



**Australian Government**

# **SISOSCB005 Complete underwater search and recovery dives**

**Release: 1**

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## Modification History

Not applicable.

## Application

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to use a systematic and methodical approach to finding and retrieving lost submerged objects up to 45 kilograms during or after recreational dives. This unit is not intended for use by commercial recovery divers.

It applies to dive leaders, usually known as divemasters or instructors who work independently in the field using discretion and judgement to manage problems when they arise.

This unit applies to any type of organisation that delivers SCUBA diving activities and dive instruction including commercial, not-for-profit and government organisations.

No occupational licensing, certification or specific legislative requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

## Pre-requisite Unit

SISOSCB001 SCUBA dive in open water to a maximum depth of 18 metres

## Competency Field

SCUBA Diving

## Unit Sector

Outdoor Recreation

## Elements and Performance Criteria

### ELEMENTS

### PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

*Elements describe the essential outcomes*

*Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.*

1. Plan underwater search and recovery.

- 1.1. Identify size, weight and other characteristics of lost object.
- 1.2. Assess probable and possible location of lost object and define search area.
- 1.3. Identify and assess site characteristics and hazards that impact the search and recovery operation.

- 1.4. Determine suitable search methods and patterns according to situation.
- 1.5. Determine suitable recovery methods according to size, weight and depth of object to be recovered.
- 1.6. Select search and recovery equipment according to requirements.
- 1.7. Confirm diver roles and protocols for communications between buddy and crew through a pre-dive briefing.
2. Conduct search.
  - 2.1. Use surface techniques and above water landmarks to assist in locating position of submerged objects before descent.
  - 2.2. Establish boundaries of underwater search area, after descent, and mark starting point with appropriate equipment.
  - 2.3. Follow underwater patterns of travel to locate lost objects.
  - 2.4. Utilise search lines to assist navigating patterns of travel.
  - 2.5. Communicate with buddy and others throughout search using appropriate signals.
  - 2.6. Mark position of submerged objects for later retrieval if required.
3. Recover objects.
  - 3.1. Retrieve small items by hand, stow in bag and secure for ascent.
  - 3.2. Mark location of heavy objects with buoy and line, in case of sinking during retrieval.
  - 3.3. Rig lift bag using appropriate knots or clips and check security.
  - 3.4. Inflate lift bag gradually to achieve appropriate buoyancy of object, and free object from obstructions as required.
  - 3.5. Swim to surface with lift bag or allow to rise independently, assuming safe position in relation to bag.
  - 3.6. Secure lift bag at surface and retrieve from water.
  - 3.7. Retrieve all markers on search and recovery conclusion.

## Foundation Skills

*Foundation skills essential to performance in this unit, but not explicit in the performance criteria are listed here, along with a brief context statement.*

### DESCRIPTION

## SKILLS

- Oral communication skills to:
- use clear and unambiguous verbal and non-verbal communications to make intent known with diving buddy and support crew.
- Numeracy skills to:
- estimate angles for landmarks as navigation aids and for underwater swimming patterns
  - complete basic calculation of weights to select lift bags of appropriate ratings.
- Teamwork skills to:
- pro-actively and cooperatively work within teams to determine location of lost objects, solve arising problems and effect efficient recoveries.

## Unit Mapping Information

No equivalent unit.

## Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guides -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=1ca50016-24d2-4161-a044-d3faa200268b>