EO M290.02 – CONSTRUCT A LEAN-TO-STYLE SHELTER

1. **Performance**: Construct a Lean-to-style Shelter

2. **Conditions**:

   a. Given:

      (1) Groundsheets;

      (2) Knife;

      (3) Shovel;

      (4) Pegs;

      (5) Rope/twine;

      (6) Natural materials;

      (7) Supervision; and

      (8) Assistance as required.

   b. Denied: N/A.

   c. Environmental: Field setting during the day and large enough to accommodate the entire group and shelter construction.

3. **Standard**: In accordance with specified references and as a member of a group of no more than four, the cadet shall construct a lean-to-style shelter by:

   a. gathering materials;

   b. selecting a site; and

   c. tying and lashing cross pieces and supports.

4. **Teaching Points**:

TP	Description	Method	Time	Refs
TP1	Explain the importance of site selection and assist cadets in selecting a site for their lean-to-style shelter. Review the following: a. Site selection. Site selection should begin before dark if possible. The shelter should be built near a source of water, building materials (trees, boughs) and fuel.	Interactive Lecture	20 min	C3-002 (pp. 242–243) C3-003 (p. 101)

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TP	Description	Method	Time	Refs
	b. Land considerations. The following points are to be kept in mind: 1. The area must be large enough for the planned shelter. 2. The area should not be at the bottom of a hill. It should be relatively flat, but slightly sloped to allow for drainage. 3. Dry river gullies, canyons and flood plains should be avoided. c. Water considerations. The following points are to be kept in mind: 1. The shelter should be built away from the water in order to avoid insects. 2. The shelter should be built away from the source of drinking water. d. Animal and insect considerations. The following points are to be kept in mind: 1. Avoid setting up a shelter where there are animal trails or water holes. 2. Fast flowing streams will have fewer insects nearby than still water. 3. Avoid areas infested with ants or bees. e. Other considerations. The following points are to be kept in mind: 1. There should be an area nearby to construct signals. 2. The entrance of the shelter should face the sun to add warmth and to increase morale. 3. Very thick woods should be avoided as it will be hard to dry the shelter or fuel. 4. Try to find a natural windbreak or a place that is away from strong wind currents. 5. Avoid swampy terrain. 6. A place for a fire should be located in front of the opening of the shelter.			

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TP	Description	Method	Time	Refs
TP2	Explain and demonstrate the procedure for constructing a lean-to-style shelter, to include: a. obtaining the appropriate supplies, to include: 1. groundsheets; 2. knife; 3. shovel; 4. pegs; 5. rope/twine; and 6. natural materials; and b. tying and lashing cross-pieces and vertical supports; c. checking each groundsheet for fatigue and holes; d. tying each end of the groundsheet to cross-pieces and supports, ensuring they are to waist height of the tallest person; e. ensuring the groundsheet is pulled tight between the cross-pieces and supports; f. pulling the bottom of the groundsheet out and pegging each grommet to the ground; and g. digging small trenches around the shelter to allow for effective drainage.	Demonstration	20 min	C3-002 (p. 250) C3-003 (p. 101) C3-118
TP3	Have the cadets, in groups of no more than four, construct a lean-to-style shelter, taking into account the site selection considerations.	Performance	40 min	A0-039

5. **Time**:

a.	Introduction / Conclusion:	10 min
b.	Interactive Lecture:	20 min
c.	Demonstration:	20 min
d.	Performance:	40 min
e.	Total:	90 min

6. **Substantiation**:

a. An interactive lecture was chosen for TP1 to present basic material and give direction on procedures.

b. Demonstration was chosen for TP2 as it allows the instructor to explain and demonstrate the skill the cadet is expected to acquire.

c. Performance was chosen for TP3 as it provides an opportunity for the cadets to practice building a lean-to-style shelter under supervision.

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7. **References**:

   a. A0-039 D Cdts 3. (1997). CATO 11-08. *Environmental Protection and Stewardship*. In *CATO Vol. 1 General* (pp.1–11). Ottawa, ON: Department of National Defence.

   b. C3-002 (ISBN 0-00-653140-7) Wiseman, J. (1999). The *SAS Survival Handbook.* Hammersmith, London: HarperCollins Publishers.

   c. C3-003 (ISBN 1-896713-00-9) Tawrell, P. (1996). *Camping and Wilderness Survival: The Ultimate Outdoors Book.* Green Valley, ON: Falcon Distribution.

   d. C3-118 Wilderness Survival. (2007). *Shelters.* Retrieved 9 March 2007, from http://www.wilderness-survival.net/shelters-2.php.

8. **Training Aids**:

   a. Groundsheets;

   b. Example of a good shelter site;

   c. Example of a poor shelter site;

   d. Completed lean-to-style shelter for illustration purposes;

   e. Knife;

   f. Shovel;

   g. Pegs; and

   h. Rope/twine.

9. **Learning Aids**:

   a. Groundsheets;

   b. Lengths of rope/twine;

   c. Shovel;

   d. Items found in a natural setting;

   e. Tree branches; and

   f. Pegs.

10. **Test Details**: N/A.

11. **Remarks**:

   a. If lean-to-style shelters cannot be constructed, another style shelter (e.g. a bivouac tent, or a tarpaulin between trees) may be substituted.

   b. The directives found in CATO 11-08, *Environmental Protection and Stewardship*, are to be followed during this lesson.

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