

**OUTLINE SHEET 3.3
WATER ENTRY**

INTRODUCTION

While performing duties as a rescue swimmer you will find it necessary to deploy from the ship/rescue boat to perform the rescue. The following is a guide to assist you in learning the procedures for safe day & night water entry.

ENABLING OBJECTIVES:

- 3.5 List the procedures for day/night water entry from ship/rescue boat per NTTP 3-50.1.
- 3.6 Perform day/night water entry procedures from ship/rescue boat per NTTP 3-50.1.

TOPIC OUTLINE

A. Day Water Entry (Forecastle)

- 1. Don rescue strop (do not attach arm retainer straps).
- 2. Connect swimmers tending line to “V” ring on left shoulder of swimmers harness (underneath strop).
- 3. Swimmer assumes ready position at deck’s edge(sit or stand).
- 4. Perform final gear check.
- 5. Lower swimmer to the water by J-bar davit on command from rig captain.

WARNING

Be prepared to fend off ship with hands and feet if ship is rolling (rough seas).

WARNING

Swimmer will never jump over the side or get out of the rescue strop until rescue strop is in the water.

- 6. Swimmer swims clear of rescue strop upon water entry.
- 7. Clear mask (if necessary).
- 8. Give hand signal “I am alright”.

B. Day Water Entry (Rescue Boat)

- 1. Deploy from the starboard bow on the motor whaleboat and either port or starboard side of the RHIB.
 - a. Coxswain puts engine in neutral.
 - b. The rescue swimmer prepares for deployment.

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2. Prepare to deploy swimmer after receiving permission from boat officer/ coxswain.
 - a. Swimmer will sit on starboard bow on the motor whaleboat and either port or starboard side of the RHIB.
 - b. The boat crewmember holds the rescue swimmer by harness, maintaining control of the swimmer while both scan water for debris.
 - c. Boat crew member will give swimmer one tap on the shoulder, then swimmer will roll to his/her left and come to rest on both hands, fins in water.
 - d. Boat crew member will give three taps on shoulder and release rescue swimmer harness.

NOTE

The rescue swimmer tending line is optional when deploying from the rescue boat. The coxswain shall remain in close proximity and maintain visual contact of the rescue swimmer in the water.

- e. Rescue swimmer pushes away and enters water, clears mask, and gives day signal “I am alright”.

C. Night Water Entry (Forecastle)

1. Don rescue strop (do not attach the arm retainer straps).

NOTE

The Rescue Swimmer, rescue strop, and the rescue hook shall be illuminated by chemical lights before lowering.

2. Connect swimmers tending line to “V” ring on left shoulder of swimmers harness (underneath strop).
3. Swimmer assumes ready position at deck’s edge (sit or stand).
4. Perform final gear check.
5. Lower swimmer to the water by J-bar davit on command from rig captain.

WARNING

The swimmer will never jump over the side or get out of the rescue strop until rescue strop is in the water.

6. Swimmer swims clear of rescue strop upon water entry, clears mask, and gives hand signal, “ I am all right”.

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D. Night Water Entry (Rescue Boat)

1. Deploy from the starboard bow on the motor whaleboat and either port or starboard side of the RHIB.
 - a. Coxswain puts engine in neutral.
 - b. The rescue swimmer prepares for deployment.
2. Prepare to deploy swimmer after receiving permission from the boat officer/ coxswain.
 - a. Swimmer will sit on starboard bow.
 - b. The boat crewmember holds the rescue swimmer by the harness maintaining control of the swimmer while both scan water for debris.
 - c. Boat crew member will give swimmer one tap on the shoulder, then swimmer will roll to his/her left and come to rest on both hands, fins in water.
 - d. Boat crew member will give three taps on shoulder and release rescue swimmer harness.

NOTE

During night operations, the rescue swimmer shall be illuminated with a chemical light before entering the water.

NOTE

The rescue swimmer tending line is optional when deploying from the rescue boat. The coxswain shall remain in close proximity and main visual contact of the rescue swimmer in the water.

- e. Swimmer pushes away and enters water, clears mask, and gives night signal “I am alright”

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