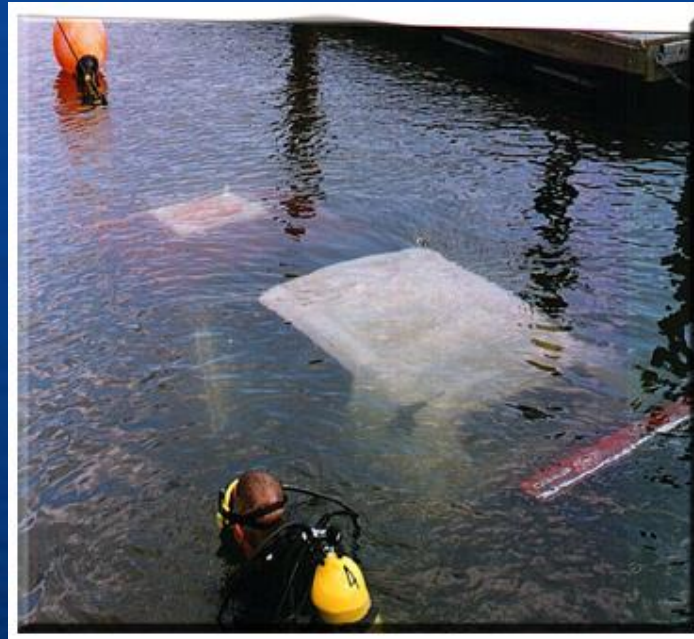




## Search & Recovery Lecture 6



# Recovery



# We Will Cover

- Recovery – the final step
- If a vehicle was involved
- Reporting to authorities
- Removal of vehicle
- Record keeping



# Recovery

- **Body in water will usually sink**
- **Specific gravity of body close to that of water**
  
- **Amount of time for a body to surface depends largely on water temperature**
  
- **June to August – 2 days**
- **April, May, Sept, Oct 3-5 days**
- **Nov, Dec 10-14 days**
- **Jan, Feb possibly no resurfacing**



# Recovery – The Final Step

- Decision to move missing person
- Do not always assume a missing person is dead
- Approaching the missing person
- Lift method & recovery method
- Normal finning / ascent rates / care



# Body Bag

- Ensure a body bag is readily accessible when on a search operation
- Ensure zip is in good working order
- Ensure good lifting handles
- Drain water from bag when lifting from the water – to reduce weight



# Body Bag





# If a Vehicle was Involved (1)

- May want to move the missing person from car before moving car
- More than one missing person?
- Seat belt on?
- Windows open?
- Was the car in gear?
- Lights switched on or off?





## If a Vehicle was Involved (2)

- Position of key in ignition?
- What depth?
- Was the vehicle upside down?
- What was the registration number?
- Any items floating about?





# Reporting to Authorities

- Hand over of missing person and details to authorities
- Out of the public eye
- Witness statement for inquest – keep your own record of events a.s.a.p. after dive
- Identification of the missing person may take place
- Prayers may be said



# Removal of Vehicle

- 2 divers – using rope or chain, if safe to do so
- Secure firmly
- Allow to drain of water
- Keep clear – all divers out of water before lift



# Record Keeping

- Record all details in SAR logbook
- Photos can be useful / accurate record
- Copy to the authorities
- Will facilitate learning for future exercises
- Debrief
- Counselling





# Summary

- Recovery – the final step
- If a vehicle was involved
- Reporting to authorities
- Removal of vehicle
- Record keeping