

SWIFTWATER/FLOOD SEARCH AND RESCUE TECHNICIAN - BOAT OPERATOR

RESOURCE CATEGORY	Search and Rescue
RESOURCE KIND	Personnel
OVERALL FUNCTION	The Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue (SAR) Technician - Boat Operator operates the boat, provides direction to the Boat Bowman, and is ultimately responsible for all aspects of boat operations
COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This position can be ordered as a single resource or in conjunction with a NIMS typed team (Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue Team). 2. Discuss logistics for deploying this position, such as security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment 3. This position typically works 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours, and is deployable for up to 14 days

Each type of resource builds on the qualifications of the type below it. For example, Type 1 qualifications include the qualifications in Type 2, plus an increase in capability. Type 1 is the highest qualification level.

COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
DESCRIPTION	<p>The SAR Technician - Boat Operator:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Operates the boat and provides direction to the Boat Bowman, and is ultimately responsible for all aspects of boat operations 2. Performs search, rescue, and recovery in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Water environments including stillwater, stillwater/flood, swiftwater, swiftwater/flood b. Shore, water, and boat-based rescue c. Situations involving human and companion animal rescue 3. Provides medical care to include Basic Life Support (BLS) 4. Operates within the Incident Command System (ICS) in a specialized position within the Swiftwater/Flood SAR Team 5. Provides: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Safety of self and team members b. Medical care of self, team members, and survivors 6. Coordinates with ground vehicles, watercraft, and aircraft for support, transportation, and evacuation 7. Operates in environments with and without infrastructure, including those affected by disasters and terrorism; with compromised access to roadways, utilities, and transportation; and with limited availability of shelter, food, and water 	Not Specified
EDUCATION	Not Specified	Not Specified

Superseded

Position Qualification for Mass Search and Rescue Operations
Search and Rescue

COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
TRAINING	<p>Completion of all training identified for the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 1 Swiftwater/Flood SAR Technician - Boat Bowman, PLUS: Completion of an National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), ASTM International (ASTM) or equivalent swiftwater SAR training program, Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)-verified, meeting the following position-specific key skills and aptitudes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Job performance guidelines as outlined in National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006 (2013) or equivalent 2. Night operations 3. Use, care, inspection, and maintenance of related personal protective equipment (PPE) tools, devices, and equipment specific to this position 4. Global Positioning System (GPS), maps, and compass use, and navigation on water 5. Low head dam rescue operations 6. Demonstrate boat handling in swiftwater/flood: 7. Maneuvering in swiftwater, including running with the flow, moving aft over ground, power turns, closing/bearing away 8. SAR operations from powered craft 	Identified equivalent trainings should meet or exceed course learning objectives.
EXPERIENCE	Completion of Swiftwater/Flood Rescue Technician - Boat Operator Position Task Book (PTB) or equivalent AHJ documentation	NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications, and NFPA 1670: Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents address additional Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities that apply to this position.
PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Performs duties under arduous circumstances characterized by working consecutive 12-hour days under physical and emotional stress for sustained periods of time 2. Meets minimum physical fitness and swimming standards, in accordance with the AHJ's Job Related Physical Ability Test (JRPAT) 3. Maintains AHJ-determined physical fitness standards suitable for the environment and typing; NFPA 1582 Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments meets or exceeds this physical fitness standard 4. Maintains immunizations in accordance with the most current U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended adult immunization schedule for the United States of America 	Not Specified
CURRENCY	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual refresher of related SAR skills and abilities in water environments 2. Functions in this position during an operational incident, planned event, participation in exercise, drill, or simulation once every three years or at the determination of the AHJ 3. Background checks as applicable law permits or requires 	Provider must carry out and use any background checks as applicable law specifies. This may include a background check completed within past 12 months; sex-offender registry check; and a local, state, and a local, state, and national criminal history.
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS	AHJ-required BLS-level medical care certification or recertification	The AHJ determines the emergency medical certifications the technician needs to meet the minimum criteria, which can include first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and BLS.

Superseded

NOTES

Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated category.

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue Team
2. FEMA, NIMS 509: Emergency Medical Technician
3. FEMA, NIMS 509: Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue Technician
4. FEMA, NIMS 509: Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue Technician – Boat Bowman
5. American Whitewater (AW), Safety Code of American Whitewater, 2005
6. ASTM International (ASTM) F2890: Standard Guide for Hazard Awareness for Search and Rescue Personnel, 2012
7. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006-2013: Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications, 2013
8. NFPA 1582-2013: Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments, 2013
9. NFPA 1670-2014: Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents, 2014
10. NFPA 1983-2012: Standard on Life Safety Rope and Equipment for Emergency Services, 2012
11. National Search and Rescue Committee, Catastrophic Incident Search and Rescue (CISAR) Addendum to the National Search and Rescue Supplement to the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual, v. 3, June 2012
12. National Wildfire Coordination Group (NWCG), National Incident Management System Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1, Physical Fitness Levels, October 2016
13. Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.120: Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, latest edition adopted
14. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.134: Respiratory Protection, latest edition adopted
15. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.146: Permit-Required Confined Spaces, latest edition adopted

Superseded