

WATER RESCUE SPECIALIST

I. Functional Description

The Water Rescue Specialist is responsible for performing water operations of the task force incident operation. The Water Rescue Specialist reports directly to a Rescue Squad Officer.

II. Description of Duties

The Water Rescue Specialist is responsible for the following:

- Implementing technical skills and operating equipment necessary for completing the water rescue portion of the action plan in a safe manner
- Performing supervised water operations and providing periodic progress reports as needed
- Operating and performing routine field maintenance of watercraft and equipment
- Ensuring accountability and maintenance for all issued equipment
- Performing additional tasks or duties as assigned
- Evaluating and modifying water operational tactics as needed

III. Position Requirements and Criteria

Individuals who meet the following requirements and criteria will be eligible to become Water Rescue Specialists in the DHS/FEMA National US&R Response System. The intent of these requirements is to select personnel who are fully capable of providing the water operational tactics and techniques required in a disaster environment.

IV. Required Training

The Water Rescue Specialist shall adhere to the following:

- Complete all administrative and general training requirements
- Complete the FEMA National US&R Response System GPS / Land Navigation Operations Course
- Meet requirements of NFPA 1006 (2008):

- Chapter 5: Job Performance Requirements
 - Chapter 6: Rope Rescue (Levels 1 & 2)
 - Chapter 11: Surface Water Rescue (Levels 1 & 2)
- Safe boating certificate recognized by the National Safe Boating Council
- Boat operator requirements as outlined in Water Rescue Specialist Position Task Book