OUTREACH RESCUE



WATER & FLOOD RESCUE BOAT OPERATOR

Goal:

To train technicians to identify their limitations and safely and effectively use powered boats and associated equipment in inland waters and flooding, by day or night, in a wide range of water conditions.

Target group:

To train technicians to identify their limitations and safely and effectively use powered boats and associated equipment in inland waters and flooding, by day or night, in a wide range of water conditions.

Highlights:

- Emphasises dynamic risk assessments and real-time decision-making.
- Comprehensive hands-on training with powered boats in diverse water conditions.
- This certification is aligned with DEFRA FRCO 2025 and NFCC Rescue Boat Code Mod 4 standards.

DEFRA & NFCC Mod 4 Powered Boat Operator

Course length

28 hours (4 days)

Instructor

2:6

Period of validity

3 years

Certification

Outreach Rescue Certificate of Achievement

Venue

The training venue is on the Menai Strait and full details of the venue will be provided on booking.

Description

This 4-day predominantly practical course trains technicians to identify rescue limitations and safely and effectively use powered boats and associated equipment for rescue in inland waters and flood environments. The course covers dynamic risk assessments, boat management during launch, recovery and transit, manoeuvres in restricted spaces, manoeuvring in fast-moving and complicated waters, person overboard and casualty recovery, mass evacuation and casualty management drills, disabled craft drills, search techniques, the impact of hydrological features on boat operation, rescue PPE and equipment usage, and combining boat handling skills with water rescue systems and shore-based support. This course includes a night search session which in the summer months will run until 1am.

Compliance:

DEFRA FRCO 2025 Mod 4 NFCC Rescue Boat Code Mod 4 (provided RYA PBL2 held)

Previous knowledge:

In-date (within 3 years) Mod 3 compliant award (preferably Outreach Rescue's Water Rescue Technician Mod 3) and RYA Powerboat Level 2 certificate with experience in helming powerboats.

Requirements:

Age 18+. Delegates must be fit for this physically demanding course requiring the ability to swim in water PPE.

Progression:

Reassessment is recommended every 2 years by means of attending a 3-day recertification course. If delivered at Outreach Rescue this course satisfies Module 'Specialist Rescue 2 (5085EXQ)' for the Diploma in Specialist Rescue and is worth 30 credits. A mod 4 holder must also maintain Mod 3 and Mod 3 CPD.

Theoretical elements:

- Classroom sessions cover dynamic risk assessments, boat management, manoeuvring, flood hydrology, search techniques, and rescue PPE and equipment usage.
- A course manual is issued.
- A short written exam paper confirms learning.

Practical elements:

- Practical sessions include boat handling during launch, recovery and transit, restricted space manoeuvring, swift water manoeuvres, drills for person overboard and casualty recovery, mass evacuation, casualty management, disabled craft drills, and combining boat handling skills with water rescue systems and shore-based support.
- Specialist equipment is provided. Delegates can use their own PPE, subject to inspection by trainers.
- Continuous assessment is conducted throughout the course to confirm learning.