# **Flood Waters Driving through - SAFE WORK procedure**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this procedure is to safely identify and evaluate crossing flood waters safely

**SCOPE**

This procedure covers any staff that are driving through flood waters.

**APPLICABILITY**

These procedures apply to all staff that need to cross flood waters

**PREREQUISITES**

* Review of correlating risk assessment

**REFERENCE SOURCES:**

* City of Kelowna Safety Management System
* Auto File BC

**PPE REQUIRED:**

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| * Safety Vest |  |  |
| * PFD (precautionary for if stranded while crossing) |  |  |
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**TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:**

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| * Communication Device (cell/2-way) |  |  |
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| **PRE – Work Procedure** | |
| **Responsibility** | **Activity** |
| **Employer** | Ensure that there is a risk assessment and safe work procedure for driving through flood waters |
| **Employee** | Review this safe work procedure and the correlating risk assessment |
| **Employee** | Evaluate depth as best as possible using stationary objects (if crown of road or paint marks are visible, you should be able to safely cross) **If the water is 2 feet high or more- DO NOT ATTEMPT to CROSS. If the water is between 1 foot and 2 feet, only attempt with a pickup truck or SUV that has higher clearance.** |
| **Employee** | Before crossing, make sure that your communication device is working, that PFD is accessible and that you’ve radioed/called supervisor to advise where you are and that you are crossing the flood waters. |

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| **Safe Work Procedure** | |
| **Responsibility** | **Activity** |
| **Employee** | Once determination has been made to cross the flood waters, do so in a slow and steady manner. (Too fast, lose traction. Too slow, get stuck) |
| **Employee** | Once through the flood waters, call supervisor to advise that you’ve made it through |
| **Employee** | Once out of water, brakes may not be functioning properly, light brake applications will help them dry out and warm up quicker. |
| **Employee** | If stuck during the crossing, call supervisor and alert them that you are stuck. Stay in the vehicle until the water level starts to threaten you. At that point, put on PFD and try for higher ground- vehicles roof. As a last resort, try to swim/wade to safety. |

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| **POST – House keeping** | |
| **Responsibility** | **Activity** |
| **Employee** | Keep a log of crossings and where they are estimated at, this may assist others with updating inspection data. |

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