

State of Oregon  
Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

**NFPA Tower Rescue**  
Task Book

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

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Additional copies of this document may be downloaded from the DPSST web site:  
<http://www.oregon.gov/DPSST/FC/FireCertFormFree.shtml>

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## NFPA Tower Rescue Signature Page

This signature page is a tool for your agency to document completed tasks. The signature page and documentation should be kept on file at your agency. Please **do not** submit the Task Book or signature page to Department of Public Safety Standards and Training. 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).

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

Initials	DPSST Fire #	NFPA Technical Rescuer Certification Level	Printed Name	Signature

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.

Before a job performance evaluation can be taken, all requisite knowledge and skills must be satisfied. In addition, all task book evaluations must be checked off by a qualified evaluator. When all prescribed requirements have been met, an application for Certification may 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 Tower 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:**

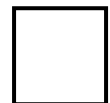
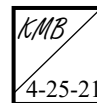
The JPRs covered in this Task Book meet or exceed all NFPA published standards for this certification level at the time of this publication. Mention of NFPA and its standards do not, and are not intended as adoption of—or reference to—NFPA standards. For more information on the complete job performance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

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

Each JPR has one to three corresponding boxes 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.

Example:

**4.1.1 \* Perform the rescue of a person from a tower while working from ground ladders, aerial ladders, or other elevated devices employed by the AHJ, given an incident not requiring the rescuer to be solely supported by the tower, so that the patient is transferred from the tower to the elevated device, the agency's protocol for the use of the device is followed, and the risks to the victim and rescuer are minimized.**



# TASK BOOK QUALIFICATION RECORD

FOR THE CERTIFICATION LEVEL OF

## NFPA Tower Rescue

Prior to becoming certified in this position, the 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.

### 4.1 Awareness Level.

**Prior to qualification at the awareness level in tower rescue, the individual shall meet the requirements defined in Section 4.1.**

**4.1.1 \* Perform the rescue of a person from a tower while working from ground ladders, aerial ladders, or other elevated devices employed by the AHJ, given an incident not requiring the rescuer to be solely supported by the tower, so that the patient is transferred from the tower to the elevated device, the agency's protocol for the use of the device is followed, and the risks to the victim and rescuer are minimized.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Familiarization with the use of ladders or elevated devices and specific procedures for using them in victim transfer from a tower.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Ability to work from or operate ladders or elevated devices capable of accessing and rescuing the tower victim and providing positive transfer from the tower to the aerial while providing fall protection for the victim and rescue personnel.

**4.1.2 Size up a tower rescue incident, given background information and applicable reference materials, so that the scope of the rescue is determined, the number of victims is identified, the last reported location of all victims is established, witnesses and reporting parties are identified and interviewed, resource needs are assessed, primary search parameters are identified, and information required to develop an initial incident action plan is obtained.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Types of reference materials and their uses, availability and capability of the resources, elements of an incident action plan and related information, relationship of the size-up to the incident management system, and information gathering techniques and how that information is used in the size-up process, and basic search criteria for tower rescue incidents.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to read technical rescue reference materials, gather information, use interview techniques, relay information, and use information-gathering sources.

**4.1.3 Recognize incident hazards and initiate isolation procedures, given scene control barriers, personal protective equipment (PPE), requisite equipment, and available specialized resources, so that all hazards are identified; resource application fits the operational requirements; hazard isolation is considered; risks to rescuers, bystanders, and victims are minimized; and rescue time constraints are taken into account.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Resource capabilities and limitations; types and nature of incident hazards; equipment types and their use; isolation terminology, methods, equipment, and implementation; operational requirement concerns; common types of rescuer and victim risks; risk/benefit analysis methods and practices; hazard recognition, isolation methods, and terminology; methods for controlling access to the scene; and types of technical references.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to identify resource capabilities and limitations, identify incident hazards, assess potential hazards to rescuers and bystanders, place scene control barriers, and operate control and mitigation equipment.

**4.1.4 Recognize the need for technical rescue resources at an operations- or technical-level incident, given AHJ guidelines, so that the need for additional resources is identified, the response system is initiated, the scene is secured and rendered safe until additional resources arrive, and awareness-level personnel are incorporated into the operational plan.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Operational protocols, specific planning forms, types of incidents common to the AHJ, hazards, incident support operations and resources, and safety measures.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to apply operational protocols, select specific planning forms based on the types of incidents, identify and evaluate various types of hazards within the AHJ, request support and resources, and determine the required safety measures.

**4.1.5 Support an operations- or technician-level incident, given an incident, an assignment, an incident action plan, and resources from the tool kit, so that the assignment is carried out, progress is reported to command, environmental concerns are managed, personnel rehabilitation is facilitated, and the incident action plan is supported.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** AHJ operational protocols, hazard recognition, incident management, PPE selection, resource selection and use, scene support requirements.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to apply operational protocols, function within an incident management system, follow and implement an incident action plan, and report the task progress status to a supervisor or incident command.

