

State of Oregon  
Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

# NFPA Rope Rescue Task Book

Task Book Assigned To:	
Name	DPSST Fire Service #
Agency Name	Date Initiated
Signature of Agency Head or Training Officer	Date Completed

Portions of this evaluation instrument are reprinted with permission from NFPA 1006 - 2013 Edition, "Standard for Technical Rescuer Professional Qualifications", Copyright 2013. National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA 02269. This reprinted material is not the complete and official position of the NFPA on the referenced subject, which is represented only by the standard in its entirety.

Department of Public Safety Standards and Training  
4190 Aumsville Hwy SE.  
Salem, Oregon 97317  
(503) 378-2100

Additional copies of this document may be downloaded from the DPSST web site:

<http://www.oregon.gov/DPSST/FC/FireCertFormFree.shtml>

Revised December 2015

# NFPA Rope Rescue Signature Page

A copy of the applicant's training must be included with the DPSST NFPA Technical Rescuer application when applying for **NFPA Rope Rescue** certification. Only a certified NFPA Technical Rescuer in that specialty area may sign off the Task Book.

**Attest:** The information contained in this Task Book is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsification of information on this document is subject to penalty under ORS 162.055, et al, and ORS 162.305 and is cause to deny or revoke DPSST fire service professional certification(s).

<b><u>NFPA Rope Rescue Task Book Assigned To:</u></b>		
Signature	Printed Name	DPSST Fire Service #
Agency Name		Date Initiated
Signature of Certified Technician	Printed Name of Certified Technician	Date Completed

**Technical Rescuer Evaluators:** Each Evaluator must document the following information:

<b>Evaluator: Level of Technical Rescuer certification:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Rescuer
<input type="checkbox"/> Rope	<input type="checkbox"/> Confined Space	<input type="checkbox"/> Trench
<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Swiftwater	<input type="checkbox"/> Dive
		<input type="checkbox"/> Structural Collapse
		<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle
		<input type="checkbox"/> Surf
		<input type="checkbox"/> Machinery
<b>Sections of chapter signed off by Evaluator:</b>		
		_____4 _____5 (Chapters 4 and 5 need to be met only one time)
_____6	_____7	_____8 _____9 _____10 _____11 _____12 _____13 _____15 _____19
Signature of Evaluator	Printed Name of Evaluator	DPSST Fire Number
		Date

<b>Evaluator: Level of Technical Rescuer certification:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Rescuer
<input type="checkbox"/> Rope	<input type="checkbox"/> Confined Space	<input type="checkbox"/> Trench
<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Swiftwater	<input type="checkbox"/> Dive
		<input type="checkbox"/> Structural Collapse
		<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle
		<input type="checkbox"/> Surf
		<input type="checkbox"/> Machinery
<b>Sections of chapter signed off by Evaluator:</b>		
		_____4 _____5 (Chapters 4 and 5 need to be met only one time)
_____6	_____7	_____8 _____9 _____10 _____11 _____12 _____13 _____15 _____19
Signature of Evaluator	Printed Name of Evaluator	DPSST Fire Number
		Date

<b>Evaluator: Level of Technical Rescuer certification:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Rescuer
<input type="checkbox"/> Rope	<input type="checkbox"/> Confined Space	<input type="checkbox"/> Trench
<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Swiftwater	<input type="checkbox"/> Dive
		<input type="checkbox"/> Structural Collapse
		<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle
		<input type="checkbox"/> Surf
		<input type="checkbox"/> Machinery
<b>Sections of chapter signed off by Evaluator:</b>		
		_____4 _____5 (Chapters 4 and 5 need to be met only one time)
_____6	_____7	_____8 _____9 _____10 _____11 _____12 _____13 _____15 _____19
Signature of Evaluator	Printed Name of Evaluator	DPSST Fire Number
		Date

<b>Evaluator: Level of Technical Rescuer certification:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Rescuer
<input type="checkbox"/> Rope	<input type="checkbox"/> Confined Space	<input type="checkbox"/> Trench
<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Swiftwater	<input type="checkbox"/> Dive
		<input type="checkbox"/> Structural Collapse
		<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle
		<input type="checkbox"/> Surf
		<input type="checkbox"/> Machinery
<b>Sections of chapter signed off by Evaluator:</b>		
		_____4 _____5 (Chapters 4 and 5 need to be met only one time)
_____6	_____7	_____8 _____9 _____10 _____11 _____12 _____13 _____15 _____19
Signature of Evaluator	Printed Name of Evaluator	DPSST Fire Number
		Date

