



## **Water Rescue Pre-plan Checklist**

### **1. Site Identification**

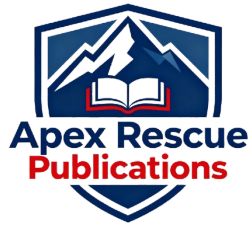
- Waterway name(s) and type (river, lake, canal, pond)
- GPS coordinates and civic address (if applicable)
- Common local names / landmarks
- Jurisdictional boundaries and property ownership

### **2. Access, Launch, and Staging**

- Primary vehicle access routes
- Secondary/alternate access routes
- Shoreline access points (both banks where applicable)
- Boat launch / retrieval points and limitations (depth, slope, seasonal issues)
- Designated staging areas for apparatus and EMS
- Helicopter landing zone options (if used in your system)

### **3. Site Hazards and Conditions**

- Current type and typical speed (flat, slow, swift, tidal)
- Hydraulics and features (dams, weirs, drops, strainers, sieves)
- Bridge piers, pilings, debris fields, submerged obstacles
- Typical water level variations (seasonal/high-flow/ice)
- Water quality/contamination concerns
- Overhead/adjacent hazards (power lines, roads, rail, industrial facilities)



## **4. Risk Scenarios**

- Common activities (swimming, boating, fishing, paddling, ice travel)
- Historical incident types and locations (drownings, vehicles, floods)
- High-risk seasons, events, or weather triggers

## **5. Resources and Mutual Aid**

- In-house capabilities (shore-based, boat, ice, rope, dive, UAV)
- Minimum staffing for safe operations by discipline
- Apparatus and cache locations (boats, motors, throw bags, ropes, PFDs, sleds)
- Neighbouring agencies and teams (fire, police, SAR, dive, air)
- Current mutual-aid/response agreements on file

## **6. Command, Control, and Zones**

- Preferred ICP locations for typical incidents
- Pre-identified hot / warm / cold zones
- Standard roles (IC, Operations, Safety, Rescue Group Supervisor, Downstream Safety, Shore Group)
- Pre-set tactical benchmarks (victim located, victim removed, PAR, change to recovery)



## 7. Communications

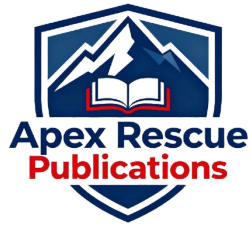
- Primary and secondary radio channels / talkgroups
- Contact numbers for dispatch, allied agencies, site owners/operators
- Simple radio call signs or designations for common positions
- Pre-scripted notifications or alerts (e.g., downstream agencies, dam operators)

## 8. Operational Guidelines

- Standard size-up checklist (what happened, where, how many, conditions)
- Preferred rescue sequence (talk/reach/throw/row/go/helicopter, as locally adopted)
- Minimum PPE requirements by zone and operation (PFDs, helmets, thermal protection)
- Downstream safety requirements (number and placement of teams/equipment)
- Night/limited-visibility considerations (lighting, marking, additional safety measures)

## 9. Maps and Attachments

- Overview map of waterway segment with key features labelled
- Detailed site sketch(es) showing access, hazards, and likely incident points
- Photos (by season and water level, if possible)
- Copies of relevant agreements, SOPs/SOGs, and ICS forms



## 10. Review, Training, and Maintenance

- Date created and author
  - Last review/update date and reviewer
  - Linked training exercises/drills completed at this site
  - Identified improvements or action items from previous incidents or exercises
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