



## RAT-SAR Technical Rope Rescue Operations Course



This 4-day course is designed to merge standard rescue practices with single-rope techniques often found in mountaineering, caving and canyoneering rescues. Some of the practices in this course depart from the NFPA rope rescue course format due to the lighter, faster equipment used by wilderness rescue teams, as well as the use of single rope techniques for some rescue scenarios.

Required Gear: Class II harness, helmet, gloves, ascending system\*, descent control device, 5 each locking carabiners (HMS style preferred), 30' body cord, 15' 1-inch webbing, 6mm prusik loops (long and short), 1 each single sheave rescue pulley, rain gear. \* If you do not have a good climbing system, one will be provided.

Expect 10-hour class days. Bring your lunch / snacks since we will have lunch in the field. Class starts at 0800 each day.

Suggested Study: National Park Service Technical Rescue Handbook. PDF available here: <https://ratsar.org/technical-information/>

### Day 1 Lecture:

- Safety
- Communications
- Safety Factors / Forces
- Standards
- PPE
- Equipment (ropes, cordage, webbing, carabiners, devices)
- General Rigging Considerations
- Knots
- Belaying
- Anchor Systems

### Day 1 Field Exercises:

- Anchor Systems

### Day 2 Lecture:

- Rappelling
- Ascending

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### Day 3 Lecture:

- Lowering Systems
- Mechanical Advantage
- Raising Systems

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### Day 4 Lecture:

- Knot Passes
- Edge Management
- Litters
- Patient Packaging

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