

SWIFTWATER/FLOOD SEARCH AND RESCUE TECHNICIAN

TYPE	TYPE 1	NO TYPE 2
DESCRIPTION	<p>The Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue (SAR) Technician:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Performs search, rescue, and recovery in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Water environments including stillwater, stillwater/flood, swiftwater, swiftwater/flood Shore, water, and boat-based rescue operations Situations involving human and animal rescue Provides medical care to include Basic Life Support (BLS) Reports to a Swiftwater/Flood SAR Team Leader Operates within the Incident Command System (ICS), in an entry-level position within a Swiftwater/Flood SAR Team Provides: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Safety of self and team members Medical care of self, team members, and survivors Basic ground support capability for helicopter operations Coordinates with ground vehicles, watercraft, and aircraft for support, transportation, and evacuation 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 Applicable
CATEGORY	CRITERIA	CRITERIA
EDUCATION	Not Specified	Not Applicable
	NOTES: Not Specified	

Superseded



TYPE	TYPE 1	NO TYPE 2
TRAINING	<p>Completion of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Training outlined for the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 2 Land SAR Technician2. Training in rating of Class 3 or higher whitewater, per American Whitewater (AW) Section VI Safety Code <p>Completion of a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), ASTM International (ASTM) or equivalent swiftwater SAR training program, AHJ-verified, meeting the following position-specific key skills and aptitudes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Night time water SAR operations2. Search methods in stillwater, stillwater/flood, swiftwater, swiftwater/flood environments3. Water rescue scene management and dynamic assessment of risk4. Basic boat handling by paddle and rope systems5. Specialized rescue equipment6. Extrication techniques7. Animal hazards and safety protocols8. Use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)	Not Applicable
NOTES: Identified equivalent trainings should meet or exceed course learning objectives.		

Superseded



TYPE	TYPE 1	NO TYPE 2
EXPERIENCE	<p>Completion of Swiftwater/Flood SAR Technician Position Task Book (PTB) or equivalent AHJ documentation that includes the following tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Working knowledge of hydrology and associated hazards, to include the recognition of water features and their impact2. Understand search procedures in the water environment3. Demonstrate swimming and maneuvering4. Understand ferry angle concepts5. Understand and apply relevant rescue techniques, to include Talk, Reach, Throw, Row, Go/Tow, and Helicopter6. Demonstrate rigging and operating of rope systems7. Demonstrate awareness of flooding and associated hazards and their impact on medical problems associated with water8. Identify and explain an understanding of the hazards and implications associated with entrapment9. Demonstrate the use of supporting tag lines and use of cinches for mud and ice10. Understand characteristics, medical issues, extrication techniques, and contamination for locks, sluices, irrigation ditches, and low head dams11. Understand characteristics, design/hydrology, and specific rescue techniques for vehicles and objects (strainers) in water12. Demonstrate knowledge of the behavior, hydrology, access, and stabilization techniques when working with helicopters13. Identify and explain the additional hazards and difficulties associated with working in darkness and reduced visibility and application of suitable control measures <p>Ability to carry out the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Rescue procedures in a swiftwater and swiftwater/flood environment during day and night operations2. Technical rescue operations3. Rope rescue4. Water rescue	Not Applicable
NOTES: NFPA 1006: Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications and NFPA 1670: Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents further address Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities.		

Superseded

TYPE	TYPE 1	NO TYPE 2
PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS	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 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 Applicable
	NOTES: Not Specified	
CURRENCY	1. Annual refresher of related rescue 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	Not Applicable
	NOTES: 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	Not Applicable
	NOTES: The AHJ determines the emergency medical certifications the technician needs to meet the minimum criteria, which could include first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and BLS.	

Superseded

ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS OR DESIGNATIONS

1. (X) Can be ordered as an individual asset
2. (X) Can be ordered in conjunction with a NIMS typed team (Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue Team)
3. () Can be ordered in conjunction with a NIMS typed unit
4. Discuss logistics for deploying this position, such as security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment
5. This position typically works 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours, and is deployable for up to 14 days

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue Team
2. FEMA, NIMS 509: Land Search and Rescue Technician
3. American Whitewater (AW), Safety Code of American Whitewater, 2005
4. ASTM International (ASTM) F2890: Standard Guide for Hazard Awareness for Search and Rescue Personnel, 2012
5. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1006: Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications, 2013
6. NFPA 1582: Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments, 2013
7. NFPA 1670: Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents, 2014
8. NFPA 1983: Standard on Life Safety Rope and Equipment for Emergency Services, 2012
9. 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
10. National Wildfire Coordination Group (NWCG), National Incident Management System Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1, Physical Fitness Levels, October 2016
11. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control, Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule - United States, 2014
12. Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.120: Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, latest edition adopted
13. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.134: Respiratory Protection, latest edition adopted
14. OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910.146: Permit-Required Confined Spaces, latest edition adopted
15. 29 CFR 1910.1030 OSHA, Annual Bloodborne Pathogens, latest edition adopted

NOTES

Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.

Superseded