Task Book Qualification Record Books (Task Book) have been developed for various certification levels within the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) system. Each Task Book lists the job performance requirements (JPRs) for the specific certification level in a format that allows a candidate to be trained and evaluated during three (3) sequential sessions. Successful performance of all tasks, as observed and recorded by a qualified and approved evaluator will result in the candidate's eligibility for DPSST certification.

To become certified at a specific level, the applicant must successfully complete the job performance requirements in sequence. Before a job performance evaluation can be taken, all requisite knowledge and skills must be satisfied. In addition, all relative task book evaluations must be checked off by the evaluator. When all prescribed requirements have been met, an application for Certification will be forwarded to DPSST. All certificates are mailed to the Training Officer at his/her Fire Service Agency.

#### **TASK BOOK SPECIFICATIONS:**

To successfully complete this task book, only an evaluator certified as an NFPA Rope Rescue may sign off on the JPR's. 'Requisite Knowledge' sections may be completed during class and signed by the instructor. 'Requisite Skills' sections may be conducted and signed at the candidate's fire agency.

#### **NFPA TASK BOOK INFORMATION:**

The JPRs covered in this Task Book meet or exceed all NFPA published standards for this certification level at the time of this publication. Mention of NFPA and its standards do not, and are not intended as adoption of—or reference to—NFPA standards. For more information on the complete job performance requirements and data, see the individual DPSST Task Book for that certification level.

#### **NOTE TO FIRE SERVICE AGENCIES:**

These JPRs serve as general guidelines. As such they are not intended to replace specific sequences of apparatus or equipment operation that may be outlined by manufacturer specifications. At all times, standard operating procedures of the Fire Service Agency in which the evaluation is being conducted will govern. Fire Service Agencies should have available for evaluators a copy of manufacturer specifications and the Fire Service Agencies standard operational guidelines.

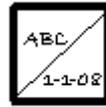
**\*A vertical line (|) to the left of the document indicates a change from the previous standard.**

#### **HOW TO EVALUATE PERFORMANCE:**

Each JPR has one to three corresponding box(es) to the right in which to confirm a candidate's success. The evaluator must indicate successful passing by the candidate of each JPR by initialing and dating (see example on the following page).

**EXAMPLE:**

**6.1.1\* Direct a team in the operation of a simple rope mechanical advantage system in a high-angle raising operation, given rescue personnel, an established rope rescue system incorporating a simple rope mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, a load to be moved, and an anchor system, so that the movement is controlled, a reset is accomplished, the load can be held in place when needed, operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure, commands are used to direct the operation, and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed.**



# TASK BOOK QUALIFICATION RECORD

FOR THE CERTIFICATION LEVEL OF

## NFPA Rope Rescue

Prior to becoming certified in this position, the sample candidate must successfully complete the following Job Performance Requirements (JPR). For each JPR there are requisite knowledge and skill requirements. The evaluator must initial and date in the box provided to indicate the meeting of those requirements before the firefighter may proceed.

**6.1 Level I General Requirements.** The job performance requirements defined in 6.1.3 through 6.1.8 shall be met prior to Level I qualification in rope rescue.

**6.1.1\* Direct a team in the operation of a simple rope mechanical advantage system in a high-angle raising operation, given rescue personnel, an established rope rescue system incorporating a simple rope mechanical advantage system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, a load to be moved, and an anchor system, so that the movement is controlled, a reset is accomplished, the load can be held in place when needed, operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure, commands are used to direct the operation, and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Principles of mechanical advantage, capabilities and limitations of various simple rope mechanical advantage systems and high-angle raising operations, correct operation of simple rope mechanical advantage systems, personnel assignments, and operational commands.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to direct personnel effectively, use operational commands, analyze system efficiency, identify safety concerns, and perform a system safety check.

