

JUNE IS TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM MONTH

TECHNICAL RESCUE OPERATIONS

Fire departments that choose to operate for any type of technical rescue operations addressed in WAC 296-305-05113 will be at the following levels:

• **Awareness Level**

This represents the minimum capability of organizations that provide response to technical rescue incidents or discover technical rescue situations during emergency scene operations and takes no offensive action. This level requires no written procedures.

• **Operations Level**

This level represents the capability of organizations to respond to technical rescue incidents and to identify hazards, use equipment, and apply limited techniques specified in this rule to support and participate in technical rescue incidents.

• **Technician Level**

This level represents the capability of organizations to respond to technical rescue incidents, to identify hazards, use equipment, and apply advanced techniques specified in this rule necessary to coordinate, perform, and supervise technical rescue incidents.

TRAINING

Members will not operate at a level that exceeds their level of training.

Basic life support shall be provided by the fire department at technical rescue incidents.

Our departments must meet all requirements in WAC 296-305-05113, along with all relevant requirements in the specific technical rescue sections,

before operating at the Operations or Technician level at a technical rescue incident.

Our department chooses to not respond to technical rescue emergencies that we do not have trained Operations level staffing for.

We will provide Awareness level training on rescue operational specialties so members can identify technical rescue situations and notify the appropriate agencies.

Training shall be provided to correspond to the operational level of our technical specialty teams.

All fire departments which will be expected to perform at the Operations level or higher operational level shall be trained to that level.

Note: *The 2008 edition of NFPA 1006, Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications outlines the minimum individual Job Performance Requirements for Level I (Operations) and Level II (Technician) rescuers.*

Continuing education necessary to maintain all requirements of the level of capability shall be provided by the fire department.

The training program for each Technical discipline shall be evaluated annually to ensure the fire department is prepared to function at the established operational level.

All required training shall be documented and available for interested parties.

RESCUE EQUIPMENT

Equipment necessary for operations at technical rescue incidents, along with

training exercises, shall be provided by the fire department.

Training shall be provided in the care, use, inspection, maintenance and limitations of the protective clothing and equipment according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Our department will provide, at no cost to members, protective clothing and equipment to provide protection from the specific hazards to which they could be exposed.

Members are required to wear the protective clothing and equipment provided by the department's procedures and guidelines for Technical Rescue.

TECHNICAL RESCUE SAFETY

All employees must be trained on:

- The hazards and risks associated with department's chosen level of technical rescue operations
- How to conduct technical rescue operations at the department's chosen level while minimizing threats to rescuers
- How to use PPE properly

SPECIFIC FUNCTIONS

Employees assigned specific duties and functions must be trained and qualified by their department prior to being assigned those duties or functions.

When employees are operating in positions or performing functions that pose a high potential risk for injury, employees or members qualified in basic life support must be standing by.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

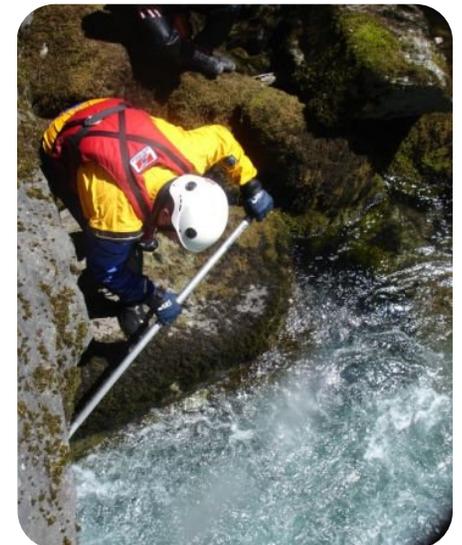
Our department shall establish a procedure for members to abandon the technical rescue area and to account for their safety when an imminent hazard condition is discovered. This shall include a method for notifying all members in the affected area immediately.

TECH RESCUE SAFETY OFFICER

The Incident Commander shall assign an Incident Safety Officer with the requisite knowledge and responsibility for the identification, evaluation, and with the authority to correct hazardous conditions and unsafe practices, at all emergency scene operations and training exercises.

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

Departments shall use the ICS at all technical rescue incidents and training exercises.



OPERATIONAL SPECIALTIES

If our fire department chooses to operate at the operations or technician level for technical rescues, we must meet the requirements found in WAC 296-305-05113 and the non-conflicting parts of the 2009 edition of NFPA 1670, Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Rescue Incidents or referenced NFPA standard.

When chapters of NFPA 1670, Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Rescue Incidents, are required by the following sections, internal references requiring compliance with further NFPA's or additional resources are not included in these requirements.

- (1) **Structural collapse:** Chapter 5 of the 2009 edition of NFPA 1670,
- (2) **Rope rescue:** Chapter 6 of the 2009 edition of NFPA 1670, WAC 296-305-02019
- (3) **Confined space rescue:** Chapter 7 of the 2009 edition of NFPA 1670, WAC 296-809 Table 1
- (4) **Machinery rescue:** Chapter 12 of the 2009 edition of NFPA 1670
- (5) **Water rescue:** Chapter 9 of the 2009 edition of NFPA 1670
- (6) **Dive rescue:** Chapter 9 of the 2009 edition of NFPA 1670, WAC 296-37 WAC
- (7) **Trench and excavation rescue:** Chapter 11 of the 2009 edition of NFPA 1670,
- (8) **Mine and tunnel rescue:** Chapter 14 of the 2009 edition of NFPA 1670, WAC 296-155 Part Q
- (9) **Aircraft rescue and firefighting:** 2008 edition of NFPA 402, Guide for Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Operations, WAC 296-305-05013.



OPERATIONS ABOVE THE AWARENESS LEVEL

For operations above the Awareness level at technical rescue incidents our department shall establish written standard operating procedures outlining the operational level of our specific level of response and the type of technical rescue operations we plan to perform.

TECH RESCUE TEAMS MUST:

- Be adequately staffed - Often with at least 4 Technicians available
- Annually trained or certified on all related WAC and NFPA standards.
- Realistically trained with scenarios performing rescues of mannequins
- Have current, inspected, NFPA referenced, specialty rescue equipment
- Be thoroughly documented

Each NFPA standard specifies the minimum technicians needed to perform rescues, minimum annual scenario based training, training documentation and specific equipment required to respond to these emergencies.

Where our department does not have a Technical Rescue team assigned, and we are dispatched to an emergency requiring technical rescue, we shall request mutual aid from dispatch for the closest technical rescue team available. The Officer in charge will determine, what if any, basic life support care can be provided while awaiting a Technical Rescue team.



WAC 296-305-02019, 296-305-05013, 296-305-05101, 296-305-05103, 296-305-05105, 296-305-05107, 296-305-05109, 296-305-05111, 296-305-05113, 296-305-05502

Customize our program: _____

JUNE SUGGESTED TRAINING SCHEDULE

	TRAINING SUGGESTION	DEPARTMENT ACTUAL TRAINING SCHEDULE
WEEK 1 DATE:	TECH RESCUE - RULES FOR TEAMS	
WEEK 2 DATE:	ICS REVIEW	
WEEK 3 DATE:	WATER RELAY EVOLUTION - PORTABLE TANKS	
WEEK 4 DATE:	HAZ MAT - ERG	
OPTIONAL FULL DAY:		
OTEP DATE:		