The Subarctic Situation

It is approximately 2:30 p.m., October 5, and you have just crash-landed in a float plane on the east shore of Laura Lake in the subarctic region of the northern Quebec-Newfoundland border. The pilot was killed in the crash, but the rest of you were not injured. Shortly after the crash, the plane drifted into deep water and sank with the pilot’s body pinned inside. Each of you is wet up to the waist and perspiring heavily.

The pilot was unable to contact anyone before the crash. However, ground sightings indicate that you are 30 miles (48 km) south of your intended course and approximately 22 air miles (35 km) east of Schefferville, your original destination and the nearest known habitation. The mining camp on Hollinger Lake was abandoned years ago when a fire destroyed the buildings. Schefferville (pop. 5,000) is an iron ore mining town approximately 300 air miles (483 km) north of the St. Lawrence, 450 miles (724 km) east of the James Bay/Hudson Bay area, 800 miles (1,288 km) south of the Arctic circle, and 300 miles (483 km) west of the Atlantic Coast. It is reachable only by air or rail, as all roads end a few miles from town. Your party was expected to return to
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salvaged Items</th>
<th>STEP 1 Individual Rank</th>
<th>STEP 2 Team Rank</th>
<th>STEP 3 Experts’ Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Magnetic Compass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gallon (378 ml) Can of Maple Syrup</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Sleeping Bag Per Person (arctic type, down-filled with liner)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Synergistic Problem-Solving Model

Synergy occurs when the interactive efforts of two or more people have a greater impact than the sum of their independent efforts. Synergistic problem solving is achieved when groups maximize their use of available resources, knowledge, and task skills by exhibiting constructive (as opposed to defensive) interaction styles. It is further promoted when members approach problems in a rational, interpersonally supportive manner. The outcome is an effective solution—one that is both accepted by members and of higher quality than their individual solutions.

Effective Solutions

Quality  Acceptance

Rational Skills and Processes
- Analyzing the Situation
- Setting Objectives
- Simplifying the Problem
- Considering Alternatives
- Discussing the Consequences

Task Skills Knowledge Resources

Interpersonal Skills and Processes
- Listening
- Supporting
- Differing
- Participating
- Striving for Consensus

Subarctic Survival Situation™
Participant’s Booklet
Problem-Solving Model Page Sample