

Example of Emergency Evacuation Plan

Whitebark pine research project under Dr. Lori Daniels

It is important for the entire field crew to be able to identify where they are on a topographic map every day. This means being aware of various access routes in and out of each sample site and knowing where it is possible to get satellite phone reception.

1. If an accident occurs, make sure the environment is safe for you to enter – e.g., step away from the beehive. Stay calm.
2. ABCs – stabilize airway, breathing and circulation
3. Treat for shock by covering person with space blanket and other clothing
4. Determine whether person can make it out of the backcountry with aid.
5. If the injured person requires evacuation, take a GPS reading of location. Determine best location for helicopter landing.
6. Attempt to get satellite phone connection. Call Warden Service first. Then Fire Protection. Last resort should be RCMP. Say:

This is a medical emergency.

My name is _____. I am with the UBC Whitebark pine Research Project.

We have one person who is _____ (describe situation) _____.

We require helicopter evacuation.

We are at _____ (location – e.g., head of Copper Creek, south slope) _____

Our GPS coordinates are _____ easting and _____ northing.

Our satellite phone number is: _____.

7. If you can't get a connection on the satellite phone, determine quickest and safest way of getting either a) a connection on the phone or b) back to the vehicle.
8. Determine who should stay with the injured and who should go for help.
9. Whoever goes for help must flag out their path. They should also take the GPS and bear spray. Which party keeps the satellite phone will depend on the condition of the injured versus the probability of getting reception – should be discussed.
10. First aid kit and flares stays with injured.
11. Incident report filed at the end of the day.