



National
Operational
Guidance

Hazard

**Working environment: Water rescue
and flooding**



NFCC
National Fire
Chiefs Council

Developed and maintained by the NFCC



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Hazard - Working environment: Water rescue and flooding

Knowledge and understanding

Hazard

Working environment: Water rescue and flooding

Learning outcome

Understand all associated hazard knowledge



Control measure - Clean line principle

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Clean line principle

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The hazards associated with fixed lines attached to water incident responders
- The protocols for using lines at incidents involving bodies of water

Practical application

Control measure element

Clean line principle

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use the clean line principle at incidents involving bodies of water





Control measure - Cordons: Water rescue and
flooding

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Cordons: Water rescue and
flooding

Understand:

- How to establish and implement hazard zones at incidents involving bodies of water
- The use of exclusion zones at incidents involving bodies of water
- The equipment, processes and procedures for the use of hazard zones at incidents involving bodies of water

Refer to: [Establish appropriate cordon controls – Incident command training specification](#)

Practical application

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Cordons: Water rescue and
flooding

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Use appropriate equipment, processes and procedures for the use of hazard zones at incidents involving bodies of water

Refer to: [Establish appropriate cordon controls – Incident command training specification](#)



**Control measure - Personal protective
equipment: Water rescue and flooding**

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Personal protective equipment:
Water rescue and flooding

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The performance standards and level of protection afforded by personal protective equipment ensembles used for incidents involving bodies of water
- The use of specifically designed personal protective equipment used for working on, in or near water
- The means of identifying personnel during night operations or in poorly illuminated areas at incidents involving bodies of water

Refer to: [Personal protective equipment – Operations training specification](#)

Practical application

Control measure element

Personal protective equipment:
Water rescue and flooding

Learning outcome

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify and use specifically designed personal protective equipment for working on, in or near water
- Identify and use appropriate equipment and procedures during night operations or in poorly illuminated areas at incidents involving bodies of water

Refer to: [Personal protective equipment – Operations training specification](#)



Control measure - Safety officers: Water rescue and flooding



TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Safety officers: Water rescue and flooding

Learning outcome

Understand:

- The role and considerations for personnel nominated to perform the role of upstream spotters
- The role and considerations for personnel nominated to perform tasks as part of a downstream safety team
- The role and considerations for personnel nominated as safety officers for management of tethers or lines
- The importance of communicating relevant information to other water course users
- The equipment and procedures used to ensure safe systems of work at incidents involving bodies of water

Refer to: [Incident ground safety management – Incident command training specification](#)

Practical application



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Safety officers: Water rescue and flooding

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Gather relevant information to determine positioning of upstream spotters and downstream safety teams
- Apply appropriate safety procedures for carrying out rescues at water related incidents
- Establish specific safe systems of work for upstream spotters and downstream safety teams
- Establish an effective communication strategy and confirm understanding with relevant personnel
- Perform the role of upstream spotter at incidents involving bodies of water
- Perform the role of downstream safety at incidents involving bodies of water
- Perform the role of safety officer responsible for the management of tethers or lines

Refer to: [Incident ground safety management – Incident command training specification](#)