# Safe Work Procedures

Driving

### PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES:

* Conduct a “pre-trip” vehicle check. Use a Vehicle Pre-trip Inspection and Mileage Log to track activity.
* Report deficiencies and do not use if equipment is in unsafe condition.
* Make notes of required maintenance in the mileage logbook when it is required and include “checking the logbook for required repairs” at the time of each inspection.
* Drive defensively at all times.
* Communicate with your passengers and let them know that you want to hear from them if they feel unsafe.
* Speak up if you are a passenger and the driver is not driving safely!
* Ensure all vehicle occupants are wearing seatbelts. You are responsible for your passengers.
* Do not exceed posted speed limits.
* On resource roads do not exceed 80kph or posted speed limits.
* Drive safely and drive to the existing road conditions. Lower speed as required. Be aware of:
  + Visibility reduced by dust, fog, rain and snow;
  + Narrow roads with over width vehicles;
  + Steep favorable and adverse gradients;
  + Slippery and variable road surface conditions due to loose gravel, snow, ice or mud;
  + Other users.
* Use vehicle for intended use only (purpose and weight limitations).
* Drive with vehicle lights on at all times.
* Secure all heavy or sharp objects in the cab of the vehicle.
* Respect that loaded logging trucks have the right of way on single lane roads.
* Do not tailgate other vehicles.
* Pass trucks or equipment only after you receive a clearly visible and/or audible signal from the operator.
* Never chase a runaway vehicle.
* Stay on your side of the road.

### RADIO USE:

* Complete radio check and ensure correct frequency prior to entering radio controlled area.
* Do not drive by the radio. Expect oncoming traffic at all times.
* Call your position according to the local radio protocol and signage.
* Notify other radio equipped vehicles of oncoming non-radio equipped traffic.
* Do not use road radio channels for conversations, use only for road traffic protocols.
* Other than traffic control, pull over and safely park when talking on the radio/cell phone for an extended period of time.

### PARKING:

* Park clear of traffic, away from active areas in pullouts or extra wide straight sections of road.
* Park facing the direction of exit with access for service/towing activities.
* Ensure the parking brake is on and the transmission is in 1st gear or park.
* On steep grades, use wheel chocks and always turn the wheels towards the nearest ditch.
* Never park on a curve especially on the outside curve of a road.
* When turning around, back into the cut bank of the road and not towards the outside bank.
* Use flares where required.

Bears

| **Situation** | **Recommended actions** |
| --- | --- |
| Bear does not know you are there | Move away undetected.  Go back the way you came or take large detour around. If you must go ahead do so slowly and cautiously. DO NOT RUN  Keep your eye on the bear.  Watch for changes in behavior.  Be careful not to crowd or surprise bear (especially Grizzlies).  Do not shout if it is unaware of your presence. |
| Bear becomes aware of you | Calmly and from as far away as possible identify yourself as human.  Talk to the bear in a low, respectful voice.  Wave your arms slowly.  Increase the distance between you and the bear.  If possible, move upwind to give the bear your scent.  When bear is aware and unconcerned take the opportunity to leave. Do not run. |
| If you hear bear vocalizations or see young bears in area | Be extremely cautious and leave the area the way you came. |
| If bear approaches you | Stop, stay calm, and assess the situation: is bear acting defensively (grunting, or another way?  Don’t run.  Group together if possible.  Prepare deterrent (mace).  Determine if bear is **defensive or aggressive.** |
| Bear approaching in a defensive (stressed) manner | **Defensive bears are threatened or may be protecting food. They show stressed behaviour such as rapid huffing, salivating, roaring, paw slapping, guttural noises, open mouthed jawing and charging.**  When bear approaches or charges stand your ground (physical contact is rare). Most charges stop short.  Appear non-threatening.  Talk to bear in calm voice and let it know you mean it no harm.  Don’t shout or throw things acting defensively.  Try to increase distance between you and the bear (keep your eye on it).  Do not run.  Use deterrent only as last defense. |
| In the case of a defensive attack | If bear physically contacts you in a defensive attack play dead: fall on ground on your front, protect your neck.  If rolled over continue to roll over to face.  Stay on ground till bear leaves.  If attach is prolonged it is no longer defensive. |
| Bear approaching in **non-defensive** manner | **Non defensive bears show little stress. They look interested in you and intent on approaching you. Watch towards you confidently looking towards you intermittently. They seem intent on attack.**  If approached move away from bears path or trail.  If bear is intent on you stand your ground. **Your response needs to be assertive.**  Act aggressively: shout at bear, stare it in the eye, stamp feet, stand on stump or log, threaten bear with stick or log.  If attacked use deterrent, fight with any weapon available with all your strength.  Focus attack on bear’s face. |