

Safe Work Plan			
COVID-19:		F&W Field Schools	
Created by	Paul Ashley	Approving Supervisor	Marc Patenaude
Created Date	4/27/21	School	SENRS
Applies to the following:			
Program		Course Code	
Fish and Wildlife Technician		Habitat Field School APST 148	
		Wetlands Field School 149	
		Wildlife Field School 146	

Overview

COVID-19 is a respiratory disease caused by a new type of coronavirus. Public Health Ontario advises the virus is spread predominantly through respiratory droplets produced by an infected person when coughing, sneezing, or talking to others who are in close proximity (within 2 Meters) to them. The following plan includes recommendations to help reduce the risk of COVID-19.

For onsite campus illness reporting

If an employee or student begins to feel unwell while on campus, please contact ext.4444 immediately to receive instruction and guidance on next steps.

For offsite campus illness reporting

If an employee or student begins to feel unwell, please contact 705-749-5530 ext. 8000 to report illness and receive instruction and guidance on next steps.

Scope

This document will provide guidance on working safely based on all COVID-19 related H&S sector-specific and Public Health guidelines. This safe work plan applies to all Fleming staff, students and community members participating in the courses listed above. This safe work plan must be used in conjunction with all Fleming College operational procedures and established safety protocols.

Restricted Campus Access

All approved individuals attending campus are required to complete "Return to Campus" training in advance and participate in daily health-related screening as per Public Health requirement. Additionally, all employees and students are required to wear a non-medical mask/face covering, practice physical distancing and vigorous hand hygiene while on campus.

Recognize the COVID related hazards

- Sustained close contact (greater than 15mins)
- Shared materials, tools, equipment
- Congregation

Expected Controls to Reduce COVID Transmission

The following controls reflect current Public Health measures to reduce transmission of COVID-19 in the work and learning environment. All participants are expected to practice these safety measures during the course of work.

Close Contact

- Ensure 2m. or 6ft. physical distancing at all times.
- Daily attendance will be taken. Ideally make note of partnerships and assigned workstations.
- If project/pair work is required, staff and students will be assigned consistent partner for the entirety of the course. Activities that require contact will only be completed with assigned partners.
- If sustained close contact (greater than 15mins) facial coverings AND eye protection is required.

Shared Equipment

- Assigned equipment to be used as much as possible to reduce sharing.
- Students will be encouraged to bring in their own tools when possible.
- When shared equipment and tools must take place, vigilant hand hygiene will be the primary control.
- Diligent hand hygiene will occur before and after contact with a piece of equipment.
- The instructor podium and electronics i.e. safety phone, computer keyboard, mouse, monitor, etc. will be disinfected prior use and after use using wipes provided.
- Equipment can be left to “rest” for min of 72 hours or disinfected prior to redeployment.

Congregation

- Respect all directional floor markings and posted safety signs.
- Use of staggered schedules to reduce potential of hallway, breakroom etc. congregation.
- Numbered workstations are assigned for duration of all lab activities.
- Workstations are pre-stocked, by lab technologist in advance to minimize student’s movement during the lab.
- Demonstrations will be led by instructor in smaller groups to avoid close congregation.
- Consider the use of technological support such as document cameras.
- Use of plexiglass barriers can be considered for close contact discussions in addition to face coverings.
- Unapproved close contact between individuals is strictly prohibited.

Sanitation

- All labs and workspaces will be provided with hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes. Care will be taken to use only what is required to prevent waste of supplies.
- All consumables such as wipes will be discarded in the garbage cans provided after use.
- All unnecessary equipment will be removed from the lab/workspace space to promote wipeable surfaces and encourage physical distancing.
- Vigorous hand hygiene must be practiced after using shared equipment or high touch surfaces.
- It is extremely important that everyone washes and/or sanitize hands
 - before touching your face, eyes, or mouth;

- before putting on your personal protective equipment (PPE);
- before eating, drinking, smoking or vaping;
- after removing your PPE or your soiled work clothing;
- after working on a surface touched by other people; and
- after using a tool or equipment that is shared with other people.

