

**OUTLINE SHEET 3.6**  
**DISENTANGLEMENT PROCEDURES**  
**FREE FLOATER/HELICOPTER AIRCREW**

**ENABLING OBJECTIVES:**

- 3.10 List disentanglement procedures for day and night conditions for survivors both with and without aircrew survival equipment
- 3.11 Demonstrate disentanglement procedures for day and night conditions for survivors both with and without aircrew survival equipment.

**TOPIC OUTLINE**

**WARNING**

Inhalation of \_\_\_\_\_ resulting from aircraft fires and/or aircraft material damage may be harmful to Rescue Personnel. If smoke is present, the Rescue Swimmer shall be deployed up-wind and will approach the aircraft in a manner as to avoid any smoke. Discard wet suit if it becomes impregnated with composite fibers.

**NOTE**

Equipment worn by survivor determines the procedures to be used in parachute disentanglement.

**A. DISENTANGLEMENT PROCEDURES FOR FREE FLOATER**

- 1. ASSESS situation to determine if survivor(s) are \_\_\_\_\_, or active. Assessing the situation begins \_\_\_\_\_ water entry. The situation may change at any moment.
- 2. ESTABLISH communication to determine the condition of the survivor and make approach. Ask, “\_\_\_\_\_”? The rescue swimmer shall continually evaluate the medical condition of a survivor during the entire course of the rescue.
- 3. Grasp survivor between the shoulder blades and pull survivor into wind. Obtain control of survivor “\_\_\_\_\_”.

**NOTE**

\_\_\_\_\_. Give two rescue breaths if required. Continue giving rescue breathes during disentanglement not to exceed \_\_\_\_\_ between breaths until survivor hoisted free of water.

- 4. CLEAR \_\_\_\_\_. If survivor is conscious ask about any known injuries or conditions.
- 5. CHECK FLOTATION, EVALUATE THE CONDITION OF SURVIVORS FLOTATION.

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**NOTE**

When the survivor has damaged flotation or no flotation, the swimmer may give up his/her \_\_\_\_\_. If the swimmer chooses to give up flotation, the rescue swimmer shall use the following conscious or unconscious survivor procedures as outlined in LT. 3.7 Combative survivor Procedures.

- 6. DISENTANGLEMENT from head to toe.
- 7. SWEEP ARMS, ensure that the survivor’s arms are completely clear of any debris. Once it is been verified that the survivor’s arms are clear \_\_\_\_\_ across their chest.
- 8. \_\_\_\_\_, using the spine as a reference submerge and proceed hand over hand, keeping one hand on the survivor and remove any debris off of the survivor’s legs. Submerge \_\_\_\_\_ as necessary to remove all possible entanglements.

**WARNING**

If survivor has suspected back injury, use the side of the survivor as a reference, proceed hand-over-hand along the side, keeping one hand on the survivor, remove debris.

- 9. DISCARD RAFT(if applicable)

**NOTE**

At the discretion of the rescue swimmer the raft may be punctured with a knife and sunk before, during or after the survivor has been removed.

**WARNING**

Loss of \_\_\_\_\_ is a serious life threatening condition requiring immediate medical treatment. This condition takes precedence and survivor should be recovered by \_\_\_\_\_.

- 10. Perform FINAL CHECK, head to toe to ensure that all shroud lines and parachute suspension lines are clear.
- 11. SIGNAL rescue platform.
  - a. Day – \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Night – \_\_\_\_\_.
- 12. As the helicopter is approaching:
  - c. Ensure the area is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. Establish a \_\_\_\_\_-hand cross-chest carry.

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13. Allow the rescue hook to touch the water, discharging \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Use appropriate procedures for the rescue device selected.
15. Perform \_\_\_\_\_ on rescue device, signal up hoist.

**B. DISENTANGLEMENT PROCEDURES FOR THE CMU-33/P22P-18 (\_\_\_\_\_) WITH PRU-60/P22P-15 (Integrated body armor hard/soft) Type 1 Helicopter Crewman). CMU-30/P22P-15 (\_\_\_\_\_) with PRU-61/P22P-15 (Integrated body armor hard/soft) Type 1 Helicopter Crewman).**

When the survivor is wearing the ASAIP/AIRSAVE vest with body armor, rescue swimmer shall:

1. ASSESS situation to determine if survivor(s) are conscious, unconscious, passive, or active. Assessing the situation begins before water entry. The situation may change at any moment.
2. ESTABLISH communication to determine the condition of the survivor and make approach. Ask, "Are you OK"? The rescue swimmer shall continually evaluate the medical condition of a survivor during the entire course of the rescue.
3. Grasp survivor between the shoulder blades and pull survivor into wind. Obtain control of survivor "\_\_\_\_\_".

**NOTE**

Check for breathing. Give two rescue breaths if required. Continue giving rescue breathes during disentanglement not to exceed 60 seconds between breaths until survivor hoisted free of water.

4. CLEAR head, neck and chest area. If survivor is conscious ask about any known injuries or conditions.

**NOTE**

If survivor is wearing an HGU series helmet the chin strap must be \_\_\_\_\_ prior to inflating survivors floatation.

5. CHECK FLOTATION, evaluate the condition of survivor's floatation and or identify survivor's type of floatation and inflate.

**NOTE**

When the survivor has damaged flotation or no flotation, the swimmer may give up his/her SAR 1 vest. If the swimmer chooses to give up flotation, the rescue swimmer shall use the following conscious or unconscious survivor procedures as outlined in LT. 3.7 Combative Survivor Procedures.

