The intent of this document is to provide staff and contractors with a list of known hazards associated with freshet flood response activity. This is not an exhaustive list nor does it replace the need to complete a field level risk assessment (FLRA). The information herein is intended to be a supplementary resource to guide the assessment and control of health and safety risks.

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| **Known / foreseeable hazards** | **Potential controls** |
| Aggressive animals (ed. dogs, raccoons, bears etc.) | Scan area prior to accessing; audible deterrents (ex. bear bell, whistle, loud noises): “if in doubt, get out;” use physical object/barrier to get between yourself and aggressive animal (ex. broom handle) then leave area |
| Backing up trucks or equipment | Use spotter; mirrors; shoulder checks; walk around vehicle; reverse sirens/beacons; wear sunglasses (if conditions warrant it); if unsure of surroundings, stop maneuver and do physical walk around |
| Biohazards (ie. contaminated flood water) | Wear gloves/protective clothing; wash hands before eating/touching face (reduces cross-contamination potential) |
| Chainsaw use | Chainsaw training (operation and safety); pre-use inspection (chain is tight, teeth sharp, fluids are checked); PPE (chaps, face shield, ear muffs); ensure no unnecessary people in work zone; cordon off area (when possible) |
| First aid situation | Know nearest hospital/medical walk-in location; one person per crew with OFA 1, at a minimum; report injuries to supervisor |
| Heavy equipment working in area | Ensure good communication/coordination between all personnel on site; complete FLRA; make eye contact with equipment operator; cordon off work zone |
| Inclement weather (heat exposure) | Work/rest cycle; hydrate; take micro breaks throughout day; take breaks in shade (rather than in direct sunlight); dress according to the weather (layer – excess layers can always be removed) |
| Insects (ex. wasps, ticks, mosquitos) | If allergic, carry medication on you; scan area before entering; check hair/clothes after exiting wooded area; wear repellent |
| Lifting and carrying | Use proper lifting technique; know approximate weight of load prior to lifting; use mechanical assists for heavy or awkwardly-shaped items; two-person lift (when possible) |
| Noise (ie. from equipment running, pumps etc.) | Wear appropriate hearing protection; work within exposure limits |
| Overhead hazards (power lines, trees, falling materials) | Awareness of area (look up); know limits of approach; wear hard hat if overhead hazards exist |
| Power tools | Training; follow manufacturer’s specifications; use engineered guards (where applicable/available); PPE |
| Repetitive strain/stress injuries | Work/rest cycle; switch tasks with your co-workers; alternate dominant hands; wear proper PPE; use mechanical assists when possible |
| Swift water | Follow developed RAs and SWPs associated with swift water; use of coast guard approved foam filled PFDs when near water (within 10 feet); |
| Slips, trips and falls (ie. uneven ground, downed trees/branches, large rocks, slippery surfaces etc.) | Watch footing; ensure suitable footwear is worn and done up properly; visually assess scene/site before accessing it |
| Traffic hazards (if working near roadway) | Follow Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure’s (MOTI) manual for work on roadways; use of traffic control personnel (where appropriate) and equipment (barricades, delineators, pylons, signage, PPE) |
| Unstable ground/soils (sloughing potential) | Assess area before accessing; report erosion/signs of slides to supervisor; keep distance |
| Violence / aggression (from co-workers or members of public | De-escalate a situation the best you can; if de-escalation doesn’t work, walk away; work in pairs; report incidents to supervisor for investigation |