

State of Oregon  
Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

**NFPA Swiftwater Rescue**  
Task Book

Task Book Assigned To:	
Name	DPSST Fire Service #
Agency Name	Date Initiated
Signature of Agency Head or Training Officer	Date Completed

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Additional copies of this document may be downloaded from the DPSST web site:

<http://www.oregon.gov/DPSST/FC/FireCertFormFree.shtml>

Revised December 2015

# NFPA Swiftwater Rescue Signature Page

A copy of the applicant's training must be included with the DPSST NFPA Technical Rescuer application when applying for **NFPA Swiftwater Rescue** certification. Only a certified NFPA Technical Rescuer in that specialty area may sign off the Task Book.

**Attest:** The information contained in this Task Book is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsification of information on this document is subject to penalty under ORS 162.055, et al, and ORS 162.305 and is cause to deny or revoke DPSST fire service professional certification(s).

<b><u>NFPA Swiftwater Rescue Task Book Assigned To:</u></b>		
Signature	Printed Name	DPSST Fire Service #
Agency Name		Date Initiated
Signature of Certified Technician	Printed Name of Certified Technician	Date Completed

**Technical Rescuer Evaluators:** Each Evaluator must document the following information:

<b>Evaluator: Level of Technical Rescuer certification:</b>				<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Rescuer
<input type="checkbox"/> Rope	<input type="checkbox"/> Confined Space	<input type="checkbox"/> Trench	<input type="checkbox"/> Structural Collapse	<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle
<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Swiftwater	<input type="checkbox"/> Dive	<input type="checkbox"/> Surf	<input type="checkbox"/> Machinery
<b>Sections of chapter signed off by Evaluator:</b>				
_____6	_____7	_____8	_____9	_____10
_____4	_____5	(Chapters 4 and 5 need to be met only one time)		
_____11	_____12	_____13	_____15	_____19
Signature of Evaluator	Printed Name of Evaluator	DPSST Fire Number	Date	

<b>Evaluator: Level of Technical Rescuer certification:</b>				<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Rescuer
<input type="checkbox"/> Rope	<input type="checkbox"/> Confined Space	<input type="checkbox"/> Trench	<input type="checkbox"/> Structural Collapse	<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle
<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Swiftwater	<input type="checkbox"/> Dive	<input type="checkbox"/> Surf	<input type="checkbox"/> Machinery
<b>Sections of chapter signed off by Evaluator:</b>				
_____6	_____7	_____8	_____9	_____10
_____4	_____5	(Chapters 4 and 5 need to be met only one time)		
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Signature of Evaluator	Printed Name of Evaluator	DPSST Fire Number	Date	

Task Book Qualification Record Books (Task Book) have been developed for various certification levels within the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) system. Each Task Book lists the job performance requirements (JPRs) for the specific certification level in a format that allows a candidate to be trained and evaluated during three (3) sequential sessions. Successful performance of all tasks, as observed and recorded by a qualified and approved evaluator will result in the candidate's eligibility for DPSST certification.

To become certified at a specific level, the applicant must successfully complete the job performance requirements in sequence. Before a job performance evaluation can be taken, all requisite knowledge and skills must be satisfied. In addition, all relative task book evaluations must be checked off by the evaluator. When all prescribed requirements have been met, an application for Certification will be forwarded to DPSST. All certificates are mailed to the Training Officer at his/her Fire Service Agency.

#### **TASK BOOK SPECIFICATIONS:**

To successfully complete this task book, only an evaluator certified as an NFPA Swiftwater Rescue may sign off on the JPR's. 'Requisite Knowledge' sections may be completed during class and signed by the instructor. 'Requisite Skills' sections may be conducted and signed at the candidate's fire agency.

#### **NFPA TASK BOOK INFORMATION:**

The JPRs covered in this Task Book meet or exceed all NFPA published standards for this certification level at the time of this publication. Mention of NFPA and its standards do not, and are not intended as adoption of—or reference to—NFPA standards. For more information on the complete job performance requirements and data, see the individual DPSST Task Book for that certification level.

#### **NOTE TO FIRE SERVICE AGENCIES:**

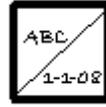
These JPRs serve as general guidelines. As such they are not intended to replace specific sequences of apparatus or equipment operation that may be outlined by manufacturer specifications. At all times, standard operating procedures of the Fire Service Agency in which the evaluation is being conducted will govern. Fire Service Agencies should have available for evaluators a copy of manufacturer specifications and the Fire Service Agencies standard operational guidelines.

**\*A vertical line (|) to the left of the document indicates a change from the previous standard.**

#### **HOW TO EVALUATE PERFORMANCE:**

Each JPR has one to three corresponding box(es) to the right in which to confirm a candidate's success. The evaluator must indicate successful passing by the candidate of each JPR by initialing and dating (see example on the following page).

