



# California State Fire Training



## INTERIM SFT PROCEDURES

**Reissued Date:** September 19, 2015

**Procedure Title:** Open Water Rescuer

**Page Number:** Page 61

**Section Change:** On January 17, 2014, The Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) approved the Open Water Rescuer training program as a Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP). This course will be added to the list of approved FSTEP courses on page 61 of the current SFT Procedures Manual

**Justification:** Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Department presented the Open Water Rescuer training program as a concept at the April 2013 STEAC meeting. Working with a cadre of subject matter experts, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Department then provided a recommendation at the January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014 STEAC meeting that firefighters and rescue teams working in an open water environment have some basic skills for their own safety and for the safety of the victim.

The course developers working with the California Fire Chiefs and the CAL Chiefs, Training Officers Association address the immediate operational needs of local fire departments working in an aquatic environment by developing a course plan that meets the NFPA Standard for water rescue. The course adopts the requirements of swimming contact rescue found in NFPA 1670 and NFPA 1006 Chapter 11, sections 11.2, Chapter 15, sections 15.2. The United States Lifesaving Association (USLA) Manual will be used as an appropriate text book for the class.

To teach this class, instructors must meet all of the instructor requirements as an FSTEP instructor. The Course Plan is published to the SFT Curriculum webpage located on the SFT web-site.

This procedure clarifies requirements to become an SFT registered instructor.

**Effective Date:** June 16, 2014

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