

Egg Harbor Fire Department and First Responders Standard Operating Guidelines

SUBJECT: COLD WATER/ICE RESCUE

SOG 830

PURPOSE: The purpose of this S.O.G. is to establish a guideline for conducting cold water/ice rescue.

SCOPE: This policy shall apply to all members of the Egg Harbor Fire Department.

- A. Personnel Response: When the department is dispatched to a possible cold water/ice rescue within our jurisdiction, it will be a full department response.
 - 1. For mutual aid response - it shall be determined by the officer in charge as to how many people will be needed and what equipment will be sent.

- B. Vehicle Response: Engine 6 - with cold water/ice rescue equipment, Ladder 21 and other units necessary to responding personnel.

- C. Incident Command: The job function of the incident commander:
 - 1. Establish ICS - with unified command.
 - 2. Conduct initial size-up.
 - 3. Contact reporting party/witnesses to determine exactly what happened and where person is or was last seen.
 - 4. Determine number of victims and locations.
 - 5. Develop action plan.

- D. Ice Rescue Operations:
 - 1. Rescue will not be attempted until two people are suited up to go, two more people must then be in the process of suiting up.
 - 2. All rescuers will be tethered to shore.
 - 3. All equipment shall be assembled on a salvage cover for deployment.
 - 4. All people near the shoreline or near the water or on ice shall wear personal floatation devices.
 - 5. An ambulance will be dispatched to scene.
 - 6. Visual contact will be maintained at all times, if possible, with rescuers.
 - 7. The GPS (Global Positioning System) device will be used by the rescuers in foggy conditions or at night.

SOG 830: Page 1 of 1

Original Issue Date: 4-21-11

Last Review Date: 4-21-11

Last Change Date: 4-21-11