**4.2 Operations Level.**

**The job performance requirements defined in Sections 4.1, 4.2, 5.2, 5.3.9, 5.3.10, and 5.3.11 shall be met prior to or during operations-level qualification in tower rescue.**

**4.2.1 Participate in a prerescue survey given a tower rescue preplan, the specific tower targeted in the preplan, an operations-level tower rescue tool kit, and a tower rescue team, so that the targeted elevation in the tower is attained using the tools and techniques designated for use during a rescue operation, all elements of the rescue plan are implemented, and the full scope of the plan is exercised.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Tower preplan, contents, and use of the operations-level tower rescue tool kit and organizations' policies and procedures for operations tower rescue.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Tower climbing to the designated height, selection, and transportation of designated tools.

**4.2.2 Isolate and manage exposure to potentially harmful energy sources found in erected structures, including power systems such as mechanical, radio frequency (RF), and electrical hazards, given lock-out tag-out (LOTO) equipment and construction materials and PPE, 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 PPE, hazardous energy monitoring and testing 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 hazard-specific PPE, monitor and test equipment, identify hazards, operate beneficial systems in support of tactical objectives, operate tools and devices for securing and disabling hazards, and engage in practices that minimize exposure to known or suspected hazards.

**4.2.3 Assess the integrity of the tower structure and related components, given an incident, a preclimb checklist, and an unobstructed climb path so that safe access to the victim is**

assured, and ensure any integrated safety systems, such as vertical lifelines (e.g., cable or rail-type structure), are accessible.

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Types of structures within area of response, including self-supported, lattice-type, guyed, monopole, or nonstandard-type towers and potential structural compromise that would create additional hazards to rescuers.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Perform physical inspection of accessible tower components in accordance with a preclimb checklist.

**4.2.4 Recognize, identify, and utilize typical fall protection and work positioning equipment used by climbers, given a specific tower structure, so that the victim can be transferred to the rescue system.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Review tower rescue preplan to gain familiarity with tower climber safety and work positioning equipment.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Operate tower climber safety and work positioning equipment.

**4.2.5 Perform an ascent using proper PPE and safe climbing technique equipment, given an incident, so that access to the level of the victim is achieved.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Determine proper PPE given the type of tower structure and integrated temporary or permanent safety systems to perform safe climbing techniques.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Don appropriate PPE, including but not limited to fall protection, helmet, and gloves as appropriate, and use 100 percent tie off or vertical lifeline equipment systems ascend the tower structure.

**4.2.6 Perform transfer between the ladder or climbing peg safety system, given an incident, so that tie off is maintained, equipment is utilized, and procedures are followed as part of identified rescue plan.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Familiarity with the engagement and disengagement procedures from vertical lifeline cable or rope grabs and the use of Y-lanyard and work positioning lanyards.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Perform safe transfer between integrated vertical lifeline systems and climb and maneuver on the tower structure while maintaining tie off.

**4.2.7 Access a victim in a tower environment according to the rescue preplan, given an incident, so that the risks from a fall are minimized or eliminated, the patient is accessed, and the objective is achieved.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Tactics identified in the rescue preplan. An understanding of fall factors and methods for reducing them for a rescuer performing tower climbing operations.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to implement the tactics and employ the tools identified in the preplan to achieve the objective.

**4.2.8 Perform the removal of a victim from a preplanned tower environment, given an incident, a rescue preplan, and a prescribed means of removal of the victim to the objective, so that risks to victims and rescuers are minimized, all the elements of the preplan are complied with, and the objective is achieved.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Tactics identified in the rescue preplan for the removal of a victim on a tower.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Employ tactics identified in the rescue preplan for the removal of a victim on a tower.

**4.2.9 Direct a team in removal of a victim from a preplanned tower environment, given an incident, a rescue preplan, and a prescribed means of removal of the victim to the objective, so that risks to victims and rescuers are minimized, all the elements of the preplan are complied with, and the objective is achieved.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Tactics identified in the rescue preplan for the removal of a victim on a tower.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Direct the employment of tactics identified in the rescue preplan for the removal of a victim on a tower.

**4.2.10 Develop and adhere to contingency plans for when inclement weather or other factors make operations-level response ineffective or dangerous to rescuers, given an incident, so that a risk/benefit decision can be made.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** AHJ policies and procedures, risk versus benefit analysis application, site safety and hazard control techniques, and pre-incident rescue action planning.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Apply policies and protocols, risk versus benefit analysis information, and pre-incident planning data, risk management, and site safety control techniques.



