

BODEGA BAY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES	Article: 3	SOG 2-3.1
	References: NFPA/UC Boating Program/State Parks/USCG	
	Subject: Fire/ Rescue Boat Operations	

Purpose:

Provide personnel and resources to assist with fire, rescue, and medical incidents for water and near water related emergencies and operations.

DEFENITIONS

- **Open Water Fire Incident**
 - Marine fire not accessible by land and/ or occurring within the boundaries of the BBFPD Area of Responsibility
- **Open Water Rescue Incident**
 - Non-fire incident occurring in the harbor, outer bay, or near coastal waters where the crew is prepared for water rescue and / or providing ALS care.

<i>SAR</i>	<i>Recovery</i>
<i>Boat in distress</i>	<i>Medical aboard a boat</i>
- **Public Event**
 - Situation where the fireboat will provide standby services, law enforcement support or provide a public service where the crew is prepared to provide medical care but does not anticipate engaging in firefighting or water rescue activities.

<i>Fireworks</i>	<i>Movie/ commercials</i>
<i>Fisherman Festival</i>	<i>Competitions</i>

RESPONSE AREA

- Mutual Aid: Associated agencies and as planned need requests within the county
- Pre-designated Areas of Responsibility encompassing the Fire Districts near shore waters and harbor

RESPONSE APPARATUS

- 12.5' Zodiac inflatable, 25hp Tohatsu outboard
- 24' MonArk fire/ rescue boat, 250hp Evinrude E-Tec
- 8835 or 8800 vehicle for towing

RESPONSE CRITERIA:

The following factors and conditions will be considered by the incident commander (IC), senior water rescue personnel, and/or boat operator to determine level of response, crew make up and appropriate apparatus for water rescue incidents. Utilization of the GAR model will be used to assess mission capabilities.

GREEN 10-23, AMBER 24-44, RED 45-60 Score each category 0-10

- **Mission Complexity**
- **Environment**
- **Personnel Fitness**
- **Personnel Selection**

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- > **Supervision**
- > **Planning**

RESPONSE LEVELS:

Conditions responding to or at the scene of the incident, used to assist in determining vessel capabilities and/ or limitations

> **RED- NO RESPONSE (Gail Warning)**

Wind: > 40 knots
Swell: > 20 ft.
Visibility: < 100 yd.

> **AMBER RESPONSE (Small Craft Advisory)**

Wind: > 20 knots
Swell: > 6 ft.
Visibility: 100 yd. To ½ mile
Any incident that has the potential of ending after dark
Any incident that may be affected by incoming fog
Tide: Low to minus tide
Kelp: Heavy kelp

> **GREEN RESPONSE**

Wind: < 20 knots
Swell: < 6 ft.
Visibility: > ½ mile
Tide: medium to high
Kelp: light

RESPONSE CONSIDERATIONS

- > In the event of a medical emergency aboard a vessel operating in open waters, coordination/communication with Station Bodega Bay shall be made to place an EMT-P aboard a responding USCG MLB before launching the District vessel (provided a ship to ship transfer is likely).
- > Ultimate decision for initial or continuing response is the judgment of the operator, company officer, and/or the incident commander.
- > Operator may cancel or downgrade response at any time during incident for any reasons where safety issues may arise.

STAFFING CONSIDERATIONS

- > Marine operations are secondary to Land based operations; Every effort shall be made to keep Medic 811 in service unless it is determined that Medic 811 personnel are likely to be committed to the marine incident and marine resources have a short transit time.

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- Minimum staffing for vessel operations shall be one qualified boat operator and one qualified crew member
- Support Volunteers shall take precedence when determining staffing in order to maintain the in service status of full time staff and apparatus.
- Full-time staff will operate the vessel in the event that no qualified volunteers are available, the company officer should consider reduction in the area of response and limit responses to incidents where there is a threat to life.
- In most situations, a State Parks lifeguard will be part of the response as staffing allows and shall be utilized to assist with boat operations or as a boat based rescue swimmer
- When possible, an EMT-P will be part of the response crew in an effort to provide an advanced level of care (ALS).

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