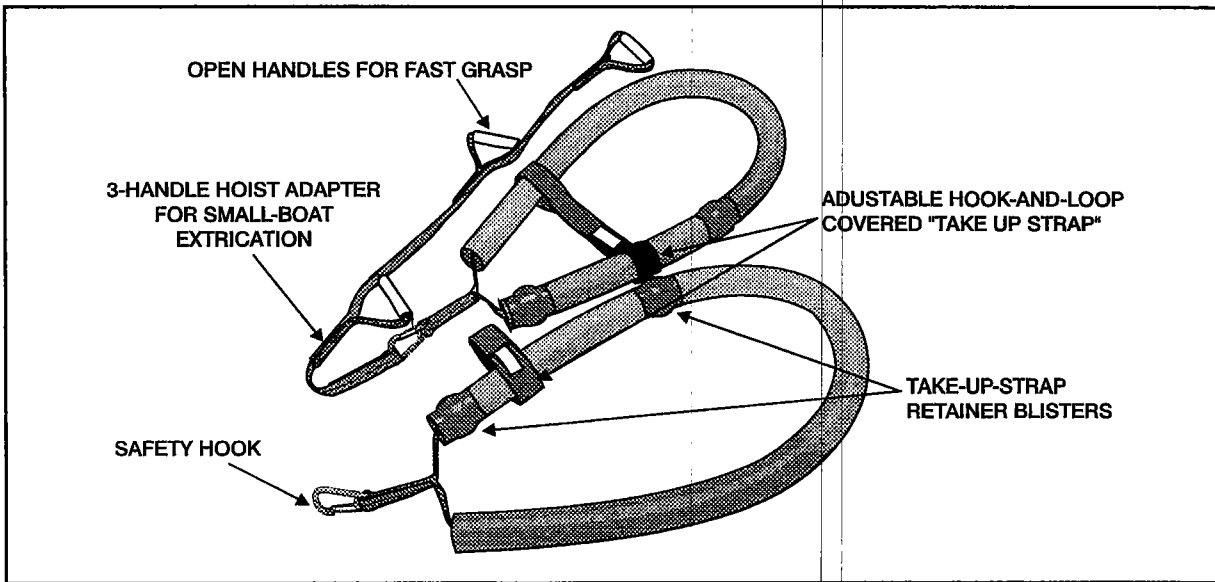




Purpose/Intended Use: Buoyant sling that minimizes constriction of a hypothermic patient's chest during extrication from icy water. It provides head protection for patient during in-line, one-behind-the-other extrication & while the patient is pulled across ice. The sling doubles as a reaching/grasping device that can be passed by hand, reach pole or used with a rescue sled. Because it is semi-rigid, the Cold Water Rescue Sling can put distance and device between rescuer and victim, improving rescuer safety. Since it floats, the sling establishes tethered buoyancy for both passive distressed and active (panicked) victims. This device is primary for rescue-assisted use with an "in-line" tether or tethered device (sled), and replaces the rope harness or "cinch" recovery method (suspected to cause victim's upper chest constriction). The Cold Water Rescue Sling is not designed nor intended for helicopter hoisting, high-angle or below grade rescue use.

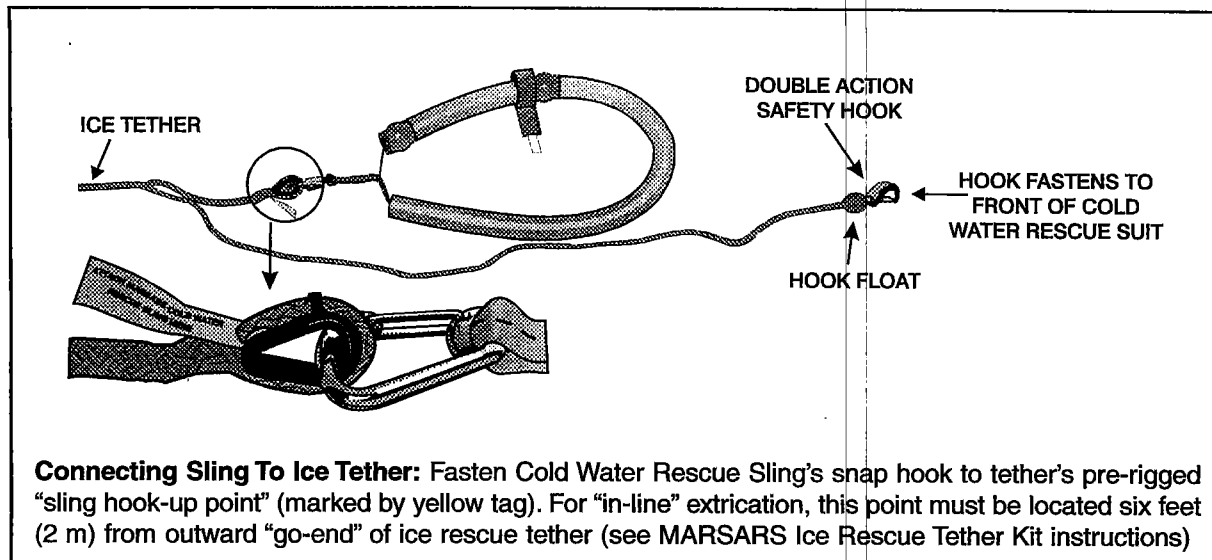
Description/Specifications: Semi-rigid, buoyant, highly visible, foam tube covers webbing to retain "open" elongated shape. During in-line extrication, foam tube minimizes potential for injury from incidental contact between ice and victim's head. An adjustable, hook-and-loop "take-up strap" prevents victim from slipping out. Integral snap hook attaches to tether or tethered device (sled).

