

**FEMA NATIONAL US&R RESPONSE SYSTEM
INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

TASK BOOK FOR THE POSITION OF

Water Rescue Specialist

August 2016

POSITION TASK BOOK ASSIGNED TO:
INDIVIDUAL'S NAME, TASK FORCE AFFILIATION, AND PHONE NUMBER
DATE POSITION TASK BOOK INITIATED:
TRAINING MANAGERS NAME, TASK FORCE, AND PHONE NUMBER

The material contained in this book accurately defines the performance expected of the position for which it was developed. This task book is approved for use as a position qualification document in accordance with the instructions contained herein.

EVALUATOR

DO NOT COMPLETE THIS UNLESS YOU ARE RECOMMENDING THE TRAINEE FOR CERTIFICATION

**VERIFICATION / CERTIFICATION OF COMPLETED TASK BOOK FOR
THE POSITION OF
Water Rescue Specialist**

FINAL EVALUATOR'S VERIFICATION

I verify that all tasks have been performed and are documented with appropriate initials

I also verify that _____
has performed as a trainee and should therefore be considered for certification in this position

FINAL EVALUATOR'S SIGNATURE AND DATE

EVALUATOR'S PRINTED NAME, TITLE AND PHONE NUMBER

TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION FOR CERTIFICATION

I certify that _____ has met all
requirements for qualification in this position and that such qualification has been issued.

TRAINING MANAGER'S SIGNATURE AND DATE

TRAINING MANAGER PRINTED NAME, TITLE AND PHONE NUMBER

NATIONAL URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE RESPONSE SYSTEM

Water Rescue Specialist

This Position Task Book (PTB) has been developed for Water Rescue Specialist within the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System. The task book lists the performance requirements (tasks) for this specific position in a format that allows a trainee to be evaluated against written guidelines. Successful performance of all tasks, as observed and recorded by an evaluator, will result in a recommendation to the Task Force that the trainee be certified in that position. Each PTB lists the performance requirements (tasks) for the specific position in a format that allows a TF member to be evaluated against written guidelines, specified by NFPA 1006 - current edition,

Evaluation and confirmation of the trainee's performance of all the tasks may involve more than one evaluator and can occur on incidents, training scenarios and other work situations. It is important that performance be critically evaluated and accurately recorded. All tasks must be evaluated before recommending certification. All bullet statements within a task which require an action (contain an action verb) must be demonstrated before that task can be signed off.

All TF members participating in Water Rescue Specialist position evaluation process shall obtain the minimum training level of:

- Surface Water Rescue – Chapter 11 NFPA 1006 Level 1 & 2
- Swiftwater Rescue- Chapter 12 NFPA 1006 Level 1 & 2
- Rope Rescue - Chapter 6 NFPA 1006 Level 1 & 2
- GPS Awareness Course

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. The Task Force is responsible for:

- Selecting trainees based on the needs of the task force
- Ensuring that the trainee meets the training and experience requirements
- Initiating Position Task Book's (PTB's)
- Explaining to the trainee the purpose and processes of the PTB as well as the trainee's responsibilities
- Providing opportunities for evaluation and/or making the trainee available for evaluation
- Providing an evaluator for local assignments
- Tracking progress of the trainee
- Confirming PTB completion
- Determining certification per local policy
- Issuing proof of certification

2. The Trainee is responsible for:

- Reviewing and understanding instructions in the PTB
- Identifying desired objectives / goals
- Providing background information to an evaluator
- Satisfactorily demonstrating completion of all tasks for an assigned position within three years
- Notifying the task force leader when the PTB is completed and providing a copy
- Keeping the original PTB in personal records

3. The Evaluator is responsible for:

- Understanding the qualification process
- Being qualified and proficient in the position being evaluated
- Meeting with the trainee and determining past experience, current qualifications and desired objectives/goals
- Reviewing tasks with the trainee
- Explaining to the trainee, the evaluation procedures that will be utilized and which objectives may be obtained
- Identifying tasks to be performed during the evaluation period
- Accurately evaluating and recording demonstrated performance of tasks. Dating and initialing completion of the task shall document satisfactory performance.