**6.1.2\* Direct a lowering operation in a high-angle environment, given rescue personnel, an established lowering system, a specified minimum travel distance for the load, and a load to be moved, so that the movement is controlled, the load can be held in place when needed, operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure, rope commands are used to direct the operation, and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Application and use of descent control devices, capabilities and limitations of various lowering systems in a high-angle environment, operation of lowering systems in a high-angle environment, personnel assignments, and operational commands.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to direct personnel, use operational commands, analyze system efficiency, manage movement of the load in a high-angle environment, identify safety concerns in a high-angle environment, and perform a system safety check.

**6.1.3 Construct a multiple-point anchor system, given life safety rope and other auxiliary rope rescue equipment, so that the chosen anchor system fits the incident needs, the system strength meets or exceeds the expected load and does not interfere with rescue operations, equipment is visually inspected prior to being put in service, the nearest anchor point that will support the load is chosen, the anchor system is system safety checked prior to being placed into service, the integrity of the system is maintained throughout the operation, and weight will be distributed between more than one anchor point.**

**(A)\* Requisite Knowledge.** Relationship of angles to forces created in the rigging of multiple-point anchor systems, safety issues in choosing anchor points, system safety check methods that allow for visual and physical assessment of system components, methods to evaluate the system during operations, integrity concerns, weight distribution issues and methods, knots and applications, selection and inspection criteria for hardware and software, formulas needed to calculate safety factors for load distribution, and the concepts of static loads versus dynamic loads.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to determine incident needs as related to choosing anchor systems, select effective knots, determine expected loads, evaluate incident operations as related to interference concerns and set-up, choose anchor points, perform a system safety check, and evaluate system components for compromised integrity.

**6.1.4 Construct a compound rope mechanical advantage system, given a load, an anchor system, life safety rope, carabiners, pulleys, rope grab devices, and rope rescue equipment, so that the system constructed accommodates the load and reduces the force required to lift the load, operational interference is factored and minimized, the system is efficient, a system safety check is completed, and the system is connected to an anchor system and the load.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Determination of incident needs as related to choosing compound rope systems, the elements of efficient design for compound rope systems, knot selection, methods for reducing excessive force to system components, evaluation of incident operations as related to interference concerns and set-up, rope commands, rigging principles, system safety check procedures, and methods of evaluating system components for compromised integrity.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to determine incident needs as related to choosing compound rope systems, select effective knots, calculate expected loads, evaluate incident operations as related to interference concerns and set-up, perform a system safety check, and evaluate system components for compromised integrity.

**6.1.5 Construct a fixed rope system, given an anchor system, a life safety rope, and rope rescue equipment, so that the system constructed can accommodate the load, is efficient, and is connected to an anchor system and the load, and a system safety check is performed and the results meet the incident requirements for descending or ascending operations.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Knot selection, calculating expected loads, incident evaluation operations as related to interference concerns and set-up, rigging principles, system safety check procedures, and methods of evaluating system components for compromised integrity.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to select effective knots, calculate expected loads, use rigging principles, evaluate incident operations as related to interference concerns and set-up, perform a system safety check, and evaluate system components for compromised integrity.

**6.1.6\* Direct the operation of a compound rope mechanical advantage system in a high-angle environment, given a rope rescue system incorporating a compound rope mechanical advantage system and a load to be moved, and a specified minimum travel distance for the load, so that a system safety check operational commands are clearly communicated; and potential problems are identified, communicated, and managed.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Methods to determine incident needs, types of interference concerns, rope commands, system safety check protocol, procedures for continued evaluation of system components for compromised integrity, common personnel assignments and duties, common and critical commands, methods for controlling a load's movement, system stress issues during operations, and management methods for common problems.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to determine incident needs, evaluate incident operations as related to interference concerns, complete a system safety check, continually evaluate system components for compromised integrity, direct personnel effectively, communicate commands, analyze system efficiency, manage load movement, and identify concerns.

