

JOB SAFETY ANALYSIS	JOB TITLE OR OPERATION: SNAKE MONITORING	DATE:	<u> X </u> NEW REVISIED
PLANT / LOCATION:	COMPANY / ORGANIZATION:	DEPARTMENT: Resources Management	EMPLOYEE / OPERATOR: Ecologist, Biological Technician
SUPERVISOR:	ANALYSIS BY:	REVIEWED BY:	APPROVED BY:

Required and/or Recommended Personal Protective Equipment:	Equipment described for each task (below), vehicle, radio and/or satellite phone, knowledge of procedure in case of envenomation. A second person is highly recommended but not required. If a second person is not present, an emergence contact person must be on call within one hour's drive, who can drive to a hospital or clinic.
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Potential Hazards	Sequence of Basic Job Steps	Recommended Action or Procedure
Envenomation to personnel; injury or mortality to snake.	Venomous snake capture	A. Use proper equipment for capture: Snake tongs (4 feet long), venomous reptile box (e.g., Pullman) or 5 gallon bucket with lid and snake bag (5 feet long and able to fit around bucket). B. Be alert for other snakes in area.
	Option 1: Use of special reptile container.	C1. Place reptile container in open space with lid open. Grasp snake with tongs as close to midbody as possible. Squeeze firmly but do not use excessive force. Transfer snake to container, release, and use tongs to close or place lid over container. Immediately secure latch on container while watching for possible escape.
	Option 2: Use of 5 gallon bucket with lid and snake bag.	C2. Place one snake bag in open bucket with 2-3 inches of bag turned over the bucket's rim. Use snake tongs to place reptile in bag. Then use tongs to clamp edge of bag and lift up until fully extended, immediately twist bag until there is no slack. Tie a single knot in the middle of the twisted bag. Do not touch the bottom of the bag. Place the bagged reptile in the bucket and attach lid.
	Transport	D. Do not leave container in sun and do not leave it where ambient temperature exceeds 85 degrees (F). Make sure all persons in the area are aware that the container has a venomous reptile.
	Release	E. Release reptile at site of capture (on opposite side of trap bucket from drift fence if trapped there) and only during normal activity conditions (time and weather) for that species.
	Examination of venomous snake	F. Use proper equipment for handling and examination of venomous snake: Snake tongs (4 foot length), 5 gallon bucket with lid, snake bags, venomous reptile box (e.g., Pullman), set of clear plastic tubes, adequate lighting. G. Select an open space where there is ample room to maneuver in case the snake chooses to crawl off quickly. Proceed only if environmental conditions are suitable for the snake and do not interfere with safe handling—e.g., no extreme temperatures, rain, or wind.

		<p>H. Arrange all equipment that will be used so it is readily accessible. Place the snake in the center of the open space. Using tongs, secure the snake firmly 25 cm (10 inches) behind the head. Holding a clear plastic tube at one end, place the other end over the snake's head and slide it on until the snake's head is centered in the tube. The tube should fit snugly around the snake's head if it won't go on try the next larger size; if it feels loose, try the next smaller size. Once the correct tube is centered and the snake's head is immobilized, use the free hand to grip both the snake and tube firmly. Release the tongs with the other hand and grip the snake firmly at midbody. The snake is now safe to examine.</p> <p>I. To release, hold the snake at top level of container with lower hand gripping both snake and tube and the upper hand holding the tube. All of the snake outside the tube should be in the container. Release the gripping hand and step back.</p>
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