

## **Swiftwater Rescue for River Professionals**

**April 2-4 and May 6-8, 2016 (Recert. on May 10)**

**Rescue Southwest 575-751-1269**



### **Training and Certification in River Rescue Skills.**

*This course conforms to International Rescue Instructors Association standard for level S-2 Swiftwater Operations (or Swiftwater Technician recertification) as well as NFPA 1670 criteria for "Swiftwater Operations". Meets USDOJ (BLM, FWS, Reclamation) criteria for river safety preparedness. For this session, the curriculum is tailored to address the needs of rescue agencies and river runners operating boats on southwestern rivers. Course syllabus is available upon request.*

**When:** April 2-4 and May 6-8, 2016

**Where:** Pilar, NM (BLM) Visitor Center and on the Rio Grande.

**Tuition:** \$350 (\$250 for AWC and NMROA Members).

**Prerequisites:** Registrants must: 1. certify their physical fitness, 2. possess strong swimming ability. 3. read the 60 page information pre-load (provided upon registration). Minimum 48 hours river navigation experience is preferred.

**Equipment:** Students must supply their own aquatic thermal protection (wetsuit or dry suit), sturdy, water-oriented footgear, gloves, personal flotation device, thermal headgear, helmet; bring lunches and drinking water (at least 2 liters per day). Rescue SW provides course materials, specialized equipment and instruction.

**Instructors:** Steve Harris, John Weinmeister and Harvey King, who collectively have 50 years instructing in the Swiftwater discipline. Past clients include fire rescue agencies, federal agencies and outfitter-guides westwide (references available upon request).

**Evaluations:** On day three, students will demonstrate the practical skills they have acquired: Swiftwater swims, contact rescues, rope rescue, deploying a mechanical advantage system. Successful performance must be demonstrated in order to receive certification, valid until 2018.

**Registration:** Will close 14 days in advance, at which time a reservation form and full tuition will have been submitted.

## **Swiftwater Rescue for River Professionals: Course Outline**

**Agenda:** *Classroom exercises commence promptly at 8:30 am on Saturday April 3, or Friday May 6, 2016 at the Rio Grande Gorge Visitors Center, 24 mi N of Espanola on NM Highway 68. Field exercises (Sun-Mon) at river, 8 am to 5 pm. Camping is available nearby in the Orilla Verde Recreation Area.*

### **Course Topics:**

**Classroom study topics** (Day one in Pilar): Written Exam, Review of Pre-course Reading  
Swiftwater Lectures: Identifying and Mitigating Risk; Scene Size-up, Incident Response Plan, Team Organization. Personal Preparedness; Introduction to Technical Gear.  
Practice: Throwbag- skills and applications; Basic knots and hitches; Anchors; Mechanical Advantage; Rope Management.

**Field exercises and applications** (Days 2 and 3 are in/on water):

Safety briefing, Incident Action Plan (IAP), Team Organization.

Hazard Identification and Hydrology.

In-water Self-Rescue, Towed Victim Swims, Tethered Swims ("Live Bait"/V-Lower).

Panicked Victim Profile and Response, Cervical Spine Management,

Foot/Body Entrapment.

Strainer Swim, Tensioned Diagonals. River Search, Lowhead dams, Vehicles.

Shore-based skills- (Throwbags, Line Crossings, Wading Rescues).

Watercraft-based skills- (Characteristics, Flips, Wraps, 2 and 4 point systems).

### **Independent Skills Testing and Evaluation & de-brief:**

**1. Class 3 swim,**

**2. Towed Victim Swim,**

**3. Toss throwbag-twice in 20 seconds,**

**4. Build simple Mechanical Advantage system (3:1, 4:1).**

Candidates will also solve a water rescue thought problem.

### **Other 2016 Swiftwater Rescue Courses:**

**May 13-15, Colorado River SRRP-Moab, UT      \$350**

**May 10, 2016, Operations Recertification-Rio Grande      \$100 + Tax**

**May 12, 2016, Operations Recertification- UT      \$100 + Tax**

**June 17-18, 2016, SRRP      \$350 + Tax**

### **SWIFTWATER AND FLOOD RESCUE TECHNICIAN:**

**June 21-22, 2016 SFRT      Cost \$400 + Tax**

*For contract courses or other dates, contact Program Director 575-751-126*

# Swiftwater Rescue Course Application, 2016

To enroll, please confirm availability by calling Program Director Steve Harris at 575-751-1269, e-mailing him at [steve.harris39@gmail.com](mailto:steve.harris39@gmail.com) or contacting sponsor at:

**(Far-Flung Adventures dba Rescue SW) Box 707 El Prado, NM 87529**  
**toll-free: 800-359-2627, fax 575-776-1443, e-mail: [farflung@taosnet.com](mailto:farflung@taosnet.com)**

Registration closes 14 days prior to start of course. Applications must be received before that time.

**Please enroll \_\_\_ persons in :**

\_\_\_ Swiftwater Rescue for River Professionals. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Swiftwater and Flood Rescue Operations. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_ ' \_\_\_ " Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail (important for receiving reading materials) \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason For Seeking Enrollment: \_\_\_\_\_

Swiftwater Hazards In My Area:

\_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT ENCLOSED:** Tuition Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_ I request an Invoice to accompany attached purchase order # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Check Or Money Order (Payable To Far Flung Adventures)

\_\_\_ Bill My Major Credit Card: \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_ Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_

By signing below, I (authorize use of credit card for amount stated)/certify that I have basic swimming ability, am in good health, have (or can obtain) personal protective gear as outlined in gear checklist, and am able to participate in course.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_