

IN-WATER SEARCH PATTERNS

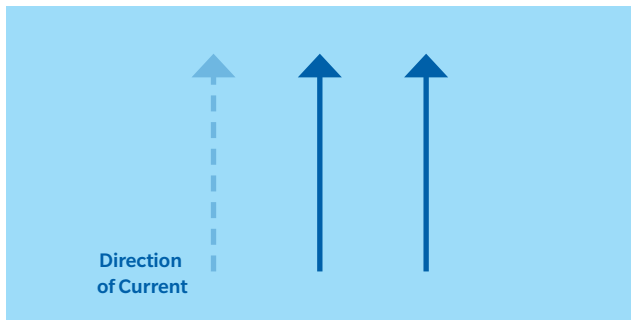


For any water-based search to have a good chance of success, the search must be carried out in a methodical fashion—that it starts in the place where the missing person is most likely to be located and also ensuring it covers the area thoroughly.

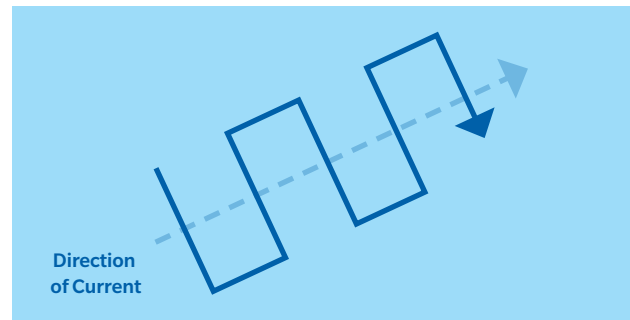
Whichever search pattern is used, it must meet the following criteria:

- **suitability**—appropriateness to the environment (e.g., location person last sighted), weather conditions (winds, tides, currents, size of the swell), timeframes to complete the search, size and number of persons to be located
- **feasibility**—within the search team's capabilities, and with one person able to report to the search coordinator
- **acceptability**—the expected results should be worth the estimated time and effort involved
- **safety**—does not unnecessarily endanger any member of the search team.

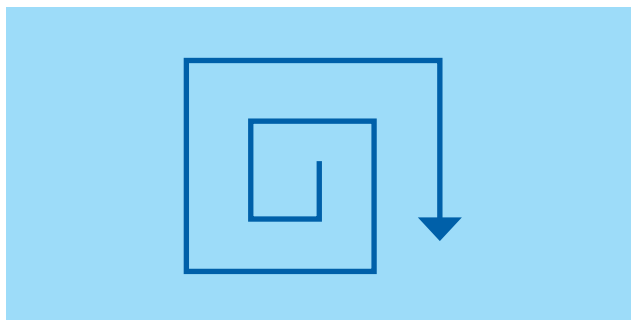
Line search/Parallel line search



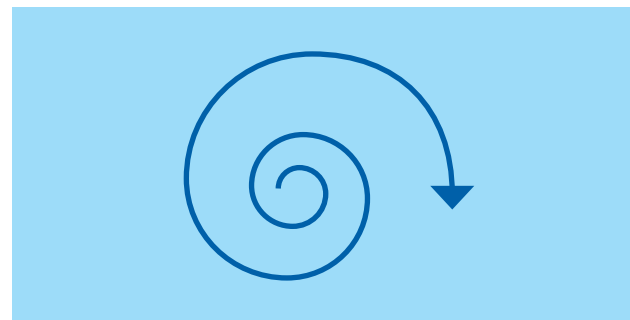
Creeping line search



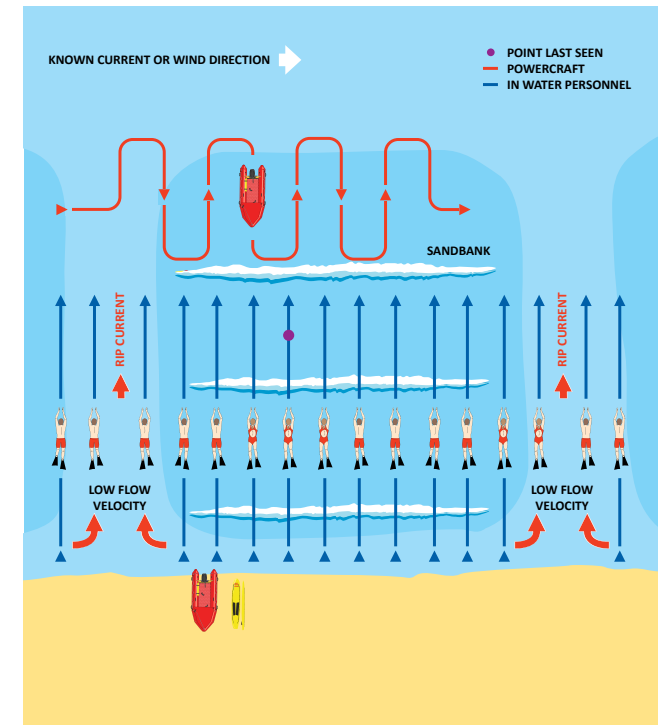
Square



Circular



Powercraft working with in-water searchers



Refer to the latest edition of the SLSA *Powercraft Training Manual* for more information.