## **Dalhousie Department of Biology**

## Research in the Field Safety "RIFS" Checklist

V3-26 April 2023

The Department of Biology takes safety in the field seriously and expects supervisors to support students and other participants they supervise in preparation for all aspects of field safety. This RIFS checklist is a tool to facilitate that preparation.

This questionnaire/checklist must be completed by participant-supervisor pairs for each field season or field expedition where anyone supervised by a member of the Department participates in field work. Field work is defined as research activities occurring outside of Dalhousie. The signed and dated checklist must be returned to Carolyn Young before the participant departs for the field and a copy should accompany the participant into the field.

**Participant Name:** 

Super	visor Name:				
Destination:					
Departure and Return Dates:					
Check	<u>list:</u>				
1.	Who are the responsible people in charge of this field work and what is the nature of their working relationship with the participant (e.g. supervisor, senior collaborating scientist etc)? What are their responsibilities to participants? If a safety issue arises for a participant, how should the participant bring this to the attention of the people in charge? Note: There may be multiple responsible people, for instance the supervisor may be responsible but not participating in the field work, so there may be additional responsible people, e.g. the chief scientist or Captain on a research vessel.				
2.	What are the relevant emergency contact phone numbers for this field work, and under what circumstances should they be called?				

3. What are the known hazards, beyond those encountered in everyday life, that will be present during this field work? Would you classify these as low, medium or high risk? How are these hazards being mitigated (for example through training or supply of personal protective equipment)? Are any of these hazards more likely to impact this specific participant, and if so, what additional mitigation measures are in place? If needed, please ad additional columns.

Hazard	Risk	Mitigation	Participant-specific mitigation?

4.	be respected. Participants a relationships between stude the field, and that when con Department and the University https://www.dal.ca/dept/uniharassment-policyhtml	et everyone they encounter during are encouraged to remember that the ents and supervisors and other people ducting field work, participants are sity. Resources outlining behavior exersity secretariat/policies/human-ot/university_secretariat/	e expectations for working e in positions of power extend to representing their lab, the expectations are found here: rightsequity/personal-			
5.	5. During fieldwork, incidents of sexualized violence or harassment should be reported to the responsible people (see item 1 above). In cases where external communications are available, Dalhousie's Sexualized Violence Advisor is trained to help individuals who have experienced sexualized violence and can be a resource for the participant. The Sexualized Violence Advisor offers confidential support and assistance to any member of the Dalhousie Community. Participants can reach out to the Advisor before, during or after fieldwork to learn more about reporting options, receive work and academic accommodations, and referrals to various campus and community resources. Participants can contact hres@dal.ca or call 902-494-6672 for more information or to book an appointment.					
		also has designated Safe Space All re: https://www.dal.ca/faculty/scien				
	violence in the field:	le to help supervisors respond if param/dalhousie/pdf/dept/hres/harassm	•			
I, the pa	articipant, understand the abo	ove information, have discussed iter	ms 1-5 with my supervisor.			
Participant Name		Participant Signature	Date			
I, the su	upervisor, understand the abo	ove information, have discussed iter	ns 1-5 with the participant.			
Superv	isor Name	Supervisor Signature	Date			