

Standard Operating Procedure FVM14

Muxo, R. 2019. Safety—Version 1.0. South Florida/Caribbean Network Standard Operating Procedure NPS/SFCN/SOP—FVM14. South Florida/Caribbean Network, Palmetto Bay, Florida.

Summary

This standard operating procedure (SOP) describes the required safety precautions, safety-related paperwork, and equipment used to perform the forest monitoring protocol. This SOP also provides the locations on the SFCN server of the required forms.

Revision Log

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Overview

Personnel must review the relevant Go-No Go checklists, SFCN Office Float Plan, SFCN Office Terrestrial Green, Amber, Red (GAR) Model or the Operational Risk Management Analysis for helicopter operations (filled out at the airport with the pilot), and radio ID sheet associated with this protocol. They must also review and sign all Job Hazard Analyses associated with this protocol. The SOPs and JHAs are located in the SFCN Safety SOP and JHA Binder while the GARs can be found at: Z:\SAFETY\Float_Plan. The relevant documents are listed in Table 1. Users must check for updated versions in Z:\SAFETY\.

All NPS-SFCN personnel will follow the Safe Practices Manual and Emergency Operations Plan specific to the respective park they are operating within. In many cases, the sampling sites can only be reached by motorboat, swamp buggy, airboat, ATV, or occasionally via helicopter. Currently, it is unclear if a helicopter will be needed for access in Big Cypress National Preserve or Everglades National Park sampling. After point selection has been conducted, the need for helicopter access will be assessed. If a helicopter is used as a mode of transportation for this protocol then a project aviation safety plan will be developed with the appropriate park unit before the helicopter can be used. All field staff will maintain the following trainings, if necessary:

- Motorboat Operator Certification Course (MOCC) (ref 36 CFR part 3, 485 DM 22) (necessary if driving an NPS boat)
- MOCC Airboat Safety Module (if using an airboat)
- ATV training (if using ATV's)
- Swamp buggy training (if using a swamp buggy)
- Helicopter S-271 training for helicopter crewmembers (if using a helicopter)
- S-372 Helicopter Resource Manager Training for project lead and community ecologist (if using a helicopter)
- Operational Leadership

The South Florida/Caribbean Network operates within a culture of safety where operational leadership principles prevail. Problems are considered proactively and each person must feel empowered to think about potential problems, speak up early, and act upon safety concerns regardless of their position. Any concerns must be addressed seriously and respectfully by management.

For work in Florida Bay near Flamingo, the Flamingo Ranger Station will be called for motorboat operator assistance. For work near Key Largo, the Key Largo Ranger Station will be called for assistance. For work in the western Everglades region, the Gulf Coast Ranger Station will be called for

motorboat assistance. All ranger stations are accessed via NPS dispatch 305-242-7740 or via park radio.

In cases of emergencies when working in South Florida parks, first contact Everglades dispatch either by phone 305-242-7740 or by park radio. In U.S. Virgin Islands parks, contact resource management or the in-park contact. Then call the SFCN office to report the emergency. See Table 1 for a list of Job Hazard Analyses associated with this protocol and their address on the server. Users should check for updated versions of the SFCN office Safety SOPs in Z:\Safety\ on the SFCN Florida server. Table 1 has a list of the Safety SOPs, Job Hazard Analyses (JHAs), and Operational Risk Management Analysis (GARs) associated with this protocol.

Nothing in this protocol is meant to imply deviations from established federal, departmental, or local safety rules and regulations applicable to the performance of assigned tasks. It is the responsibility of each individual to be familiar with such rules and regulations. Personnel must follow any park-specific requirements, and any other requirements of the National Park Service not otherwise specified herein.

Table 1. Safety SOPs, JHAs, and GARs. For most recent version of files see Z:\Safety\.

Type	Category	File Name
SOPs	Safety Signout – Float plan	Z:\SAFETY\Float_Plan\((CurrentDate)_SFCN_Float_Plan.pdf
	<i>Go/No-Go Checklists</i>	SFCN_SOPs_with_JHAs\Community_operations\Vehicle GoNoGo Checklist
	SFCN Vehicle (Truck)	CommunityGroup.PDF
	SFCN Airboat	Community_operations\SFCN_Airboat_Go_No_Go.doc
	SFCN ATV	SFCN_SOPs_with_JHAs\Community_operations\SFCN_ATV_Go_No_Go.doc
	SFCN Motorboat	SFCN_SOPs_with_JHAs\Community_operations\SFCN_(<i>Boat Name</i>)_Go_No_Go_Checklist_Community.docx
JHAs	Radio	SFCN_SOPs\Community_operations\Radio_ID_sheet.xls
	General Forest Monitoring	SFCN_SOPs_with_JHAs\JHAs\Community_Group_JHA's\Job_Hazard_Analysis_Forest_Monitoring \General_Forest_Monitoring.docx
	Hiking	SFCN_SOPs_with_JHAs\JHAs\Community_Group_JHA's\Job_Hazard_Analysis_Forest_Monitoring \JHA_Hiking.docx
	Truck	SFCN_SOPs_with_JHAs\JHAs\Community_Group_JHA's\Job_Hazard_Analysis_Forest_Monitoring \JHA_Truck.docx
	Airboat	SFCN_SOPs_with_JHAs\JHAs\Community_Group_JHA's\Job_Hazard_Analysis_Forest_Monitoring \JHA_Airboat.docx
	Motorboat	SFCN_SOPs_with_JHAs\JHAs\Community_Group_JHA's\Job_Hazard_Analysis_Forest_Monitoring \JHA_Motorboat.docx
	ATV	SFCN_SOPs_with_JHAs\JHAs\Community_Group_JHA's\Job_Hazard_Analysis_Forest_Monitoring \JHA_ATV.docx
GARs	Helicopter	SFCN_SOPs_with_JHAs\JHAs\Community_Group_JHA's\Job_Hazard_Analysis_Forest_Monitoring \JHA_Helicopter.docx
	SFCN Terrestrial	Z:\SAFETY\Float_Plan\SFCN_Terrestrial_GAR.pdf
	SFCN Helicopter	Z:\SAFETY\Float_Plan\SFCN_Helicopter_GAR.pdf