

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Idaho State Office
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In Reply Refer To:
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September 2, 2004

EMS
Instruction Memorandum No. ID-2004-102
Expires: 09/30/2005

To: All State Office Employees

From: State Director

Subject: BLM Personal Protective Clothing Requirements for the Idaho State Office

Program Area: Health and Safety.

Purpose: The purpose of this Instruction Memorandum (IM) is to establish policy and guidelines for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Personal Protective Clothing Requirements for the Idaho State Office.

Policy/Action: The BLM Personal Protective Clothing Requirements for the Idaho State Office provides guidelines for BLM Idaho State Office employees to protect themselves against the effects of exposure.

Timeframe: This IM is effective immediately.

Background: Historically, BLM state offices have functioned under their statewide policies and guidelines. The BLM Safety and Health Team decided that OSHA will consider State Offices as a facility. This means that each State Office needs to have site specific written OSHA plans. This IM is to establish the BLM Personal Protective Clothing Requirements for the Idaho State Office.

Manual/Handbook Sections Affected: None.

Coordination: This IM was coordinated with the BLM Idaho State Safety and Occupational Health Manager, BLM Idaho Human Resources Officer, BLM Idaho DSD for Support Services, and BLM Idaho DSD for Resources.

Contact: For questions or further information, please contact Lin Buck, BLM Idaho State Office Safety and Health Officer at (208) 373-4097.

Lower Snake River District with Union: No Union notification or negotiation is required.

Signed by:
K Lynn Bennett

Authenticated by:
Susanna M. Henry
Staff Assistant (ID-933)

Attachment

1 – BLM Personal Protective Clothing Requirements for the Idaho State Office

Personal Protective Clothing Requirements For the Idaho State Office

I. POLICY

The Idaho State Office establishes this written Personal Protective Equipment Program which includes, as a minimum:

- A. Procurement of approved equipment to meet the specific needs of the organization.
- B. Availability of the equipment to employees when its use is needed.
- C. Employees trained to know when to use the equipment and how to properly select, inspect, use, maintain, store, and dispose the equipment.
- D. Employees properly fitted for the equipment, such as hearing protectors, respirators, footwear, back supports, etc.
- E. Managers, supervisors, and employees are held accountable for effectively implementing the program.
- F. The Safety and Health Officer (SHO) and the ISO Safety and Health Committee are held accountable for monitoring the program and recommending enhancements as appropriate.
- G. Employees required to wear a respirator must be medically evaluated.
- H. Personal protective equipment, needed for the protection of employees from occupational hazards, is provided without cost to the employees.
- I. Supervisors plan appropriate funding for personal protection equipment in their office operational funding.

II. PROTECTIVE MEASURES

If engineering control measures do not make the environment safe or in the event of an emergency, it may be necessary to protect employees from exposure to health hazards with personal protective equipment. However, personal protective devices may fail or leak, which could lead to sudden exposure to health hazards. Proper maintenance and testing are absolutely necessary. Personal protective equipment, such as devices for respiratory protection, eye and face protection, and foot protection, should be used as stated in 29 CFR 1910, Subpart I, (133, 134, 135, and 136).

- A. Respiratory protective devices.

Using respirators is not a substitute for engineering control. They are restricted to emergencies or for situations when controlling hazards by other methods is not possible. There are two types of respiratory protectors:

1. Air purifiers, which remove the contaminant from the air breathed by filtering or by chemical absorption.
2. Air supply respirators, which provide clean air from a canister or tank; use in an oxygen deficient atmosphere. Select respirators for the particular hazard and environment. Choose either National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) or Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA) approved respirators. Obtain details of respirators from the manufacturer.

B. Eye and face protector.

1. General requirements

- a. Protective eye and face devices must be worn when there is a reasonable chance that injury can be prevented by using the equipment.
- b. The equipment must be available and the employees must wear it while in the hazardous equipment or environment.

2. Specific requirements.

- a. Adequate protection against the specific hazard must be provided.
- b. The equipment must be comfortable when worn and must not interfere with movement.
- c. It must be easy to clean and disinfect.

3. Persons using corrective lenses are to be protected by the following types of eyewear:

- a. Eyeglasses that provide optical correction.
- b. Goggles that can be worn over corrective glasses without disturbing them.
- c. Goggles that have corrective lenses mounted behind the protective lenses.
- d. The design, construction, testing, and use of the device must agree with American National Standard for Occupational and Educational Eye and Face Protection 287.1-1968.

4. Employees will wear head and foot protective equipment when it can prevent injury. Protective devices such as helmets, hats, and caps must meet the specifications in American National Protection, 289.1-1969; footwear must meet the American National Standard for Personnel's Safety-Toe Footwear, 241.1-1967.

5. Employees will wear protective clothing such as gloves, aprons, and coveralls that are impervious to certain substances when exposure to hazardous substances is likely. Choose clothing referred to in manufacturers' guides.

6. If applicable, hygienic facilities will be provided at accessible locations, especially where accidental exposures are likely.