



NATURAL RESOURCES  
TRAINING GROUP

*Training Programs to help you  
build and advance your career  
in Natural Resources*

# Electrofishing Certification PROGRAM

## Electrofishing Certification

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

NRTG is the leading provider of electrofishing training in Canada. Since 1994, NRTG staff have successfully trained more than 10,000 Canadian industry practitioners in the practice of safe and effective electrofishing. NRTG personnel are highly respected and recognized leaders in the delivery of backpack and boat electrofishing certification training.

NRTG's Electrofishing Certification course is approved by WorkSafeBC and is endorsed by WorkSafe agencies across Canada. The course is offered in two formats:

1. **Option #1:** A blended approach through the Electrofishing Certification Self-Paced Training and subsequent Electrofishing Certification Field Session.
  - Please note that students MUST successfully complete the Electrofishing Certification Self-Paced Training at least 5 days prior to attending the mandatory 'day two' Electrofishing Certification Field Session.
2. **Option #2:** A classroom-based 'day one' presentation with an in-person instructor, followed by a scheduled 'day two' Electrofishing Certification Field Session. This option is available for contract deliveries only.

For both options, attendance and successful completion of the 'day two' field practicum is mandatory.



During the Electrofishing Certification Field Session, students will participate in a realistic field practicum, wearing and operating the backpack electrofishing unit, setting the machine for effective capture and completing sweeps and collection of fish. Students not operating the machine will participate in the field crew as dip netters and sampling crew.

This course offers three levels of certification: (1) Crew Supervisor (2) Crew Supervisor-in-Training, OR (3) Crew Member. Each level of certification is determined by the participant's grade on the course, knowledge evaluation and level of competency shown in the field practicum.

*Each NRTG Electrofishing Certification course includes our Electrofishing Recertification course. To register for the Recertification course, simply contact us.*

**Each NRTG course includes free, lifetime admission. Enrol once – come back anytime.**

**TO REGISTER, CONTACT US:**

**Email: [info@nrtraininggroup.com](mailto:info@nrtraininggroup.com)**

**Call: 1-877-388-2172**

## ABOUT NRTG

Natural Resources Training Group (NRTG) is a privately-registered training agency specializing in developing and delivering quality 'hands-on', fisheries and natural resource-related training programs. We deliver our short, applied 'professional development' programs to industry professionals, stakeholders, and Indigenous groups in communities throughout North America.

[www.nrtraininggroup.com](http://www.nrtraininggroup.com)





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# Electrofishing Certification PROGRAM

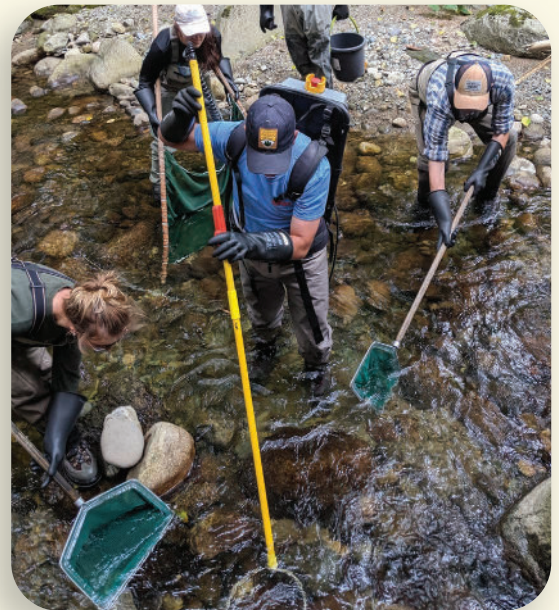
## Electrofishing Certification

CONTINUED:

