

The hazards listed below should be considered when completing the Field Work Plan and Risk Assessment.

<b>POTENTIAL HAZARDS / THINGS TO CONSIDER</b>	
<p><b>Field Work activities at site</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• urban survey <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• bushwalking traverse on foot <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• abseiling <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• rock/tree climbing <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• working at height <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• sample collecting <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• underground work/caving <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• diving/snorkelling <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• boating <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• geological sampling <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• wall collapse potential <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• rock chips <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><b>Tides and Weather</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• tide data <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• meteorology bureau forecasts <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• radio broadcasts <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>Personal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sunburn <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• heat stress <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• cold stress <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• manual handling, lifting <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Slips and trips <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• mental stress <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• personal security and safety <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• allergies <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><b>Urban</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• urban dogs <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• hostile or violent persons <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul> <p><b>Chemicals/Hazardous Substances</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• carcinogens, geno toxins (mutagens, teratogens) <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• sensitising agents <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>Fauna &amp; Flora</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sting animals (terrestrial/marine) <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• dangerous marine animals <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• stock (cattle etc.) <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• snakes <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• bats (vaccinations) <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• spiders, ticks, leeches etc. <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• allergens <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• handling of small animals <input type="checkbox"/></li>   <li>• handling of large animals <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• harmful plant contact (sap, stinging hairs etc.) <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• corrosive agents <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• irritants <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• toxic substances (poisons) <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• solvents <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• MSDS available <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul> <p><b>Overseas Field Work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• disease <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• vaccinations <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• political climate <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• local authorities/approvals <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>Camp Site</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• terrain <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• falling tree branches <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• flash flooding <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• safe from wildlife/stock <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• safe from vehicles <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• secure from theft <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• harassment, hostile persons <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><b>Mechanical Hazards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vehicles <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• machinery/moving equipment <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• vibration <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• pressure equipment <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• generation of dust <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul> <p><b>Radiation Hazards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sealed/unsealed sources <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• ionizing radiation <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• laser <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• radiofrequency <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>Transport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vehicles <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• boats <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• aircraft <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><b>Fire and Explosion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• flammable substances <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• explosives <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul> <p><b>Thermal Hazards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cryogenic fluids <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• hypothermia <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• heatstroke <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul> <p><b>Electrical</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• high voltage equipment <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• 240v electrical equipment <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul> <p><b>Other</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• specify _____ <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>

The following items should be considered when planning Field Work.

<p><b>Field Work Party</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• size <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• composition <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• novice/experienced <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• fitness <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• medical conditions <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><b>Personal protection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gloves <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• goggles <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• face masks <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• respirator <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• harness <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• hard hat <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>Clothing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sun hat <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• winter clothing (all year) <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• trousers/overalls <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• appropriate footwear <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• high visibility clothing <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><b>Transport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• driver licensing <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• driver training <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>Etiquette requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bush etiquette/environment <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• collecting permits <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• permission to enter private land <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><b>Navigation</b></p> <p>route selection <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• location determination <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• direction determination <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>Camp requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• potable water and food <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• cooking facilities <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• LP gas arrangements <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• electrical power failures <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• lighting <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• noise <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• privacy <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• accommodation facilities <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• hygiene/ablution arrangements <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• smoking/alcohol ground rules <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><b>Communication</b></p> <p>between participants <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• with locals <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• with supervisor <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• with the University <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• radio/satellite phone <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• with Emergency Services <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
<p><b>Licensing/Authorities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site specific inductions <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Flora/fauna collecting <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• National Parks permits <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Indigenous area access permits <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Access permits- mine sites <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Access to private property <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Radioactive substance licence <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Poison permits <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• AQIS importation permits (overseas activity) <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• Other <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p><b>Fire Risks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• extinguisher <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• campfires <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• combustibles <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>
	<p><b>First Aid Requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• first aider in the group <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• first aid kit in transport <input type="checkbox"/></li> <li>• portable first aid kit <input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul> <p>(for walking trips away from base)</p> <p>additional items required <input type="checkbox"/></p>
	<p><b>Other</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></p>

## HEALTH ADVICE AND VACCINATIONS

All staff and students participating in field work are expected to be up-to-date with the Australian Standard Vaccination Schedule (as per NHMRC guidelines).

Additional vaccination may be required for travel within certain parts of Australia, international travel or for specific tasks (e.g. working with animals in some regions). Examples of advice and vaccinations required for travel within Australia are:

- Hepatitis B vaccination for persons working with human blood or tissue;
- Tetanus vaccination (especially important for persons working with animals or likely to sustain wounds contaminated by soil);
- Malaria prophylaxis;
- Mosquito avoidance measures and equipment to avoid dengue fever in far north Queensland and Ross River virus in Northern and Western Australia;
- Rabies vaccination for the handlers of flying foxes/bats to protect against Lyssavirus which is closely related to the rabies virus;
- Hepatitis A vaccination for persons handling non-toilet trained infants and toddlers or working with sewage;
- Japanese encephalitis vaccination should be considered for those engaged in prolonged visits to villages on the outer islands of Torres Strait;
- Tuberculosis.

An example of possible vaccination and medical advice requirements for a field trip to Indonesia is as follows:

- Counselling regarding mosquito avoidance bite avoidance (to reduce risk of contracting malaria and dengue fever) and the use of anti-malarial medication;
- Hepatitis A vaccination;
- Hepatitis B vaccination;
- Typhoid vaccination;
- Polio vaccination (oral Sabin);
- Tuberculosis (only for lengthy stays, certain activities and more important for children than adults);
- Advice regarding ingestion of safe food and water to prevent diarrhoeal disease including cholera;
- Review routine vaccination status for tetanus, rubella, measles and mumps.

## HIGH RISK FIELD WORK ACTIVITIES

High risk field work activities require that participants have specific qualifications or skills including:-

- Boating
- Diving;
- Snorkelling;
- Bushwalking;
- Cliff walking;
- Climbing;
- Use of high voltage equipment;
- Tractor driving;
- Off-road 4 wheel driving;
- Farm work.

The University's insurance records show that the major proportion of rural vehicle accidents arise from inexperienced when driving on gravel roads. Field work supervisors are strongly advised to ensure that field work participants who will drive on gravel roads have been to an advanced driver training course which has specific emphasis on gravel road driving safety. The RAC web site has helpful information at <http://www.rac.com.au/ecar/> - search - in the publication "RAC Guide to Safe Country Driving".

Field Work supervisors should ensure that participants meet the minimum skill, experience and qualification requirements for such field work activities prior to commencement of the field work. The Field Work Plan should require that certified copies of mandatory qualifications and training be provided by field work participants and held on the staff file.

Field work hazard identification checklist	Published: October 2012	Version 1.1
Authorised by UWA Safety and Health	Review: October 2017	Page 3 of 3
This document is uncontrolled when printed - the current version is on the Safety and Health website		