**6.1.7\* Ascend a fixed rope in a high-angle environment, given an anchored fixed rope system, a specified minimum distance for the rescuer, a system to allow ascent of a fixed rope, a structure, a belay system, a life safety harness worn by the person ascending, and personal protective equipment, so that the person ascending is secured to the fixed rope in a manner that will not allow him or her to fall; the person ascending is attached to the rope by means of an ascent control device(s) with at least two points of contact; injury to the person ascending on the fixed rope and rest suspended by his or her harness; the system will not be stressed to the point of failure; the person ascending can convert his or her ascending system to a descending system; obstacles are negotiated; the system is suitable for the site; and the objective is reached.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Task-specific selection criteria for life safety harnesses and systems for ascending a fixed rope, personal protective equipment selection criteria, design and intended purpose of ascent control devices utilized, rigging principles, techniques for high-angle environments, converting ascending systems to descending systems, and common hazards posed by maneuvering and harnessing.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to select and use rescuer harness, a system for ascending a fixed rope, and personal protective equipment for common environments; attach the life safety harness to the rope rescue system; configure ascent control devices to form a system for ascending a fixed rope; make connections to the ascending system; maneuver around existing environment and system-specific obstacles; convert the ascending system to a descending system while suspended from the fixed rope; and evaluate surroundings for potential hazards.

**6.1.8\* Descend a fixed rope in a high-angle environment, given an anchored fixed-rope system, a specified minimum travel distance for the rescuer, a system to allow descent of a fixed rope, a belay system, a life safety harness worn by the person descending, and personal protective equipment, so that the person descending is attached to the fixed rope in a manner that will not allow him or her to fall; the person descending is attached to the rope by means of a descent control device; the speed of descent is controlled; injury to the person descending is minimized; the person descending can stop at any point on the fixed rope and rest suspended by his or her harness; the system will not be stressed to the point of failure; the system is suitable for the site; and the objective is reached.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Task-specific selection criteria for life safety harnesses and systems for descending a fixed rope; personal protective equipment selection criteria; design, intended purpose, and operation of descent control devices utilized; safe rigging principles; techniques for high-angle environments; and common hazards posed by maneuvering and harnessing.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to select and use rescuer harness, a system for descending a fixed rope, and personal protective equipment for common environments; attach the life safety harness to the rope rescue system; make attachment of the descent control device to the rope and life safety harness; operate the descent control device; maneuver around existing environment and system-specific obstacles; and evaluate surroundings for potential hazards.

**6.2 Level II General Requirements.** The job performance requirements defined in Section 6.1 and 6.2.1 through 6.2.8 shall be met prior to Level II qualification in rope rescue.

**6.2.1\* Complete an assignment while suspended from a rope rescue system in a high-angle environment, given a rope rescue system, an assignment, life safety harnesses, litters, bridles, and specialized equipment necessary for the environment, so that risks to victims and rescuers are minimized; the means of attachment to the rope rescue system is secure; selected specialized equipment facilitates efficient rescuer movement; and specialized equipment does not unduly increase risks to rescuers or victims.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Task-specific selection criteria for life safety harnesses, personal protective equipment selection criteria, variations in litter design and intended purpose, rigging principles, techniques and practices for high-angle environments, and common hazards posed by improper maneuvering and harnessing.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to select and use rescuer harness and personal protective equipment for common environments, attach the life safety harness to the rope rescue system, maneuver around existing environment and system-specific obstacles, perform work while suspended from the rope rescue system, and evaluate surroundings for potential hazards.

**6.2.2\* Manage the movement of the victim as the rescuer in a high-angle environment, given a rope rescue system, a specified minimum travel distance for the victim, victim transfer devices, and specialized equipment necessary for the environment, so that risks to victims and rescuers are minimized; undesirable victim movement within the transfer device is minimized; the means of attachment to the rope rescue system is maintained; the victim is removed from the hazard; selected specialized equipment facilitates efficient victim movement; and the victim can be transported to the local EMS provider.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Task-specific selection criteria for patient transfer devices, various carrying techniques, personal protective equipment selection criteria, design characteristics and intended purpose of various transfer devices, rigging principles, methods to minimize common environmental hazards, and hazards created in high-angle environments.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to choose patient transfer devices, select and use personal protective equipment appropriate to the conditions, attach a transfer device to the rope rescue system, reduce hazards for rescuers and victims, and determine specialized equipment needs for victim movement.