**12.1.1 Construct rope systems particular to the swiftwater rescue needs of the AHJ, given rescue personnel, rope equipment, a load to be moved, and personal protective equipment, so that the movement is controlled, the load is held in place when needed, and operating methods do not stress the system.**



# TASK BOOK QUALIFICATION RECORD

FOR THE CERTIFICATION LEVEL OF

## NFPA Swiftwater Rescue

Prior to becoming certified in this position, the sample candidate must successfully complete the following Job Performance Requirements (JPR). For each JPR there are requisite knowledge and skill requirements. The evaluator must initial and date in the box provided to indicate the meeting of those requirements before the firefighter may proceed.

**12.1 Level I General Requirements.** Level I water rescue skills are applicable only to survival swimming skills and Level II support of swiftwater rescue. The job performance requirements defined in Chapters 4, 5, and 6, Section 11.1, and 12.1.1 through 12.1.4 shall be met prior to Level I qualification in swiftwater rescue.

**12.1.1 Construct rope systems particular to the swiftwater rescue needs of the AHJ, given rescue personnel, rope equipment, a load to be moved, and personal protective equipment, so that the movement is controlled, the load is held in place when needed, and operating methods do not stress the system.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Rope systems specific to the swiftwater environment, capabilities and limitations of various rope systems, incident site evaluation as related to interference concerns and obstacle negotiation, system safety check protocol, procedures to evaluate system components for compromised integrity, common personnel assignments and duties, common and critical operational commands, and methods to increase the efficiency of load movement.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to determine incident needs, complete a system safety check, evaluate system components for compromised integrity, select personnel, communicate with personnel, manage movement of the load, and evaluate for potential problems.

**12.1.2 Support Level II operations, given a designated mission, safety equipment, props, and water body, so that skills are demonstrated in a controlled environment, performance parameters are achieved, hazards are continually assessed, and emergency procedures are demonstrated.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Support procedures, including search patterns, equipment setup, operation support equipment, and communications issues.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Basic support skills, including the ability to serve as an upstream or downstream safety or spotter, and tend a “go” rescuer.

**12.1.3 Assess moving water conditions, characteristics, and features in terms of hazards to the rescuer and victims, given an incident scenario and swiftwater tool kit, so that flow and conditions are estimated accurately, mechanisms of entrapment are considered, hazards are assessed, depth and surrounding terrain are evaluated, and findings are documented.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Flow calculation methods, map or chart reading, local water hazards and conditions, entrapment mechanisms, and human physiology and survival factors.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Determination of flow and environmental factors, the effect on victims and rescuers, and interpretation of maps or charts.

**12.1.4 Perform a nonentry rescue in the swiftwater/flooding environment, given an incident scenario, personal protective equipment, and swiftwater rescue tool kit, so that rescue is accomplished, and adopted policies and safety procedures are followed.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Types and capabilities of personal protective equipment, effects of hydrodynamic forces on rescuers and victims, hydrology and characteristics of water, behaviors of waterbound victims, water rescue rope-handling techniques, incident-specific hazard identification, criteria for selecting victim retrieval locations based on water environment and conditions, hazards and limitations of shore-based rescue, local policies/procedures for rescue team activation, and information on local water environments.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Select personal protective equipment specific to the water environment, don personal protective equipment, identify water hazards (i.e., upstream or downstream, current or tides), identify hazards directly related to the specific rescue, and demonstrate appropriate shore-based victim removal techniques.

**12.2 Level II General Requirements.** The job performance requirements defined in Sections 11.2 and 12.1 and 12.2.1 and 12.2.2 shall be met prior to Level II qualification in swiftwater rescue.

**12.2.1 Perform an entry rescue in the swiftwater/flooding environment, given an incident scenario, personal protective equipment, and swiftwater rescue tool kit, so that rescue is accomplished, and adopted policies and safety procedures are followed.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Types and capabilities of personal protective equipment, effects of hydrodynamic forces on rescuers and victims, hydrology and characteristics of water, behaviors of waterbound victims, water rescue rope-handling techniques, incident-specific hazard identification, criteria for selecting victim retrieval locations based on water environment and conditions, hazards and limitations of shore-based rescue, local policies/procedures for rescue team activation, and information on local water environments.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Select personal protective equipment specific to the water environment, don personal protective equipment, identify water hazards (i.e., upstream or downstream, current or tides), identify hazards directly related to the specific rescue, and demonstrate appropriate victim removal techniques.

**12.2.2 Negotiate a designated swiftwater course, given a course that is representative of the bodies of swiftwater existing or anticipated within the geographic confines of the AHJ, water rescue personal protective equipment, and swim aids as required, so that the specified objective is reached, all performance parameters are achieved, movement is controlled, hazards are continually assessed, distress signals are communicated, and rapid intervention for the rescuer has been staged for deployment.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Hydrology and specific hazards anticipated for representative water rescue environments (shoreline, in-water, and climatic), selection criteria for water rescue personal protective equipment and swim aids for anticipated water conditions and hazards, and swimming techniques for representative body of water.



**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to swim and float in different water conditions with and without flotation aids or swim aids as required, apply water survival skills, don and doff personal protective equipment, select and use swim aids, utilize communications systems, and evaluate water conditions to identify entry points and hazards.