### Objectives

**By the end of this course, course participants will be able to:**

- Define electrofishing certification, standards and the practice of electrofishing
- Contrast and define the levels and responsibilities of Electrofishing Certification
- Identify mandatory and applicable Electrofishing standards and regulations
- Manage resistance, voltage and power in an electrofishing system
- Define and contrast electrical pulse types and electrical fields in water
- Contrast the types of electrofishing units, and their components, features, limitations and capabilities
- Identify mandatory and optional personal protective gear
- Identify backpack electrofisher safety features
- Maintain and troubleshoot backpack electrofishers and associated field gear
- Interpret site conditions and adjust electrofishing settings to maximize catch efficiency
- Calculate appropriate electrofisher settings
- Identify best strategies to maximize catch efficiency while minimizing impacts
- Manage electrofisher power appropriately and effectively
- Identify key electrofishing safety procedures
- Respond effectively to an electrofishing-related field incident
- Conduct standard emergency response procedures
- Define crew size and structure
- Identify key factors influencing electrofishing in the field
- Identify and determine crew roles and responsibilities
- Conduct equipment checkout procedure(s) prior to beginning a field session
- Identify key fish habitats and best strategies to capture fish as a team
- Respond appropriately to potentially dangerous scenarios
- Communicate effectively with field crews and the general public
- Identify types of electrofishing field programs
- Identify and minimize fish impacts
- Practice safe and efficient fish sampling and handling



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# Electrofishing Certification PROGRAM

## Electrofishing Certification

CONTINUED:

### You Supply

Course participants are required to provide their own personal protective equipment (PPE). For the field practicum, at a minimum, participants must supply their own leak-free chestwaders, Nitrile gloves and non-surgical mask.

**Note: students will not be permitted to participate in the field practicum without these items.**

Please note: Participants must provide and wear the following PPE prior to participating in actual electrofishing field work:

- Non-leak chestwaders
- Non-slip footwear (felt, cleat or aggressive rubber sole)
- Wading belt   ▪ Hat with a brim
- Polarized sunglasses

Note: NRTG will supply Lineman's gloves, electrofishing units, and all associated field equipment during this training program.

PLEASE ensure your wading equipment is free of invasives and Whirling disease.

### Who enrolls in this course?

This course is designed for anyone requiring electrofishing certification training in Canada and North America. Typical course participants include: environmental consultants, government, First Nations, and other industry stakeholders.



“By far the most informative and engaging course I have taken.

Amazing instructor and course!”

Stacy Boczulak

### Pre-requisites

First Aid requirements will vary by province or country. Typically, an approved Level One first aid course (containing a CPR component) is required. Please consult with the applicable Worksafe or safety regulatory agency:

Note: First aid training may be completed prior to or after this training program, and must be successfully completed prior to participating in actual electrofishing field work.

### How Do I Attend?

This course is available via our website schedule, or on contract to industry or community groups. NRTG's Electrofishing Certification course is regularly scheduled for community-based deliveries throughout the year (March to late October, providing suitable weather). Interested groups or organizations can also arrange for an 'in-house' or contract delivery of this course. In either scenario, contact NRTG for further information.

**If you would like to have the Electrofishing Certification Program delivered to your group or community, please contact us.**

Also, please take every precaution when deciding to attend this training. Please do not attend this training course, if:

1. You have or had symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 14 days (*cough, sneeze, sore throat, fever, difficulty breathing*).
2. Have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.
3. Share a home with someone who has been exposed to COVID-19

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# Electrofishing Re-certification PROGRAM

## Electrofishing Re-certification

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

NRTG is the leading provider of electrofishing training in Canada. Since 1994, NRTG staff have successfully trained more than 8,000 Canadian industry practitioners in the practice of safe and effective electrofishing. NRTG personnel are highly respected and recognized leaders in the delivery of backpack and boat electrofishing certification training.

NRTG's Electrofishing Recertification course is approved by WorksafeBC (British Columbia), and endorsed by Worksafe agencies throughout Canada. To complete this one-day course, participants will attend a regularly scheduled two-day Electrofishing Certification program and (simply) complete the Day Two field component (only), and complete a short exam. Attendance is mandatory for this one day field practicum session.

NRTG is now offering a blended Electrofishing Recertification training program. The Day One classroom session is now available as a scheduled 'live' ONLINE Webinar. The Day Two field practicum session will be scheduled for various communities throughout Canada. Please register for the course that displays the applicable FIELD location that you wish to attend.

