# OUTLINE SHEET 4.10
# OVERLAND SAR OPERATIONS

## INTRODUCTION:

During this unit of instruction the Rescue Swimmer will learn about the different components that make up Overland SAR. Being familiar with these procedures will help the Rescue Swimmer expedite the rescue without injury to personnel or damage to equipment.

## ENABLING OBJECTIVES:

3.47 List procedures for day/night overland SAR operations per NWP 3-50.1.

3.48 Demonstrate day/night overland SAR operations procedures per NWP 3-50.1.

**WARNING**

Regardless of the type of rescue to be utilized, when effecting a military SAR in the immediate vicinity of the aircraft crash site, extreme care shall be used due to the possibility of carbon fiber hazards and unexpended ordnance; i.e., parachute ballistic spreaders, ejection-seat ordnance, etc.

**WARNING**

Inhalation of composite fibers resulting from aircraft fires or damaged aircraft materials may be harmful to rescue personnel. If smoke is present, rescue personnel shall be deployed upwind and will approach the aircraft in a manner as to avoid any smoke.

## RESCUE METHOD:

1. There are five basic rescue methods which can be utilized:
   - Landing to effect a rescue
   - Rescue via hoist
   - Rescue via one skid/wheel
   - Rappelling
   - Short haul evolution

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**Landing to affect a rescue:**

a. The preferred rescue method in all overland cases is to land. A landing rescue is more expeditious, reduces pilot/crew fatigue, and is more simplified than other rescue methods

b. Procedures for a rescue by landing:

1. If the survivor's location is beyond the sight of the aircraft, the travel between the two should be kept to a minimum to reduce crew fatigue. In such instances, on the first trip to the survivor(s) the following gear should be carried.
   - Hand held radio
   - Medical kit (first aid kit)
   - Rescue litter/ SAR MEDEVAC Litter

2. When the survivor(s) is beyond the sight of the pilots, the crewman must perform a Primary Survey and keep the pilots apprised of the survivor's condition and requirements via the hand-held radio. When only one crewman is on board, the copilot may be required to aid the crewman in first aid treatment and recovery of the survivors.

**Rescue Via Hoist:**

**WARNING**
Only as a last resort should the crewman be lowered through trees or dense foliage to the survivor. This is to be performed only when absolutely no clear area exists in the proximity of the survivor (s) and the condition of the survivor (s) appears to require immediate medical attention.

a. Terrain or foliage may prohibit landing to affect the rescue. In such cases, a hoist recovery is most advantageous. Even though rescue via hoist is not the most desirable method, it is a widely used rescue technique and training should be geared toward its use.

b. The crewman shall evaluate the survivor's medical condition and determine which type of rescue device is required. If the survivor is suspected of having neck/back injuries, a rescue litter shall be used.

c. Procedure for a Hoist Recovery:

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| **WARNING** |
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| Buildup of static electricity necessitates the crewman not to grab the double rescue hook/rescue device until it has contacted the deck. |

Prior to hoisting, perform a final check:

1. Survivor and /or crewman are properly attached to rescue device.
2. Knurled fittings on locking carabiners are down and locked.
3. Hoist cables are not obstructed/entangled.

**Rappelling:**

a. Rappelling to a survivor is the most expeditious means of getting a crewman to the deck when a landing is not practical.

b. Rappelling has many advantages over hoisting, the ability of the crewman to control the descent allows for a safer means of descending through trees, dense foliage, and rugged terrain.

c. Rappelling reduces hover time and the increased speed of the evolution combined with the advantage of controlled descent makes rappelling a valuable rescue technique in the inland rescue environment.

| **NOTE** |
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| Only rappel-qualified crewman shall conduct SAR rappelling operations IAW OPNAVINST 3130.6 series. |

**Short Haul Evolution:**

a. The short-haul evolution is a rescue method utilized for the extraction of a survivor on vertical or near vertical terrain.

b. It may also be used in cases where the hoist cable length is insufficient or the hoist is inoperative.

c. The short-haul evolution terminates at a predetermined landing zone. This provides a rapid means of rescue from inaccessible locations.