

Offshore Special Regulations

OSR 3.29, 4.07, 4.21 Grab Bags

A submission from the Grab Bags Working Party

Purpose or Objective

To ensure that there is a grab bag for every liferaft and to make the wording more understandable.

Proposal

	SECTION 3 - STRUCTURAL FEATURES, STABILITY, FIXED EQUIPMENT
	A boat shall be/have:
	3.29 Communications Equipment, GPS, Radar, AIS
MoMu0	3.29.3 a) at least Two hand-held satellite telephones <u>(one for each grab bag)</u> , watertight or with waterproof covers and internal batteries. When not in use each to be stowed in a <u>the</u> grab bag (see OSR 4.21).
MoMu1	b) One <u>A</u> hand-held satellite telephone <u>for each grab bag</u> , watertight or with waterproof cover and internal battery. <u>Stow in the grab bag (see OSR 4.21) when not in use.</u>
MoMu0	3.29.4 at least Two <u>(one for each grab bag)</u> hand-held marine VHF transceivers each with min 5 W output power, watertight or with waterproof covers. When not in use to be stowed in a grab bag (see OSR 4.21).
Mo1,2,3,4 Mu1,2,3,4	3.29.5 a <u>A</u> hand-held marine VHF transceiver <u>for each grab bag</u> , watertight or with a waterproof cover. When not in use to be stowed in a <u>the</u> grab bag or emergency container (see OSR 4.21).
<u>Mo4</u>	<u>3.29.5 A hand-held marine VHF transceiver, watertight or with a waterproof cover.</u>
	SECTION 4 - PORTABLE EQUIPMENT
	A boat shall have:
	4.07 Flashlights and Searchlights
MoMu0,1,2,3,4	4.07 Watertight lights with spare batteries and bulbs as follows:
MoMu0,1,2,3	a) a searchlight, suitable for searching for a person overboard at night and for collision avoidance,
MoMu0,1,2,3	b) a <u>watertight LED</u> flashlight <u>with spare batteries</u> , in addition to 4.07 a), <u>for each grab bag</u> ,
<u>MoMu0,1,2,3</u> <u>Mu3,4</u>	c) the watertight flashlight in OSR 4.07 b) shall be stowed in the grab bag <u>(see OSR 4.21)</u> . or emergency container
MoMu0	d) a high-intensity heavy duty searchlight powered by the boat's batteries, instantly available for use on deck and in the cockpit.

	4.21 Grab Bags	
<u>Mo0,1,2,3</u> <u>Mu0,1,2,3,4</u>	4.21.1	<u>A grab bag shall have inherent flotation, at least 0.1 m² (1 ft²) area of highly visible colour (e.g. dayglo yellow or orange) on the outside, shall be marked with the name of the boat, and shall have a lanyard and clip.</u>
<u>MoMu0</u>	4.21.2	<u>A grab bag for each liferaft (not required for a spare liferaft under OSR 4.20.1 b)), readily accessible whether or not the boat is inverted.</u>
<u>MoMu1,2</u>	4.21.2	<u>A grab bag for each liferaft, readily accessible whether or not the boat is inverted.</u>
Mo3 <u>Mo3Mu3,4</u>	4.21.2	<u>The following shall either be stowed with a liferaft, or in a watertight compartment or a grab bag, readily accessible whether or not the boat is inverted, with the following minimum contents:</u>
<u>Mo3</u>	4.21.2	<u>The following shall either be stowed with a liferaft, or in a watertight compartment or a grab bag, readily accessible whether or not the boat is inverted, with the following minimum contents:</u>
Mo3Mu3,4		a) a watertight hand hold marine VHF transceiver with spare batteries
Mo3Mu3,4		b) a watertight flashlight with spare batteries and bulb
<u>Mo3Mu3,4</u>		<u>a) 3 red hand flares,</u>
<u>Mo3Mu3,4</u>		<u>b) a watertight strobe light with spare batteries (may be part of the flashlight),</u>
<u>Mo3Mu3,4</u>		<u>c) a knife, and</u>
<u>Mo3Mu3,4</u>		<u>d) whistle.</u>
Mo3Mu3,4		f) If a grab bag is provided it shall have inherent flotation, at least 0.1 m² (1 ft²) area of fluorescent orange colour on the outside, shall be marked with the name of the boat, and shall have a lanyard and clip
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Current Position

As above.

Reasons

1. Some items, as listed above shall, and as listed in OSR 4.20.2 may, be stowed in a grab bag. In order for all crewmembers to have access to these items a grab bag is required for each liferaft.
2. When OSR 4.21 was introduced in 2002 it was for Mu3,4.
 - 2.1 If a multihull capsizes one can reasonably predict which portion of the hulls will be accessible from the exterior, therefore the preferred place for stowing emergency items is in a watertight compartment, with a grab bag as a reasonable alternative.
 - 2.2 If a monohull capsizes and remains afloat, the portion of the hull which will be accessible from the exterior is unpredictable (unless the boat has positive flotation). For this reason the watertight compartment was removed from Mo3.

3. Some items such as radio transponders and flashlights are covered in other regulations so, for the sake of consistency, they have been removed from OSR 4.21.
4. Items 4.21 a) to e) (original numbering) describe the grab bag contents, whereas f) specifies the grab bag construction. 4.21 f) was moved to the beginning of the regulation.