This course offers three levels of recertification: 'Crew Supervisor', 'Crew Supervisor-in-Training' and 'Crew Member'. Each level of certification is determined by a participant's level of competency shown during the field practicum session.

Note: each NRTG Electrofishing Recertification course is included in each delivery of our Electrofishing Certification course. To register for the Recertification course, simply contact us.

### Pre-requisites

A current and valid WorksafeBC-approved Electrofishing Certification. An approved Level One First Aid course (containing a CPR component) is also required for all practitioners conducting electrofishing field work.

### Who enrolls in this course?

This course is designed for anyone who has successfully completed a WorksafeBC-approved Electrofishing training program, and is required or would like to complete a WorksafeBC-approved electrofishing recertification course.

### You Supply

Leak-free chestwaders, classroom supplies (pen, paper) to complete short exam following field practicum session on Day Two.

### How Do I Attend?

This course is available via our website schedule, or on contract to industry or community groups. NRTG's Electrofishing Recertification course is regularly scheduled for community-based deliveries throughout the year. Interested groups or organizations can also arrange for an 'in-house' or contract delivery of this course. In either scenario, contact NRTG for further information.

### Re-Certification

NRTG's 'Electrofishing Recertification' course includes **free, lifetime attendance and recertification.\***

To be eligible, prospective registrants for NRTG's 'Electrofishing Recertification' course:

1. Have previously attended an NRTG 'Electrofishing Certification or Recertification' course
2. May only re-certify after an annual basis (yearly)
3. May only attend an NRTG 'Electrofishing Certification' course that has met its minimum (paid) registration total (typically 10 registrants, may vary by location).
4. Please note: NRTG will limit the number of free recertification 'seats' to three for any one course delivery.

**Also, please take every precaution when deciding to attend this training. Please do not attend this training course, if:**

1. You have or had symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 14 days (*cough, sneeze, sore throat, fever, difficulty breathing*).
2. Have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.
3. Share a home with someone who has been exposed to COVID-19

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# Boat Electrofishing Certification

PROGRAM

## Boat Electrofishing

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

NRTG is the leading provider of electrofishing training in Canada. Since 1994, NRTG staff have successfully trained more than 8,000 Canadian industry practitioners in the practice of safe and effective electrofishing. NRTG personnel are highly respected and recognized leaders in the delivery of boat and backpack electrofishing certification training.

NRTG's Boat Electrofishing course is two days in duration, and includes a 0.5 day classroom lecture followed by a 1.5 day field practicum session. Taught by one of Canada's most recognized and respected leaders and innovators in the practice of Boat Electrofishing, this highly-specialized training program will provide participants with valuable skills and abilities as Boat Electrofishing Operators and Crew Members.

*Attendance is mandatory for classroom and field sessions.*



During Day One, course participants will learn standard and mandatory safety and operational procedures required to successfully operate, manage and conduct a boat electrofishing field operation. During the field training sessions, students will learn how to inspect, set up, test and troubleshoot all related equipment, while also interpret and navigate field site (river) conditions, determine and implement fishing strategies, and operate a boat to maximize fish capture efficiency and river safety. In this course, students will receive ample practice in operating/driving and conducting boat electrofishing, and acquire skills and abilities to successfully operate an electrofishing boat and electrofish in a wide variety of conditions.

NRTG is now offering a blended Boat Electrofishing Certification training program. The Day One classroom session is now available as a scheduled 'live' ONLINE Webinar. The Day Two field practicum session will be scheduled for various communities throughout Canada. Please register for the course that displays the applicable FIELD location that you wish to attend.



