Stories from the Field

2019 Photo Contest Winner: Johanna Thalmann

2019 Photo Contest 2nd Runner: Victoria Van Mierlo
High Risk and Common Incidents from the Field

Select Alberta Occupational Health and Safety Legislation

Incident Reporting
Vehicle Incidents

Problems:
- Individuals thrown from ATVs, roll over of ATVs, breakdown of ATVs, low velocity collisions, contact with trailers

Solution:
- ATV safety e-learning and hands on training!!!!!!!!!!
- Preventative maintenance and inspection
- Vehicle training, trailering course, spotters

Consider:
- What would you do if your ATV was stuck in a remote location?
Animal Encounters

Problem:
- Bear encounters from sighting to stalking

Solution:
- Bear awareness and safety training and hands on use of bear spray

Consider:
- What about other wildlife?
Problem:
- Wind storms, lightning storms, extreme heat, extreme cold, flash flood, wildfire

Solution:
- EHS bulletins on heat and cold, monitor weather alerts, fully developed response plan, daily assessment

Consider:
- Can be difficult to predict...
Problem:
- What if someone became immobile in the field

Solution:
- First aid / Wilderness first aid training
- Develop an emergency response plan

Consider:
- Diabetic, allergies to a bee sting
Communication Plans

- Do you have communication devices that will work in your research areas (devices are available through FRO)
- Have you registered with the Provincial Radio Control Center
- Are emergency contacts readily available
- Have you established check-ins
Select OHS Legislation

- A documented hazard assessment is the law! (Section 2 of the Alberta OHS Code)
- Supervisors must take all necessary precautions to protect workers - active supervision is required
- Workers are adequately trained to protect their health and Safety
- Workers must take reasonable care to protect the health and safety of themselves and others
- Violence and harassment are specifically addressed
- Workers are protected from discriminatory action for exercising their safety rights
- Workers are discouraged from working alone
Hazard Assessment: When?

- **Before** work begins
- At reasonable intervals
- **New** activities, equipment, materials, processes, environments
- **Changing** activities, equipment, materials, processes, environments

The Field Activity Plan has a hazard assessment built in!
EHS Supervisory eLearning: what is it?

• 7 modules:
  • Foundations
  • Hazard Management
  • Inspections
  • Incident and Emergency Management
  • Training and Competency
  • Environment Management
  • Contractor Management

Designed for Supervisors but open to anyone with a ccid
Incident Reporting....

- Serious Incidents need to be reported immediately to Alberta OHS
  - Death
  - Work being admitted to a hospital
  - Unplanned explosion, fire or flood with potential to cause serious injury

- ALL incidents and near misses must be reported through the **EHS reporting system**
  - Allows us to track trends, investigate as appropriate and ultimately have everyone improve their safety systems
Thank you for this opportunity