**4.2.11 \* Terminate an incident, given PPE specific to the incident, isolation barriers, and tool kit, so that rescuers and bystanders are protected and accounted for during termination operations, the party responsible is notified of any modification or damage created during the operational period, documentation of loss or material use is accounted for, scene documentation is performed, scene control is transferred to a responsible party, potential or existing hazards are communicated to that responsible party, debriefing and postincident analysis and critique are considered, and command is terminated.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** PPE characteristics, hazard and risk identification, isolation techniques, statutory requirements identifying responsible parties, accountability system use, reporting methods, and postincident analysis techniques.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Selection and use of hazard-specific PPE, decontamination, barrier protection techniques, data collection and record-keeping/reporting protocols, and postincident analysis activities.

### **4.3 Technician Level.**

**The job performance requirements defined in Sections 4.2 and 4.3 shall be met prior to or during technician-level qualification in tower rescue.**

**4.3.1 Direct a tower rescue team, given a tower rescue scenario, incident action plan, preincident plan data, and resources from the tower rescue tool kit, so that resources are deployed to best advantage, the incident action plan is supported, and objectives are attained.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** AHJ policies and procedures, incident management, site safety and hazard control techniques, and preplan usage.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Interpret and apply policies and protocols, initiate and operate within the IMS, situational awareness, interpret and apply preincident planning data, risk management, and site safety control techniques.

**4.3.2 \* Develop an incident action plan for a tower rescue incident on a structure whose size, shape, or configuration would accommodate only one rescuer, given a tower rescue scenario, so that a climbing path plan is established, hazardous energy sources are identified and managed, fall protection is maintained throughout the event, anchor points are identified and utilized to best advantage, and the incident action plan objectives are met.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** AHJ policies and procedures, data gathering and collection methods, climbing plan elements, anchor point identification and construction methods, hazardous energy source recognition, identification and control methods, free climb ascent and descent techniques, and fall protection methods.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Size-up and assessment, hazard identification and control, identification and control of hazardous energy sources, use of monitoring equipment to detect hazardous energy sources, construction of anchor and belay systems, and selection of PPE and other resources from the tower rescue tool kit.

**4.3.3 \* Ascend a simulated or actual tower to conduct a rescue, given an incident action plan and a preclimb checklist, so that the preclimb checklist and hazard control measures are implemented; fall protection systems are utilized; and the rescuer moves both horizontally and vertically between structural elements of the tower, with or without the benefit of climbing pegs, ladders, or vertical lifelines, to achieve the objectives of the incident action plan.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Incident action plan, preclimb checklist, identification of site-specific tower features and components, type- and hazard-specific PPE selection, and climbing plan.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Use of incident action plans, development and use of preclimbing checklists and site safety plans, types of fall protection and lifeline systems, tower anatomy and features, climbing techniques and methods.

**4.3.4 Perform a ground-based tower rescue requiring the rescue of a suspended victim from an elevated position, given an incident action plan, climbing plan, hazard-specific PPE, and resources from the tower rescue tool kit, so that the victim is released/transferred from an existing fall arrest system to one created by the rescuer, and the victim is moved both horizontally and vertically a distance representative of the rescue environment.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Incident action plan, hazard and risk assessment, climbing plan elements, PPE selection and use, types of fall protection systems, fall protection system transfer procedures, and horizontal and vertical movement methods.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Scene assessment, hazard control techniques, PPE use and application, fall protection system operation, horizontal and vertical climbing and movement techniques.

**4.3.5 Perform a rescue requiring the rescue of a victim suspended from a tower at a height beyond the scope of a ground-based rope rescue system, given an incident action plan, climbing plan, hazard-specific PPE, and resources from the tower rescue tool kit, so that the victim is transferred to the rescue system and is moved both horizontally and vertically a distance representative of the rescue environment.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Incident action plan, hazard and risk assessment, climbing plan elements, PPE selection and use, types of fall protection systems, fall protection system transfer procedures, and horizontal and vertical movement methods.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Scene assessment, hazard control techniques, PPE use and application, fall protection system operation, horizontal and vertical climbing and movement techniques, and tower-based rescue techniques.

**4.3.6 Perform a lowering operation of a victim from a tower or elevated structure where the travel path or height of the objective requires establishment of multiple sets of sequential rope systems, given a tower rescue scenario and a tower rescue tool kit, so that the victim is protected from a fall, rope movement is managed without entanglement, and the objective is achieved.**

**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Incident action plan, hazard and risk assessment, climbing plan elements, PPE selection and use, types of fall protection systems, fall protection system transfer procedures, and horizontal and vertical movement method

**(B) Requisite Skills.** Scene assessment, hazard control techniques, PPE use and application, fall protection system operation, horizontal and vertical climbing and movement techniques, and multi-pitch tower-based rescue techniques.