



LEAD DIVER CHECKLIST

Below is a checklist designed to help OSU Lead Divers while in the field. It is not intended to be a comprehensive list of responsibilities, and should be supplemented by specifics for project and location. DBSO should be notified of serious problems immediately and in general be debriefed upon cessation of diving.

PRE DIVE:

General-

- Environmental assessment: Go or No-Go: (currents, tides, sea state, visibility, water temp, forecast)
- Gear checks (equipment function, adequate breathing gas, gas supply open, mission-specific equipment)
- Emergency Plan onsite with local emergency contact info and diver emergency contact info
- Location and type of available safety equipment
- Dive Briefing (turn pressure/ending pressure, dive time limits, depth limits. Review: hand signals, buddy and task assignments, diver separation procedures, verify diver fitness).
- Project Dive Log pre-dive areas completed

Boat Dives-

- Operator/Captain and Crew identified; roles/responsibilities discussed; topside dive tender recommended
- Location of safety equipment (First Aid, O2, fire extinguishers, floatation aids, dive flag deployed onsite)
- Radio operation verified; back-up radio and back-up GPS recommended w/spare batteries
- Adequate fuel
- Float plan on file or overdue check-in procedure confirmed
- Ensure proper dive gear storage, especially cylinders; consider vessel stability and capacity
- Review procedures for entering the water and re-boarding the boat (confirming boat in neutral)
- Live-boat procedures reviewed; diver recall signals reviewed
- Mooring: double-check mooring line attachment to vessel before entering the water
- Anchoring: verify anchor is set properly underwater at start of dive if applicable

Shore Dives-

- Overdue check-in procedure confirmed
- Review underwater navigation for return to exit point
- Deployment of float/dive flag

POST DIVE:

- Diver roll call and wellness check
- Secure samples and/or data
- Complete Project Dive Log
- Debriefing (recap dive, review problems or issues, review ending pressures).
- Review surface interval activities (repetitive dive planning, swap/refill cylinders, manage body temp. and hydration, science tasks)
- Close float plan (if boat diving) or check-in with shore contact (if shore diving) at end of operations
- Debrief DSO upon return to OSU or as issues arise in the field