- Length overall: 41" (1 m)
- Length of semi-rigid loop: 33" (84 cm)
- Weight (dry): 1.75 lb (.8 kg)
- Buoyancy: 15 lb (6.8 kg)
- Foam cover: 2.5" (63.5 mm) diameter. Yellow polyethylene
- Webbing: 1" (25.4 mm) yellow polyester, 6600 lb (3000 kg) average strength
- Double Action Safety Hook: Stainless steel, 6100 lb (2773 kg) average strength
- Take-up Strap: 2" (51 mm) nylon with hook & loop pile fastener strips



Instructions/Technique:

Passing Sling by Hand In Fast Moving Water: This product is not recommended for use in aerated water (refer to MARSARS Grasp-Aid). Never connect yourself or the sling to a rope tether in fast moving water.

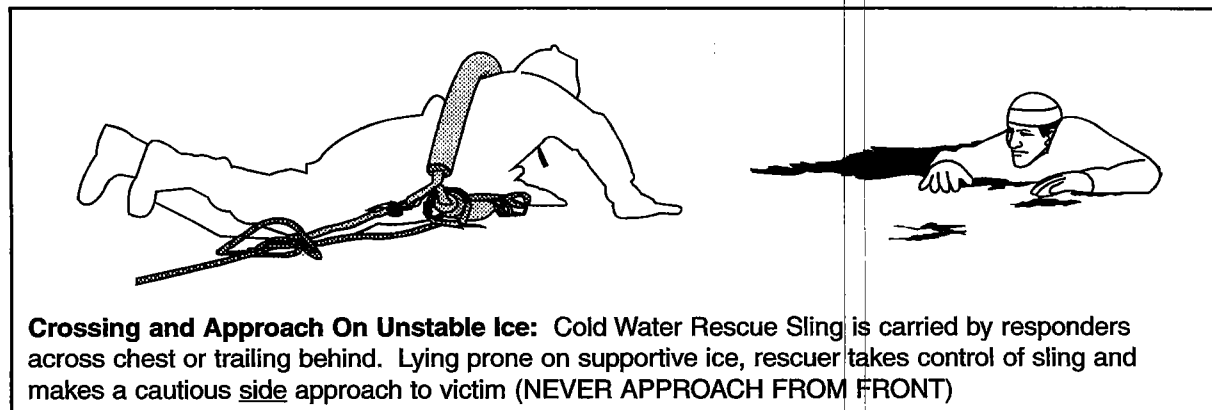
Instructions/Technique:

Open Water Swimming Extension Rescue: The safest method is always to approach the distressed swimmer/victim from behind. Passing sling from rear, loop over their head and arms. If you must pass it from victim's front, extend sling and cautiously approach while keeping your distance. After passing sling, rescuer controls situation by providing calm reassurance and instructions. When calmed, direct the victim to place it over their head and around upper torso. In both rear and front methods, the victim must first be calmed before you get close enough to adjust take-up-strap.

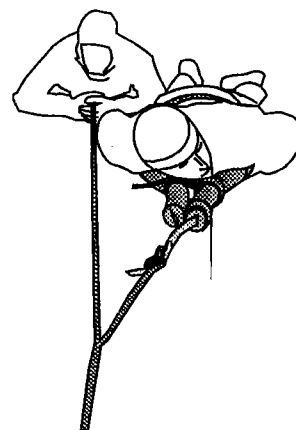
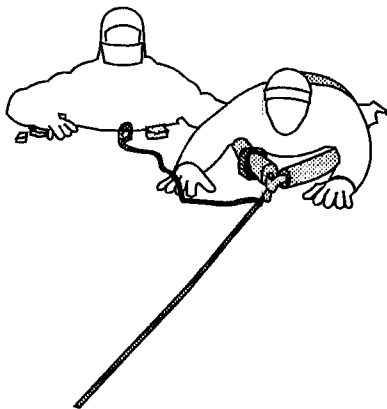
Open Water Active-Drowning Victim (panicked) Rear Approach: Swimming responder with tethered sling held across his or her chest cautiously approaches active-drowning victim from rear. With both arms reach under victim's armpits and hold shoulders (turn your head to one side to avoid being struck in face by victim's head). Rock victim back atop buoyant sling and hold until calmed. Adjust take-up-strap to stabilize.

