

### Opprettelse av responsteam i NGRT

Norwegian Cave Rescue Service: Organization of a Response Team.

The nature of cave exploration has changed very much during recent decades. Today, long expeditions are common, with many pitches, much water and narrow passages. The cave rescue service has not adopted itself to this new reality. We do not exercise in caves where we most fear that someone might get injured. We do not know how we as rescuers will be able to function in a situation with many hours of continuous physical and mental stress. This type of complicated rescue exercises will not be suitable for beginners or cavers without vertical experience. It is necessary to establish an Initial Response Team which can be assembled to training once or twice a year. Among the aims will be training in complicated rescuing in caves with many pitches, much water and narrow passages. Physical hardship must be endured in exercises lasting several hours. The annual rescue exercise at the Norway meeting should continue, as it is necessary to train other members with operations needing a large personnel turnout in mind. The Initial Response group should be open to all with a special interest and a willingness to spend time to educate themselves in advanced cave rescuing. Probably, the group should consist of no more than 12 persons, with at most 4 from Southern Norway. A clear requirement is participation in 1-2 weekend exercises annually. In addition, most group members should attend the exercise at the annual meeting in July/August.