

Gathering Facts

1. **What are conditions? Hazards** currently, & anticipated? Causes? How many people involved?
2. Assess and communicate. Determine situation status, **share observations with team**. Report significant observations to Command.
3. Consider probabilities. **What is likely to happen?** Are the conditions likely to cascade into more dangers?
4. Assess your own & Team's situation. **Are you in immediate danger?** Have you been trained to handle this situation? Do you have the resources that you need? Document your team members, the time, etc., in order to track them.
5. Establish priorities. **Are lives at risk?** Can you help? Securing lives, stabilizing the scene to mitigate escalation, are 1st priorities.
6. Make decisions. Focus operations on established **priorities**.
7. Develop a plan of action that enables you to **accomplish your objectives** and priorities. Assess & gather needed **supplies**. Establish: buddies, tasks, roles, radio channels, team ID, timing & check-in expectations, signals*, emergency meeting place. **Document all this** & team names, for reference.
8. Take action. Execute your focused plan. **Document deviations**, status changes, so that you can report the situation accurately to TL, command & professionals.
9. Evaluate progress. **At intervals:** regular team roll calls/welfare checks, and evaluate your progress in accomplishing the objectives, to determine what is working and what changes you may have to make to accomplish goals. **Report**.

* Pre-arrange whistle signals, e.g.:

Three short blasts: Evacuate

1 long blast: Stop work/maintain silence

1 long blast, then 1 short blast: Resume Operations