

# Authorisation of persons to exercise rescue powers



This form is in accordance with Sections 110, 111 and 112 of the *Disaster Management Act 2003*.

**To be completed by the chairperson of the State Disaster Management Group or a relevant District Disaster Coordinator (DDC) for the disaster situation**

Authorisation to exercise rescue powers under sections 111 and 112 of the *Disaster Management Act 2003* is to be given to:

Full name of person/s to be authorised or position of person/s to be authorised:	

(NB: Please attach list of individuals if the space provided is not adequate)

Rescue powers are required to ensure the following are carried out effectively: (Note 1) (Please tick the appropriate box/es.)

Rescue or similar operations in an emergency situation.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other operations in an emergency situation to help injured persons.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other operations in an emergency situation to protect persons or property from danger or potential danger associated with the emergency situation.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Conditions of the authorisation (if applicable): (Note 2)


The person/s are authorised to exercise the rescue powers from the following date:		To the following date:	
--	--	------------------------	--

I am satisfied the above person/s has/have the necessary expertise or experience to exercise the rescue powers.

Signature:	
Position:	
Printed name:	
Date and time:	

*Provide a copy to the individual/s authorised to exercise the rescue powers.*

*Retain a copy of this form for your records and send the original to the State Disaster Coordination Centre on Fax: 3357 4682.*

**Guidelines for completing an authorisation of persons  
to exercise rescue powers form DM11**

**General**

In accordance with the *Disaster Management Act 2003* (DM Act) the chairperson of the State Disaster Management Group (State Group) or the District Disaster Coordinator (DDC) may authorise a person to exercise rescue powers if satisfied on reasonable grounds it is necessary to ensure the following are carried out effectively –

- rescue or similar operations in an emergency situation;
- other operations in an emergency situation to –
  - help injury persons; or
  - protect persons or property from danger or potential danger associated with the emergency situation.

The chairperson of the State Group or the DDC may authorise a person to exercise rescue powers in relation to an emergency situation if satisfied the person has the necessary expertise or experience to exercise the rescue powers.

The authorisation may be given on conditions and may be given orally or in writing, but if given orally must be put in writing as soon as reasonably practicable.

A failure to put an authorisation in writing does not invalidate the authorisation or anything done under the authorisation.

A person authorised by the chairperson or DDC may only exercise the rescue powers under the authorisation, and subject to the directions of the chairperson or DDC.

A person authorised to enter a place if the person is satisfied on reasonable grounds it is necessary to enter the place to avoid an imminent risk of death or injury of a person. The person may enter the place using reasonable force, without a warrant or consent of the owner or occupier of the place. However, if the occupier is present at the place, before entering the place, the person must make a reasonable attempt to tell the occupier the purpose of the entry, seek the consent of the occupier to the entry, and tell the occupier the person is permitted under this Act to enter the place without the occupier's consent.

It is not required that the person take steps that the person reasonably believes may frustrate or otherwise hinder the person's ability to protect a person's life or health.

**Note 1**

In accordance with Section 110 of the DM Act, the chairperson of the State Group or the DDC needs to be satisfied on reasonable grounds that it is necessary to use the rescue powers to:

- Perform rescue of similar operations in an emergency situation; or
- Perform other operations in an emergency situation to help injured persons; or
- Perform other operations in an emergency situation to protect persons or property from danger or potential danger associated with the emergency situation.

Therefore at least one of the three boxes must be ticked.

**Note 2**

You may place conditions on the authorisation.

e.g. the powers may only be exercised in the Brisbane City Council area on 13 March 2005.

Or the powers can only be used after discussing their use with the DDC.