication by the dog.