
 HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL MANUAL	4.20 Working On or Near Water			
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SAFE WORK PRACTICES

Working On or Near Water

Each project presents unique jobsite restrictions and hazards.

These procedures shall be reviewed by all workers at the project site. They are to be used in conjunction with the posted emergency plan and emergency number contact list.

- No worker shall work alone on this project when there is a risk of drowning.
- All workers at the project shall be familiar with these working near water procedures and the rescue procedures to be followed.
- At least 2 workers shall be trained to perform water rescue operations. Review the procedures with them prior to job start.
- At least one worker at the project shall be certified in Standard First Aid / CPR.
- The supervisor shall ensure that an adequate first aid kit is readily available.
- Ice is a hazard. It may be thin and cause workers to fall through. Rescue operations will be difficult if ice is present. The supervisor must effectively control ice hazards before work begins.
- When a worker is exposed to a risk of drowning on the project, they shall wear a lifejacket or personal flotation device that is adequate. Inspect the devices daily before job start.

Rescue Equipment

All rescue equipment shall be provided in a suitable location and shall include:

- I. A seaworthy boat equipped with a lifebuoy attached to a buoyant heaving line not less than 15 metres in length and a boat hook;
- II. An alarm system capable of warning a worker of the necessity of carrying out a rescue (i.e. horn blast).
- III. Inspect all rescue equipment daily before job start to ensure it is in good condition.

Emergency Rescue Plan

1. In an emergency, sound the horn – 3 LONG BLASTS.
2. All workers will stop work immediately and help as instructed.
3. Rescue help is to be given to any worker(s) needing it.
4. Call 9-1-1 if required.
5. Use all rescue equipment as needed, including the boat and lifebuoy.
6. The rescued worker must immediately be given first aid if needed. Call 911 if required.

Supervisor: Please add any additional information in the "Notes" section of the HCSS Meeting template.

Workers: By signing the meeting attendance, you acknowledge that you understand the information provided and will comply with any actions or procedures required.