

Safety-Gram

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Safe Operating Procedures Around Water

Working around, over, or near water is a safety hazard that may result in entrapment and drowning.

Best Practices:

- Conduct a daily workplace check, especially for loose material along haul roads and travel areas near water;
- Know water depth, subsurface conditions, and ground conditions before work begins;
- Keep equipment a safe distance from the water's edge;
- Avoid traveling over ice-covered water;
- Provide secure and stable handrails at workboats and dredges and around docks;
- Make certain berms are continuous and at least mid-axle high near water hazards;
- Miners must wear a life vest for the entire time they work on or near deep water;
- Keep water rescue equipment easily accessible;
- Know where extra PDFs and rescue rings are stored
- Provide good housekeeping and keep all travel ways clear around water hazards; areas where miners travel must be free of tripping hazards, so make sure all work areas are clean and orderly.

