

**Amendment to Fish and Wildlife Service Manual Chapter
241 FW 10, Diving Safety**

| |
|---|
| Series: Occupational Safety and Health |
| Part 241: Safety Operations |
| Chapter 10: Diving Safety |
| Amendment Number: 1 |
| Purpose: This amendment updates Service policy to include definitions for “incident” and “accident,” adds “Undersea Medicine” to available physician options for conducting medical exam reviews, and clarifies what Regions’ diving programs the Office of Law Enforcement and NCTC dive under. |

Action:

Under section “**10.6 Who is responsible for the diving safety program? Table 10-2 describes responsibilities for diving safety?,**” add the following as a footnote to section J(1):

Office of Law Enforcement divers dive under the Region’s program in which their duty station is located. National Conservation Training Center divers dive under Region 5’s dive program.

Under section “**10.7 What terms do you need to know to understand this chapter?**” add:

A. Accidents are those unplanned or unsought events that result in human injury, illness, or death to the people described in 29 CFR 1904.31 or in property damage.

P. Incidents are unplanned events that could have resulted in accidents, but did not. An incident is typically referred to as a “near miss,” and it is critical that we investigate them to determine contributing factors and record them in SMIS. We must also account for them in preventive measures to ensure that an incident doesn’t turn into an accident with more severe consequences.

Under section “**10.12 A5(b) How does a diver get authorization to dive?**” add:

“...or undersea medicine ...”

To read as:

(b) The reviewing physician must be either board certified in occupational medicine or limited to practice in occupational medicine and be trained in hyperbaric medicine **or undersea medicine**. The reviewing physician reviews baseline and periodic physicals. The reviewing physician must complete both forms and return them to the RDO as part of the authorization package.

/sgd/ Rowan W. Gould
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Date: April 22, 2013