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**NOTE**

The following floatation assemblies can be utilized with the \_\_\_\_\_ (ASAIP VEST) Type 1; LPU-21/P, LPU-27/P and LPU-35/P.

**WARNING**

Dependant on flotation assembly installed, the rescue swimmer must use the appropriate inflation procedures.

6. Disentanglement from head to toe.
7. SWEEP ARMS, ensure that the survivor's arms are completely clear of any debris. Once it is been verified that the survivor's arms are clear \_\_\_\_\_ across their chest.
8. \_\_\_\_\_, using the spine as a reference submerge and proceed hand over hand, keeping one hand on the survivor and remove any debris off of the survivor's legs. Submerge \_\_\_\_\_ as necessary to remove all possible entanglements.

**WARNING**

If survivor has suspected back injury, use the side of the survivor as a reference, proceed hand-over-hand along the side, keeping one hand on the survivor, remove debris.

9. Discard life raft, inspect raft for any survivors not previously noticed.

**NOTE**

At the discretion of the rescue swimmer the raft may be punctured with a knife and sunk before, during or after the survivor has been removed.

10. Perform \_\_\_\_\_ head to toe to ensure that all shroud lines and parachute suspension lines are clear.

**WARNING**

Loss of ABCs and serious bleeding are a serious life threatening condition requiring immediate medical treatment. This condition takes precedence and survivor should be recovered by fastest means possible.

11. SIGNAL rescue platform for appropriate device.
  - e. Day – Armed raised, thumb up.
  - f. Night – Arm raised, waving high intensity chemlight.
12. As the helicopter is approaching:
  - g. Ensure the area is clear.

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**NOTE**

Survivors lifting device is located on right shoulder of vest. Lifting device could be covered by nylon restraining flap.

**WARNING**

The survivor will ride lower than normal on PNJ-205 and TRISAR rescue harnesses. This will prevent dual man hoist into \_\_\_\_\_ aircraft.

**NOTE**

UH-1 and H-60 recoveries shall utilize the \_\_\_\_\_ as the primary means of rescue.

- b. With your \_\_\_\_\_ hand connect rescue swimmer's snap hook to survivor's "D" ring.
- c. Maintain \_\_\_\_\_-hand cross-chest carry while grasping rescue swimmer's "V" ring in your left hand.

13. Allow rescue hook to touch the water, \_\_\_\_\_.

14. \_\_\_\_\_ for rescue device selected.

15. Perform safety check on rescue device, signal up hoist.

**C. ARMOR PLATE REMOVAL PROCEDURES**

**NOTE**

The following procedures for Armour Plate Removal will happen during Step 6 disentanglement head to toe, immediately following the \_\_\_\_\_ step.

**WARNING**

The Rescue Swimmer must decide if performing armor plate removal procedures would cause further injury to survivor.

**NOTE**

If vest is zippered fully, armor release \_\_\_\_\_ will not detach normally. Armor release beaded pull handle will have to be detached at snaps to remove back plate.

**WARNING**

Failure of armor release beaded pull handle to completely come away from survivor, could cause a choking hazard to survivor. If this occurs, rescue swimmer must \_\_\_\_\_ to allow back plate to fall away.

- 1. Grasp armored release beaded pull handle, located on front chest of vest, and pull out and away (\_\_\_\_\_) to release back plate. If back plate does not fall away, pull free from hook/pile tape located on rear of vest, and discard.

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**NOTE**

Vest could be zippered fully covering access to chest plate. Unzip vest to expose chest plate.

2. Grasp nylon web handle of front plate, located on center of chest \_\_\_\_\_ vest. Pull free from hook/pile tape and discard.
  
3. Continue disentanglement procedures using appropriate procedures.

**D. RAFT EXTRACTION PROCEDURES**

**WARNING**

Liferaft must be discarded prior to \_\_\_\_\_.

**NOTE**

The point at which disentanglement in the liferaft becomes unfeasible is the point at which the swimmer should extract the survivor from the raft. Once the survivor is in the water, the swimmer resumes disentanglement procedures from where the swimmer left off.

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ methods of removing the survivor from the raft are as follows:

**WARNING**

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- 1.a. The swimmer positions behind the survivor, the swimmer's \_\_\_\_\_ will be against the liferaft and will have a firm grasp of the survivor's harness/flight suit between the shoulder blades.
  
- b. Simultaneously, the swimmer pulls the survivor up and over the raft lobe and pushes down and away with knees against the raft lobes.
  
- c. Once the survivor is in the water, \_\_\_\_\_.

**WARNING**

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- 2.a. The swimmer positions himself behind the survivor, and will have a firm grasp of the survivor's harness/flight suit between the shoulder blades.
  
- b. The swimmer will roll the survivor and raft either to the left or right. Inform the survivor if practical. Normally, in order to gain momentum, the swimmer will rock the survivor/raft \_\_\_\_\_ and prepare to roll the survivor out of the raft. On the third time, roll the survivor into the water, the swimmer immediately rights the survivor by rolling him onto the back.

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- c. Continue disentanglement procedures from where previously left off.

**WARNING**

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- 3.a. Swimmer positions himself behind the survivor with a firm grasp of the survivor's harness/flightsuit.
- b. With one hand, the swimmer removes his \_\_\_\_\_ while maintaining positive control of the survivor with one hand. The swimmer then uses his/her knife to deflate the raft.

**WARNING**

This is done \_\_\_\_\_ of the survivor ensuring not to injure the survivor or swimmer.

- c. While raft is deflating, swimmer stows scabbard knife or discards it if practical.
- d. Swimmer tows survivor clear of the raft and continues disentanglement procedures.