CAUTION: DO NOT USE HAND SANITIZER WHEN COMPLETING FLAME WORK DUE TO THE FLAMMABILITY OF THE ALCOHOL IN THE HAND SANITIZER. Each lab is equipped with a sink, running water and soap for use upon entry into the lab. Directions of effective hand washing signs are present at all sinks.

Shared Responsibility

- All participants are expected to read and practice all safety measures outlined in this document.
- All participants are responsible for identifying safety related hazards in the workplace.
- The Supervisor is responsible for ensuring all safety measures are known and adhered to by all workers in the workplace.

This section is to capture additional information regarding the unique characteristics of the activity taking place. Please complete this area.

List the standard PPE requirements for this course/dept.

cap
clothing for appropriate weather

1. Detail the course/department specific activities that require additional safety measures or considerations, not covered in the list above.

Provide details here:

1) participation in these field schools requires students to work in small groups for habitat assessments and wildlife handling within 2 m of each other for up to 40 minutes. For example, to meet learning outcomes: i) students will be learning to properly hold and take biological samples of waterfowl and meadow voles. It takes two students to do this without adding undue stress on the animals, ii) students will be learning to identify diagnostic features of soils in soil pits, this can not be done at a distance due to lighting and size of diagnostic features. All activities where physical distancing will not impact learning outcomes will be done at a distance. Acquiring these skills can not be replaced through virtual alternatives.

2) shared equipment use

2. Provide details regarding the additional safety measures required to address the risks outlined above? (consider suggestions in tip sheet attached)

Provide details here:

Terrestrial, wetland and wildlife habitat inventory and assessment requires the use of field equipment such as calipers, clinometers and soil augers. Students will be encouraged to wash and/or sanitize before and after using this equipment and equipment will be sanitized between uses.

Face masks will be required outdoors. Level II masks will be required when students are be within 2 metres of each other.

Hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes and/or sprays will be required to disinfect hands and tools before and after use.

Students wear masks at all times in the field except when eating, and drinking. Students must maintain social distancing at all times and will ensure social distancing is maintained when eating and drinking.

Where more than one student is required to perform a task within 2m if ine another, group size will be limited to two students and an instructor at one time.

3. List new or additional PPE considerations.

☒ **N/A** (please check this box if these considerations are not applicable to this SWP)

Provide details here:

Hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, and sprays will be brought into the field to allow students to disinfect themselves and tools before and after use.

Level II masks should be provided by the college.

4. Provide details regarding required extracurricular activities (Examples Day Trips, Visitors/Guest, One-Off Trips)

☒ **N/A** (please check this box if these considerations are not applicable to this SWP)

Provide details here:

These activities are part of the regular curriculum and are not extracurricular.

Compliance

Failure to comply with this Safe Work Plan or any other procedures or policies of Fleming College may result in your dismissal from the lab and you may be asked to leave the College until your compliance for your safety and others can be assured.

Evaluation of Safe Work Plan

- a. Review of stock of disinfecting wipes, cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment.
- b. Weekly lab inspections to ensure spaces remains decluttered and organized.
- c. Frequent review and revision of Safe Work Plan to reflect ongoing policy revision and amendments – Prior to each semester at minimum.

Approvals

Revision History

Date	Rev.	Revision Summary	by
	0	Original.	

Tip Sheet

Mitigation Control Strategies

Please review the following examples of mitigation control strategies as related to the inherent risks associated with the acute respiratory illnesses including COVID-19.

Elimination/Substitution Controls:

- Remote work where possible
- Staggered shifts, lunches, breaks
- Virtual learning and demos
- Removal of unnecessary equipment/furniture/materials
- Material handling tools
- Point of Sale Extension Poles

Engineering Controls:

- Plexiglass Barriers
- Workstation Partitions
- Use of a document camera
- Enlarged Screen

Administrative Controls:

- Floor Markings
- Entry/Exit Guidelines
- Assigned workstation/equipment/tools
- Increased sanitation/disinfection protocols
- Job Rotation for work behind plexiglass partitions

PPE Controls:

- Face Shield
- Safety Glasses
- Gowns/Coveralls
- Gloves