



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
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Date: January 14, 2022

To: Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
State Board of Fire Services

From: Chris Fowler, Deputy State Fire Marshal III, Supervisor

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:

Proposed Change to Technical Rescue Training Site Requirements

Recommended Actions:

Motion to Approve – Consent

Background Information:

This report provides the reasoning for a proposed change to the California Code of Regulations Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 13. Article 2. General Provisions. As of April 2021, the draft 2022 Procedures Manual language in review with the CAL FIRE Office of the State Fire Marshal, Code Development and Analysis Division contains updated language with increased State Fire Training (SFT) oversight to the *5.3: Technical Rescue Training Site Requirements*.

As of 2022, the courses referenced in California Code of Regulations Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 13. Article 2. General Provisions will no longer be available in the State Fire Training Catalog. They will become legacy courses and shall be archived on the CalChiefs website.

Current Language

§ 1990.05. Accredited Facilities.

(c) An Accredited Rescue Training Site (ARTS) is a training facility that meets the site, training prop, tools, and equipment requirements for Rescue Systems 1, Rescue Systems 2, and/or Confined Space Rescue requirements as described in the State Fire Training Procedures Manual per Section 1990.00.

The new courses are the Rope Rescue Operations (2017), Rope Rescue Technician (2017), Structural Collapse Technician 1 (2021), Structural Collapse Technician 2 (2021), Confined Space Rescue Awareness (2021) and Confined Space Rescue Technician (2021). It is the recommendation of these technical rescue cadres and State Fire Training staff that the Registered Instructors must be responsible for the assessment of Rescue Training Sites. The Registered Instructor is required to comply with the Technical Rescue Training Site requirements as described in the edited "State Fire Training Procedures Manual" per Section 1990.00. (See attached.)

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

A Technical Rescue Training Site is defined as a location that delivers approved State Fire Training (SFT) Rescue Training curriculum within a given region. Historically, the site evaluation and approval process was a joint effort with State Fire Training and The Office of Emergency Services (OES). In years past, OES provided grant funding for sites and equipment, and the partnership between the two agencies created program accountability.

Since 2018, State Fire Training has continued to provide the site evaluation and approval of Rescue Training Sites without the partnership of OES. The cadres have identified that the assessment of the site, training props, and equipment should be the responsibility of the Registered Instructor. This responsibility is in alignment with other SFT curriculum, such as Fire Control 3, Structural Fire Fighting. The Registered Instructor is the Subject Matter Expert (SME) and is qualified to determine the facilities, equipment, or personnel required to safely deliver the course.

Proposed New Language

§ 1990.05. Accredited Facilities.

(c) An Accredited Rescue Training Site (ARTS) is a training facility that meets the site, training prop, tools, and equipment requirements. These ~~for Rescue Systems 1, Rescue Systems 2, and/or Confined Space Rescue~~ requirements must be verified by the Registered Instructor as described in the State Fire Training Procedures Manual per Section 1990.00

SFT Impacts

The change will remove the Rescue System Site Accreditation \$250.00 Fee from the SFT Fee Schedule. The fiscal impact to SFT is estimated at <\$1500 annually.

This change would relieve State Fire Training from the potential liability associated with industrial injuries that may occur during the delivery of a technical rescue course.

Potential Agency Impacts

Accredited Regional Training Programs (ARTP), Accredited Local Academies (ALA), community colleges, and all other local delivery venues are responsible for reviewing and applying the regulatory changes.