**6.2.3\* Function as a litter tender in a high-angle lowering or hauling operation, given a rope rescue system, a specified minimum travel distance for the litter tender, life safety harnesses, litters, bridles, and specialized equipment necessary for the environment, so that risks to victims and rescuers are minimized; the means of attachment to the rope rescue system is secure; and the terrain is negotiated while minimizing risks to equipment or persons.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Task-specific selection criteria for life safety harnesses, personal protective equipment selection criteria, variations in litter design and intended purpose, high-angle litter attachment principles, techniques and practices for high-angle environments, and common hazards imposed by the various structures.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to select and use rescuer harness and personal protective equipment for common environments, attach the life safety harness to the rope rescue system, maneuver the litter past obstacles or natural structural features, manage the litter while suspended from the rope rescue system, and evaluate surroundings for potential hazards.

**6.2.4 Direct a team in the removal of a victim suspended from rope or webbing in a high-angle environment, given a victim suspended by a harness attached to anchored rope or webbing, devices for removal of the victim from the rope or webbing, and a means of removal of the victim to the ground or other safe area, so that risks to victims and rescuers are minimized, injury to the victim is minimized, the means of attachment to the rope rescue system is maintained, the victim is removed from the rope or webbing, and the victim is brought to a safe area for transfer to EMS.**

**(A)\* Requisite Knowledge.** Techniques and systems for safe transfer of suspended victims from an existing anchored rope or webbing to a rope rescue system, various techniques for handling suspended victims, and principles of suspension-induced injuries.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Select and construct systems for rapid removal of victims from lanyards or rope or webbing, manage operation of the selected system, determine condition of the suspended victim, reduce hazards for rescuers and victims, and determine specialized equipment needs for victim movement.

**6.2.5\* Direct a team in the construction of a system intended to move a suspended rescue load along a horizontal path to avoid an obstacle, given rescue personnel, life safety rope, rope rescue equipment, and a suitable anchor capable of supporting the load, so that personnel assignments are made and clearly communicated; the system constructed can accommodate the load; tension applied within the system will not exceed the rated capacity of any of its components' parts; a system safety check is performed; movement on the load is efficient; and loads can be held in place or moved with minimal effort over the required distance.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Determination of incident needs as related to operation of a system, capabilities and limitations of various systems (including capacity ratings), incident site evaluation as related to interference concerns and obstacle negotiation, rigging principles, system safety check protocol, common personnel assignments and duties, common and critical operational commands, and common problems and ways to minimize these problems during construction.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to determine incident needs as related to construction of a system, evaluate an incident site as related to interference concerns and set-up, identify the obstacles or voids to be negotiated, select a system for defined task, perform system safety checks, use rigging principles, and communicate with personnel effectively.

**6.2.6\* Direct a team in the operation of a rope system to move a suspended rescue load along a horizontal path, given rescue personnel, an established system, a target for the load, a load to be moved, and personal protective equipment, so that the movement is controlled; the load is held in place when needed; operating methods do not stress the system to the point of failure; personnel assignments are made; tasks are communicated; and potential problems are identified, communicated and managed.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Determination of incident needs as related to the operation of a system, capabilities and limitations of various systems, incident site evaluation as related to interference concerns and obstacle negotiation, system safety check protocol, procedures to evaluate system components for compromised integrity, common personnel assignments and duties, common and critical operational commands, common problems and ways to minimize or manage those problems, and ways to increase the efficiency of load movement.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to determine incident needs, complete a system safety check, evaluate system components for compromised integrity, select personnel, communicate with personnel effectively, manage movement of the load, and evaluate for any potential problems.

**6.2.7\* Access a victim in a high-angle environment using techniques that require rescuers to climb up or down natural or manmade structures given a belay, a belay system, or other mechanisms, so that the risks from a fall are minimized or eliminated; the patient is accessed; and the objective is achieved.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** The ability to determine the need for fall protection in a climbing environment. An understanding of fall factors and methods for reducing them for a rescuer performing climbing operations.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to select and use tools and techniques that minimize fall potential and fall factors.

**6.2.8 Isolate and manage potentially harmful energy sources found in erected structures, including power systems and construction materials, given personal protective equipment, so that all hazards are identified, systems are managed, beneficial system use is evaluated, and hazards to rescue personnel and victims are minimized.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Types and uses of personal protective equipment, types of energy sources, system isolation methods, specialized system features, tools for disabling hazards, and policies and procedures of the AHJ.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to select and use task- and incident-specific personal protective equipment, identify hazards, operate beneficial systems in support of tactical objectives, and operate tools and devices for securing and disabling hazards.