CAUTION

Do not break the victim's supportive ice mantle. Assume that the victim's sudden immersion has caused hypothermia and robbed the victim of their ability to stay afloat. If you break the ice mantle prematurely, you risk loss of your victim.



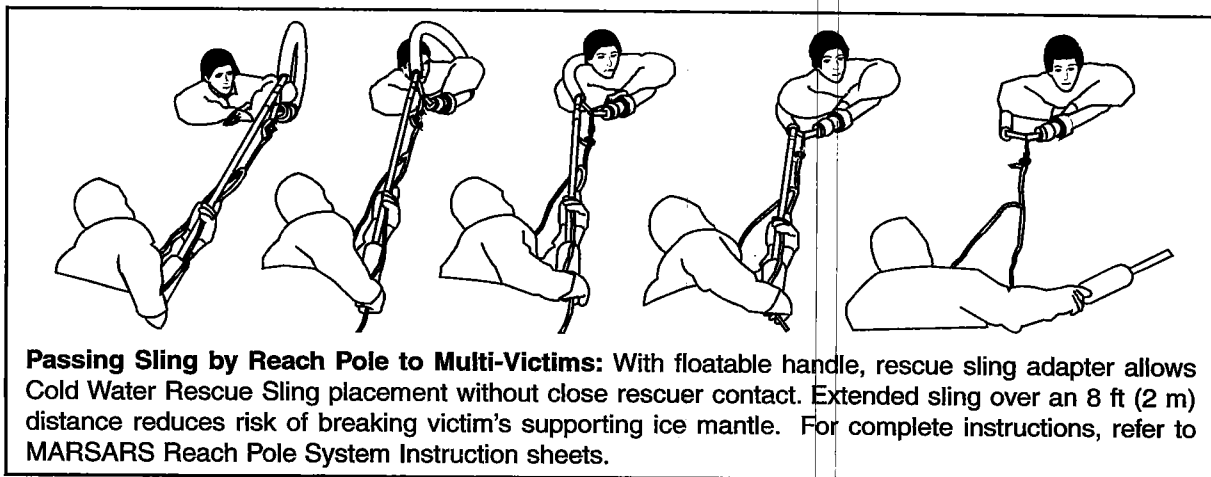
In-Line Extrication from Icy Water: To extricate, rescuer sweeps patient's legs back, tilting patient's torso forward to an oblique (inclined) position for extrication. Rescuer signals for extrication and slightly lifts the patient's body as line tender pulls tether. Victim is removed from icy water, with face down resting on sling and tethered rescuer one arm's length behind.



WET SNOW ON ICE CAUTION

Extricating an exposed individual through damp snow should be limited. Pulling someone through heavy snow causes greater frictional resistance and physical strain to a patient's hypothermic body. Minimize rough patient handling by shielding.

Passing Sling by Hand with Ice Rescue Sled: With sled placed between rescuer and immersed victim, rescuer follows directions for "Passing Sling by Hand on Supportive Ice."

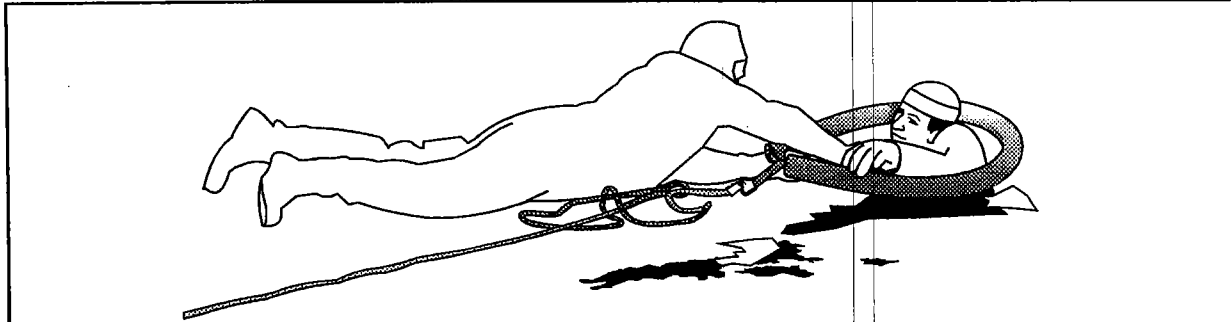


Passing Sling by Reach Pole to Multi-Victims: With floatable handle, rescue sling adapter allows Cold Water Rescue Sling placement without close rescuer contact. Extended sling over an 8 ft (2 m) distance reduces risk of breaking victim's supporting ice mantle. For complete instructions, refer to MARSARS Reach Pole System Instruction sheets.

