

**OUTLINE SHEET 3.4  
CANOPY ESCAPE**

**INTRODUCTION:**

Performing your duties as a rescue swimmer the possibility exists that you could find yourself either under or on top of a parachute canopy. The purpose of this lesson is to familiarize the rescue swimmer with techniques to handle such a situation.

**ENABLING OBJECTIVES:**

- 3.7 List procedural steps for parachute canopy escape.
- 3.8 Perform a hand-over-hand escape from underneath a collapsed parachute.

**TOPIC OUTLINE:**

**A. Dangers of Collapsed Parachute:**

- 1. Inability to breathe through a wet parachute.
- 2. Possibility of the parachute sinking and taking survivor with it.
- 3. Rescue swimmer becoming entangled.
- 4. Rescue swimmer or survivor panicking and becoming more entangled.

**B. ENTANGLEMENT IN A COLLAPSED PARACHUTE:**

- 1. Should a rescue swimmer inadvertently jump or swim onto a parachute canopy:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Turn onto your \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. Arch your back to help float your body
  - d. Scull with the hands while repeatedly opening and closing the legs \_\_\_\_\_, no more than shoulder width, until clear of the parachute.
  - e. Once clear of parachute, \_\_\_\_\_.

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**C. TRAPPED UNDER COLLAPSED PARACHUTE:**

<b>STEP</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
1	Grasp _____ in parachute seam.
2	Lift high above head.
3	Swim backwards; utilizing a _____ hand over hand movement, keeping them high enough to create an air pocket.
4	Once at the apex, reach high to create another _____.
5	Continue along one given shroud line until clear of parachute.