


Emergency response plan

- Be able to communicate quickly
- Be prepared to give first aid
- Know what to do in an emergency

A topographic map showing terrain contours in shades of green and yellow. A red pin is placed on the map, with a white callout box above it containing coordinates. To the right of the map is a dark grey smartphone icon with a blue screen displaying a green telephone handset icon and the text 'CALL 111'.

Latitude: 38° 6.00' South
Longitude: 177° 26.00' East

"My latitude is 38 degrees, six point zero zero decimal minutes South. My longitude is 177 degrees, twenty six point zero zero decimal minutes East..."

Emergency response plan

A good emergency response plan may stop an accident becoming a fatality. The plan must be in place and everyone must know about it before the operation starts.

Be able to communicate quickly to get help

- Charge radios and phones each night and regularly test locator beacon batteries.
- Know where you're working – be able to give the road names and GPS co-ordinates in 'degrees decimal minutes'.
- Have one person controlling communications with emergency services.
- Someone must also meet the ambulance at the forest gate and direct them to the emergency.

Be prepared to give first aid before emergency services arrive

- Keep first aid skills up to date and kits well stocked:
 - » Before you head out each day, check you have the first aid equipment you might need.
- Be prepared to drive out by road if a helicopter can't get in.
- Be aware of having enough vehicles available to get everyone out safely if you need to leave in a hurry (eg, before extreme weather closes the forest road).

Know what to do in an emergency

- Treat emergency drills like the real thing – these should be held at least twice a year.
- Have a back-up plan – always think about what you would do if you couldn't follow the emergency plan.