

Shrinking Loop Cinch

An easy way to understand the Shrinking Loop Cinch is to image it as the loop of a cowboy's lasso that is tossed over the victim in slow motion with the aid of four control lines.



In first photo, the primary rope has been layed to form large loop. The primary rope is the *cinch line*, in the upper right corner of this photo, *it's end is clipped back to itself* to make the loop. Walter is holding the standing part of cinch line.



In this second photo, the loop is nearly square and suspended above the ground. If the image of tossing the lasso works for you, then Chris, who is wearing shorts, is the cowboy who has *tossed the lasso*. Two control lines are downstream, one each side of the river. The other two control lines are upstream of "Cowboy Chris", also with one on each side of the river.



Third photo shows the loop as it moves above the victim with "Cowboy Chris" and all four rescuers working the control lines to position the loop. After the loop is around the victim, then "Cowboy Chris" will take in the main line to close the cinch while the control lines slowly give slack without losing position.