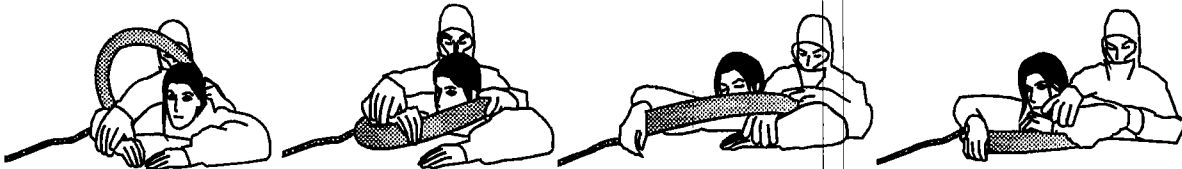
Training Tips:

- Practice fully all sling techniques on the edge of a large, stable tabletop.
- As rescuer skill level develops, have "victim" wear bulky clothing and exhibit unconscious, semi-conscious (passive), plus panicked and uncooperative behavior (active).
- A qualified/certified ice rescue instructor should conduct your initial in-water rescue training.

Care and Maintenance: Rinse thoroughly with fresh water, use mild detergent to remove oil or grease. Hang sling, hook down, so any water within foam tube or webbing drains. Repair any cuts to foam tube, when dry, with vinyl tape or repair solvent (SpongeRez). Store with take-up-strap wrapped back upon itself. Leave foam tube in a relaxed, open shape, needed for designed use.

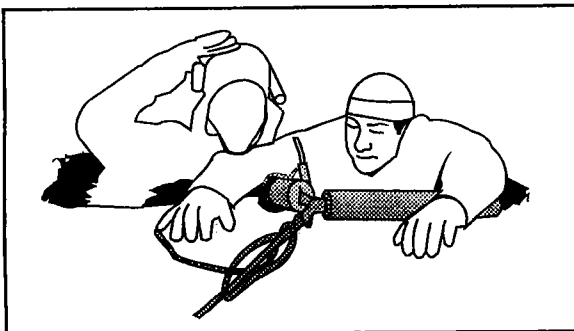
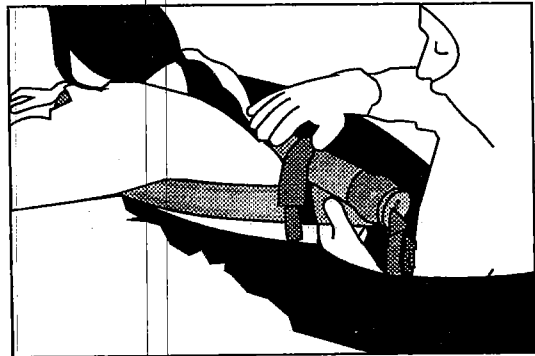


Method One, Passing Sling by Hand on Supportive Ice: Lay prone to the side, just beyond victim's reach. Reaching one arm through buoyant sling, rescuer grasps and holds victim's farthest forearm. In one continuous movement, with opposite hand, rescuer slides sling down his or her outstretched arm, up victim's arm, shoulder, head, pulling down and around upper torso. While utilizing sling to hold victim snugly against ice, rescuer places victim's opposite arm through sling. With patient fully slung, responder wraps take-up-strap around excess tubes, adjusting for victim's size. Once secured in sling, rescuer enters water and positions victim's body for extrication.



Method Two, Passing Sling by Hand Behind Victim: Lay prone on stomach, make a feet-first entry into icy water behind victim. Positioned behind slightly to right, responder reaches through sling to grab and slightly lift victim's right forearm. Sling is immediately placed under arm and behind head. Moving to left, rescuer again reaches through sling, lifts patient's forearm as sling is slid underneath.

Sizing Sling to Patient's Body: Sling should now be entirely around patients upper torso. From behind rescuer adapts sling's size by completely wrapping excess tubes with Velcro™ covered "take-up-strap"



Point Sling Towards Line Tender: Prepare for extrication by sliding gathered sling tube to opposite side of patient's body. With tethered rescue sling now pointing towards tether-line tender, you are now ready to extricate