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| <b>WORKING IN REMOTE AREAS</b> | Encounters with persons conducting illegal activity are more likely in remote areas; water contamination is likely.  | <p>6. Expect to have encounters in places you would not normally find visitors.<br/> 7. Make sure you are clearly identified as a Forest Service employee.<br/> 8. Be aware that language barriers increase risk. You may find yourself in a situation where your safety is threatened but, due to the language barrier, you are unaware of the threat. Always use extreme caution when people are attempting to communicate with you in a language you do not understand. .</p> <p>1. Be especially alert in remote areas. The more remote the area, the more likely you are to find persons smuggling drugs by foot, horseback or vehicle, or people entering the country illegally.<br/> 2. Always know your location and be able to describe it.<br/> 3. Always let dispatch know where you are going, when you expect to return, and check in at predetermined times.<br/> 4. Avoid working in remote areas alone.<br/> 5. Expect surprise encounters in areas where your options for avoiding contact are limited.<br/> 6. Develop a plan for what you will do in the event of such an encounter.<br/> 7. Making noise like you would do in bear country is one way to avoid a surprise encounter by giving smugglers and migrants a chance to scatter before you come face to face.<br/> 8. Do not do anything to give the impression you are a Law Enforcement Officer or other person with the authority to interfere with illegal activity such as narcotics smuggling.<br/> 9. Do not act in a threatening manner.<br/> 10. Leave the area as quickly as possible and avoid using your radio or cell phone until you are clear of the area and out of sight.<br/> 11. Always lock your vehicle when leaving it unattended and store valuable items, food and water out of sight to avoid break ins.<br/> 12. When working away from your vehicle, do not leave packs, food and water unattended.<br/> 13. Avoid using water from springs or streams and, if you must, filter and treat appropriately to avoid risk of disease.</p> |
| <b>NIGHT OPERATIONS</b>        | Increased risk of encountering illegal activities; Vehicles traveling with no lights; limited visibility.  | <p>1. Avoid working and driving in the border zone at night.<br/> 2. When responding to a fire or other situation take necessary precautions, including obtaining a law enforcement escort if you must work in an area where illegal activity is known to occur.<br/> 3. If Dispatch is not operating, arrange to have communications with someone else who knows where you are working and when you expect to return.</p>  |
| <b>PICKING UP TRASH</b>        | <p>Exposure to hepatitis, HIV and other diseases may result from picking up trash.</p> <p>Trash pick-up projects often involve volunteers or employees who do not normally work in</p> | <p>1. Keep in mind any item such as trash, clothing, backpacks or blankets may contain biohazards.<br/> 2. Wear heavy neoprene or rubber gloves that are resistant to needle puncture or wear disposable gloves over leather gloves. Wash gloves with 10% bleach solution frequently.<br/> 3. Avoid handling any items which could be contaminated with human waste, blood or body fluids. This includes clothing, toilet paper, cigarette butts, beverage containers, etc. Use a litter pick up stick and spray it with 10% bleach solution frequently.</p>  |

trash collection and who may be improperly dressed and unaware of the health hazards involved.

4. Carry hand sanitizer and use it frequently and always before drinking or eating.
5. Be conscious of where you are placing trash bags. The outside of bag could be become contaminated if you are working in an area where human waste and personal items are present. Use care in handling bags. Wear gloves and grasp only by the top. Avoid contacting the bag with the body or forearm. Treat the bag as if it contains needles or other sharp items.
6. Do not pick up discarded needles and drug paraphernalia with hands. Use a shovel, tongs, etc. Do not place sharp items in bags where they could cause a puncture wound to someone handling the bag. Place in a sharps container with color coded labeling.
7. Consider wearing a surgical mask to avoid inhaling contaminated dust. Wear long sleeves and sturdy pants and wash clothing after each day.
8. Conduct a safety meeting with each participant in attendance to explain the bloodborne pathogen implications of trash pick-up.

10. LINE OFFICER SIGNATURE

11. TITLE

12. DATE

**JHA Instructions (References-FSH 6709.11 and .12)**

The JHA shall identify the location of the work project or activity, the name of employee(s) writing the JHA, the date(s) of development, and the name of the appropriate line officer approving it. The supervisor acknowledges that employees have read and understand the contents, have received the required training, and are qualified to perform the work project or activity.

**Blocks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6:** Self-explanatory.

**Block 7:** Identify all tasks and procedures associated with the work project or activity that have potential to cause injury or illness to personnel and damage to property or material. Include emergency evacuation procedures (EEP).

**Block 8:** Identify all known or suspect hazards associated with each respective task/procedure listed in Block 7. For example:

- a. Research past accidents/incidents
- b. Research the Health and Safety Code, FSH 6709.11 or other appropriate literature.
- c. Discuss the work project/activity with participants
- d. Observe the work project/activity
- e. A combination of the above

**Block 9:** Identify appropriate actions to reduce or eliminate the hazards identified in Block 8. Abatement measures listed below are in the order of the preferred abatement method:

- a. Engineering Controls (the most desirable method of abatement).  
For example, ergonomically designed tools, equipment, and furniture.
- b. Substitution. For example, switching to high flash point, non-toxic solvents.
- c. Administrative Controls. For example, limiting exposure by reducing the work schedule; establishing appropriate procedures and practices.
- d. PPE (least desirable method of abatement). For example, using hearing protection when working with or close to portable machines (chain saws, rock drills portable water pumps)
- e. A combination of the above.

**Block 10:** The JHA must be reviewed and approved by a line officer. Attach a copy of the JHA as justification for purchase orders when procuring PPE.

**Blocks 11 and 12:** Self-explanatory.

**Emergency Evacuation Instructions (Reference FSH 6709.11)**

Work supervisors and crew members are responsible for developing and discussing field emergency evacuation procedures (EEP) and alternatives in the event a person(s) becomes seriously ill or injured at the worksite.

Be prepared to provide the following information:

- a. Nature of the accident or injury (*avoid using victim's name*).
- b. Type of assistance needed, if any (*ground, air, or water evacuation*)
- c. Location of accident or injury, best access route into the worksite (*road name/number*), identifiable ground/air landmarks.
- d. Radio frequency(s).
- e. Contact person.
- f. Local hazards to ground vehicles or aviation.
- g. Weather conditions (*wind speed & direction, visibility, temp*).
- h. Topography.
- i. Number of person(s) to be transported
- j. Estimated weight of passengers for air/water evacuation.

The items listed above serve only as guidelines for the development of emergency evacuation procedures.

**JHA and Emergency Evacuation Procedures Acknowledgment**

We, the undersigned work leader and crew members, acknowledge participation in the development of this JHA (*as applicable*) and accompanying emergency evacuation procedures. We have thoroughly discussed and understand the provisions of each of these documents:

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| <b>SIGNATURE</b> | <b>DATE</b> | <b>SIGNATURE</b> | <b>DATE</b> |
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| Work Leader |       |       |       |
| _____       | _____ | _____ | _____ |
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