protection level is determined in accordance with at least one of a location where the protection target is detected, a time when the protection target is detected, weather when the protection target is detected, and a condition of the protection target when the protection target is detected.

When a location where the protection target is detected is out of a predetermined range, the server makes the rescue request to the rescue group.

When the server makes the rescue request to the rescue group, the server provides the rescue group with a notification of positional information about the protection target. In response to the rescue request from the server, the rescue group dispatches a person in charge to a location indicated by the positional information.

When the requester makes a request to rescue after receiving the notification, the server makes a rescue request, to a rescue group, to rescue the protection target.

In the system configured in this way, it is determined whether to make a rescue request to the rescue group, in accordance with the protection level determined in accordance with the environment of the protection target and the condition of the protection target when the protection target is found, and a request from the requester. In some cases, the identified protection target may perform an ordinary activity such as walking or shopping, and such a protection target requires no rescue. Whether to make a rescue request to a rescue group is determined in accordance with the protection level which is determined based on detected information. Accordingly, unnecessary requests to rescue can be suppressed.

A server according to another aspect of the present disclosure is a server used for a rescue system for identifying and rescuing a protection target, using information from a detection device. The server is configured to communicate with a plurality of movable bodies each equipped with the detection device. The server is further configured to (a) define a search area to be searched for the protection target, (b) acquire positional information about the plurality of movable bodies and select, from movable bodies located within the search area, at least one movable body to be used for searching for the protection target, the movable body being selected as a selected movable body, and (c) output, to the selected movable body, a search command for searching for the protection target.

A method according to still another aspect of the present disclosure is a rescue method for identifying and rescuing a protection target, using information from a detection device in a system, the system including: a plurality of movable bodies each equipped with the detection device; and a server configured to communicate with the plurality of movable bodies. The method includes, by the server: (a) defining a search area to be searched for the protection target; (b) acquiring positional information about the plurality of movable bodies; (c) selecting, from movable bodies located within the search area, at least one movable body to be used for searching for the protection target, the movable body being selected as a selected movable body; and (d) outputting, to the selected movable body, a search command for searching for the protection target.

The foregoing and other objects, features, aspects and advantages of the present disclosure will become more apparent from the following detailed description of the present disclosure when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a schematic diagram of an overall configuration of a rescue system according to the present embodiment.

Fig. 2 is a block diagram for illustrating details of a vehicle and a server in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a flowchart for illustrating details of control executed by a vehicle and a server for a rescue system according to a first embodiment.

Fig. 4 is a flowchart for illustrating details of control executed by a vehicle and a server for a rescue system according to a second embodiment.

Fig. 5 is a flowchart for illustrating details of control executed by a vehicle and a server for a rescue system according to a third embodiment.

Fig. 6 is a flowchart for illustrating details of control executed by a vehicle and a server for a rescue system according to a fourth embodiment.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

In the following, embodiments of the present disclosure are described in detail with reference to the drawings. In the drawings, the same or corresponding elements