

Key Concepts

Understanding Policy

Much of our policy requirements are based on the difference between these definitions...

Operations Beyond Gliding Distance From Shore: beyond the point at which an aircraft that has lost power can safely glide to shore. Generally speaking, in helicopters, if you look straight down through the window at your feet is where you would land. For airplanes, it depends on the original altitude, local terrain, the engine-out gliding capabilities of the aircraft, original airspeed and winds at various altitudes.

Extended Overwater Operations: More than 50 nautical miles from shore or a suitable landing platform.

Sources for policy related to water ditching

- ALSE Handbook
- 14 CFR 135.167
- DM 351 2.2C
- USFS FSM 5700

Prior to your Flight

- Participate in Pre-Flight Briefings; ask questions, be involved.
- Understand how the seatbelts and door latches work.
- Locate the exit(s) you can use in the event of an emergency.
- Know your survival equipment; where it is, and what it consists of.
- Strongly consider a personal survival kit that you carry on your person.

Follow the Six Step Process

1. I'm a survivor!
2. Unplug
3. BRACE
4. Wait 4
5. REFERENCE
6. Release seatbelt and EXIT.

Activity

1. I'm a _____.
2. _____ flight helmet.
3. Prior to impact, open door and _____.
4. Wait 4 _____, wait for _____, wait for _____.
5. Locate and clear exit, find your _____ point.
6. _____ your seatbelt, and exit.

Once outside the aircraft, remember to keep your HAND UP, HEAD UP, INVESTIGATE, and INFLATE.

Post Egress Survival

- Remember the importance of maintaining your body's core temperature; leave flight helmets on if available.
- Use the group swim or HELP, group huddle and human carpet to stay together and keep warm.
- Remember the bigger, brighter, different concept!
- Use your signaling devices as designed.
- Once activated, leave the EPIRB, ELT, or PLB on
- Remain Calm, Think Clearly, Maintain a Positive Attitude.