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# Boat Electrofishing Certification

## PROGRAM

### Objectives

**By the end of this course, course participants will be able to:**

- Identify regulatory requirements and best practices for boat electrofishing (e.g., Worksafe, OHS, Transport Canada)
- Contrast the roles and responsibilities of Boat Electrofishing Certification including boat operator and crew member roles
- Identify mandatory and applicable Electrofishing standards and regulations
- Identify different types of boat electrofishers and understand their applications and limitations (boats, electrofishing units and anode/cathode designs)
- Manage various elements of a boat electrofishing unit, including resistance, voltage and power in an electrofishing system
- Contrast the types of electrofishing boat units, and their components, features, limitations and capabilities
- Contrast and define the roles and responsibilities of crewpersons (boat operators and netters)
- Inspect, set up, test, and troubleshoot all related boat electrofishing equipment
- Identify mandatory and optional personal protective gear, boat electrofisher safety features, hand signals, and boat safety equipment
- Interpret site conditions and establish and monitor appropriate electrofisher settings to maximize fish capture efficiency and reduce harm to fish
- 'Read' a river while operating an electrofishing boat, and adapt to changing stream flow and depth conditions
- Identify best strategies to maximize catch efficiency while minimizing potential adverse effects to fish
- Identify key electrofishing safety procedures
- Respond appropriately to potentially dangerous scenarios and to a boat electrofishing-related field incident
- Conduct standard emergency response procedures
- Understand crew communication techniques to achieve safe and efficient sampling and consistent data collection
- Identify types of boat electrofishing field programs and the various approaches to boat electrofishing depending on study design, habitat type, and equipment
- Understand proper fish observation technique to maximize the quality of data that is collected
- Operate a boat to maximize fish capture efficiency (for boat operators)
- Net fish to maximize fish capture techniques, ensure crew safety, and reduce harm to fish
- Identify and minimize adverse effects to fish
- Practice proper fish holding, handling, processing, and release techniques to reduce harm to fish



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# Boat Electrofishing Certification

## PROGRAM

### Prerequisites

This specialized training course has two prerequisites:

- 1) A Worksafe-approved backpack Electrofishing Certification
- 2) a current and valid First Aid certification (that accompanies and is required for the backpack Electrofishing Certification).

Note: Successful completion and acquisition of a Small Vessel Operator's (SVOP) Course (24-hour) and MED3 first aid certification(s) MAY be a mandatory provincial requirement. Please confirm in the province where you will conduct actual (paid employment) Boat Electrofishing.

Course participants may attend this course without having current and valid SVOP and MED3 certifications in place.

### Who enrolls in this course?

This course is designed for anyone requiring boat electrofishing training in Canada and North America. Typical course participants include: environmental consultants, government, First Nations, and other industry stakeholders.

### You Supply

Course participants are required to provide their own personal protective equipment (PPE). For this course, at a minimum, participants must supply their own leak-free chestwaders.

Please note: Participants must provide and wear the following PPE prior to participating in actual electrofishing field work:

- Non-leak chestwaders
- Non-slip footwear (felt or aggressive rubber sole). Please do not wear/bring wading shoes having cleats)
- Wading belt   ▪ Polarized sunglasses
- Hat with a brim

Note: NRTG will supply Lineman's gloves, a boat electrofisher, and all associated field equipment during this training program.

PLEASE ensure your wading equipment is free of Invasives and Whirling disease.

### How Do I Attend?

This course is available via our website schedule, or on contract to industry or community groups. NRTG's Boat Electrofishing course is regularly scheduled for community-based deliveries throughout the year (March to late October, providing suitable weather). Interested groups or organizations can also arrange for an 'in-house' or contract delivery of this course.

*In either scenario, contact NRTG for further information.*

### Instructor

Tom Boag, MSc. PBIOL. has worked with fish populations and aquatic habitat since the summer of 1982 and has consulted full time since 1990. He has 30+ years of Boat Electrofishing and industry experience working with freshwater fish populations and their habitat. Tom is a respected leader and innovator in the practice of Boat Electrofishing.

As a senior biologist, Tom has managed and participated in countless fisheries and environmental projects that address challenges to fishes and their habitat throughout Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, South and Central America, and the Arctic.



“By far the most informative and engaging course I have taken. Amazing instructor and course!”

Stacy Boczulak

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