Chapter 3

Safety in Fisheries Work
Fisheries work done on

- Land
- Water
- Ice
- Air
Dangers

- Equipment
- Chemicals
- Remote locations
- Inclement weather
Safe stands for...

- Skills
- Attitude
- Facts
- Equipment
Safety orientation

- Review of safe philosophy
- Job hazard analysis
- Physical limitations
- Training
- Safety contracts
3.2 First Aid

- When medical help not readily available
- Not complicated
Legal issues

• Negligence

• Consent
Universal precautions

- Wash
- Wear gloves
- Seal bloody items in plastic
- Clean up with disinfectant
Common accidents

• Drowning
• Electric shock
• Temperature hazards
  – Heat-hyperthermia
  – Cold-hypothermia
  – (Refer to box 3.2, Pg 66)
3.3 Boating safety - Power and capacity ratings

- Carry recommended capacity
- Calculate load capacity (Box 3.3, Pg 69)
- Rough water decreases safe carrying capacity
- Distribute load evenly
- Keep load low in boat
Safe boating procedures

- Fisheries biologists should take a course in boating skills
  - Seamanship
  - Aids in navigation
  - Piloting
  - Safe motor boat operation
  - Boating laws
Safe boating based on

- Good sense
- Courtesy
- Respect for life and property
Important

- Fire prevention gear
- Whistles or horns
- Signaling devices
- Lights at night
- Flotation devices should be on board
3.4 Safe wading requires

- **Equipment**
- **Skills**
- **Knowledge**
  - Think one foot at a time
  - Take short steps
  - Walk into current
  - Cross fast water at slow pace
Waders

- Protect from cuts and parasites
- Should be comfortable-neoprene
3.6 Safety on the road - Accident prevention entails

- Anticipate hazard by thinking ahead
- Understand the defense for specific hazard and apply
- Act defensively when hazard is recognized
Towing a trailer-four requirements

- Proper trailer and load
- Proper hitching equipment
- Towing vehicle with adequate weight and power
- A driver familiar with towing techniques
Heavy trucks and campers

- Weight of camper and content not exceeding vehicle and tire rating
- Have oversized mirrors
- Check tie-down mechanisms on camper for tightness
Overloaded vehicles

- Unstable
- Steering and breaking difficulties
- Overheats tires - catch fire or blow out
3.7 Safety in airplanes - Biotelemetry requires

- Low flying (<150m)
- Low air speeds
- Modified aircraft
Important for safety

- Communication
- Understanding the job
- Knowing safety measures
- Wearing protective clothing
- 3.8 Laboratory safety
  (Refer to box 3.7, Pg 77)
PLP-Polite Laboratory Protocol

- Clear labeling of rooms, work areas and containers
- Cleaning up thoroughly after oneself
- Communicating need for space and equipment in shared labs
- Transporting samples in double containers
Chemical safety

- Purchase from legitimate sources
- Use only for the registered purpose
- Transport in plastic containers
- Use MSDS for guidelines (Pg 78)
Reduce cost by

• Order only as needed
• Store chemicals in original containers
• Recycle where possible
3.9 Conclusion

• Safety is a communal effort!!!