4. The Final Evaluator is responsible for:

- Signing the verification statement inside the front cover of the PTB when all tasks have been initiated and if the trainee is recommended for certification

5. The PTB will be retained with the TF member's permanent training record upon completion.

POSITION TASK BOOK

Water Rescue Specialist

Revised 8/16/2012

TRAINEE MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

General Training Requirements

1. Complete a Critical Incident Stress Awareness course as determined by the sponsoring agency which includes, the signs and symptoms of critical incident stress syndrome (Board Certified Emergency Physicians inherently meet this requirement).
2. Complete IS-100, IS-200, IS-700 and IS-800 on-line courses.
3. Task Force Orientation, the DHS/FEMA US&R Orientation Course, to develop a working knowledge of FEMA's US&R Response System, organizational structure, operating procedures, safety practices, terminology, and a general awareness of the capacity and capabilities of the task force.
4. Complete the First Responder Operational Level for Hazardous Materials (OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120) including annual refresher training.
5. Must be currently certified in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. Task force members licensed or certified as EMT (all levels) and Board Certified Emergency Physicians inherently meet this requirement.
6. Complete respiratory protection training (OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134).
 - a. Complete refresher training as required for respiratory protection training as per OSHA 29 CFR 1910.134 (k).
7. Complete the FEMA/US&R Enhanced Operations in the Contaminated Environment Course.
8. Complete Awareness Level training for confined space, water rescue and structural collapse per NFPA 1670.
9. Complete Blood-borne Pathogen training (OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1030)
10. Complete the annual requirement of the FEMA Ethics on-line course

General Administrative Requirements

1. Must be able to meet the physical requirements of the sponsoring agency.
2. Must be available to mobilize on short notice.
3. Must be capable of functioning for long hours under adverse conditions.
4. Must understand and adhere to safe working practices and procedures required in the disaster environment.
5. Must be able to function as a team member in the disaster environment.
6. Must have current file that includes completed:
 - a. Application for Federal Employment; Optional Form 612
 - b. Employee Data Transmittal Sheet (EDTS)
 - c. Appointment Affidavits; Standard Form 61
7. Complete quantitative respiratory protection fit test per 29 CFR 1910.134.
8. Must maintain current inoculations per National Urban Search and Rescue Response System.
9. Must have current Physician Clearance for Deployment Document.

POSITION SPECIFIC REQUIRMENTS

Trainee must meet Position Specific Requirements has identified in the current specific position description as issued through the FEMA US&R Response System.

SIGNATURE OF TASK FORCE TRAINING MANAGER
PRINTED NAME OF TRAINING MANAGER, AND PHONE NUMBER

AUTHORIZED EVALUTOR SIGNATURES
VALIDATION BLOCK

Evaluator Name and Position	Evaluator Initials

TASK-WATER OPERATIONS	Satisfactory Completion	NFPA 1006	EVALUATOR: Initial & date upon completion of task
SURFACE WATER RESCUE (LEVEL-1)		11.1.1	
Develop a site survey for an existing water hazard.	O	11.1.1	
Select water rescue personal protective equipment.	O	11.1.2	
Define search parameters for a water rescue incident.	O	11.1.3	
Develop an action plan for a shore-based rescue of a single or multiple water bound victim(s).	O	11.1.4	
Conduct a witness interview.	O	11.1.5	
Deploy a water rescue reach device to a water bound victim.	O	11.1.6	
Deploy a water rescue rope to a water bound victim.	O	11.1.7	
Use boat for rescue operations (designated AHJ)	O	11.1.8	
Negotiate a designated water course in a boat	O	11.1.10	
As a member of a team, use techniques appropriate for the water environment to extricate an incapacitated water bound victim from the water.	O	11.1.11	
Demonstrate fundamental watermanship skills (As designated by the AHJ).	O	11.1.12	
Escape from a simulated life-threatening situation.	O	11.1.13	
Identify procedures for operation of rope systems particular to the water rescue needs of the AHJ.	O	11.1.14	
SURFACE WATER RESCUE (LEVELII)			
Swim a designated water course (As designated by the AHJ).	O	11.2.1	
Perform a swimming surface water rescue.	O	11.2.2	
Demonstrate defensive tactics in the water rescue environment given a water bound victim.	O	11.2.3	
Supervise, coordinate, and lead rescue teams during operations.	O	11.2.4	

*Code:

O = Task must be completed in a training environment and observed by an instructor

I = Task can be performed on any type of incident or field exercise. (fire, hazmat, flood, search, etc.)

U = Task must be performed on a US&R incident or planned event, not a training simulation

R = Rare event - the evaluation assignment may not provide opportunities to demonstrate performance.
The evaluator may be able to determine skills/knowledge through interview or simulation.



SWIFTWATER RESCUE (LEVEL I)			
Construct rope systems particular to the swiftwater rescue needs of the AHJ	O	12.1.1	
Assess moving water conditions, characteristics, and features in terms of hazards to the rescuer and victims	O	12.1.3	
Perform a nonentry rescue in the swiftwater/flooding environment	O	12.1.4	
SWIFTWATER RESCUE (LEVEL II)			
Perform an entry rescue in the swiftwater/flooding environment	O	12.2.1	
Negotiate a designated swiftwater course.	O	12.2.2	
Successfully perform a swim test. Recommended: 500 yards within 19 minutes	O	12.2.2	

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