

Selecting Base Camp

Pick it well because you may be there a long time!

Primary considerations:

1. Safety
2. Near Search Area.
3. Not very close to PLS/LKP.
4. Relatively easy access by incoming searchers.
5. Allow radio communication to searchers and to LCSO.
6. Use existing facility if available.
7. Land Ownership.
8. Cell phone usability.
9. Terrain (usually flat!)
10. Proximity to public access (curiosity seekers).
11. Enough room to handle more searchers later.

Base Camp Components

1. Command Post
2. Communication center
3. Planning area
4. Personnel staging area
5. Equipment staging area.
6. Vehicle staging area (reduce noise, fumes)
7. Kitchen
8. Helicopter LZ (distinguishable from the air)..
9. Medical / Media / Family area.
10. Sleeping area.

Considerations for large base camp:

1. Group related functions.
2. Isolate some facilities
3. Transportation access
4. Personnel flow

Water supply location:

1. Above other facilities.
2. Away from contamination.

Kitchen location:

1. Level
2. Drainage
3. Dust
4. Shade
5. Lighting
6. Access by truck for perishables
7. Roped off to unauthorized people
- 8.

9. Equipment and supplies depot:

1. Adequate space
2. Secured (roped off)
3. Parking space
4. Bins, tables, boxes
5. Work table and chair for paperwork

Sleeping area:

1. Flat, dry
2. Downstream from water supply
3. Away from drainage
4. Quiet (no trucks, helicopters, speakers)
5. Shaded
6. Warming fires.

Sign-in / sign-out

1. Near entrance
2. Plainly marked
3. Lighted
4. Tables and chairs
5. Avoid dust and noise

Washup / shower facilities

1. Well drained
2. Lighting
3. Away from kitchen
4. Have hot water, benches, basins, soap, towels, garbage cans.
5. Clothes lines.

Garbage disposal

1. Cans near major areas
2. Haul out daily

Parking for searchers

1. Turn vehicle around first – park facing exit
2. Keep turnarounds clear

Assembly area

1. Adequate space
2. Bulletin board
3. P A system