

**AMENDMENT TO
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE MANUAL CHAPTER
241 FW 6, ELECTROFISHING SAFETY**

Series: Occupational Safety and Health
Part 241: Safety Operations
Chapter 6: Electrofishing Safety, published 12/29/2016
Amendment Number: 1
Purpose: This amendment is intended to clarify inconsistent language regarding the selection and use of rubber insulating gloves in this electrofishing safety chapter's section on personal protective equipment. It clarifies and implements official testing requirements for rubber insulating gloves to align with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Actions:

Change section 6.11A (1) and (2) from this language:

A. Gloves.

(1) All team members must wear rubber gloves that are long enough to isolate hands from touching external surfaces. Common glove materials include neoprene, polyurethane, butyl, silicone, natural rubber, and PVC. Rubber insulating ("lineman's") gloves are not required. Class 0 rubber insulating gloves (maximum use voltage = 1,000 V RMS) with leather glove protectors are a practical glove system and allow for dexterity.

(2) Team members must visually inspect gloves for punctures before each use and replace them immediately if they are torn or punctured.

To this:

A. Gloves.

(1) All team members must wear insulating rubber gloves that meet OSHA's 1910.137 requirements for electrical protection when the system is energized. Gloves must be long enough to isolate hands from touching external surfaces to prevent shock. Gloves used when the system is energized must be marked with a class and inspection date on the upper cuff (Class 00 gloves for 500 V RMS or less, Class 0 gloves up to 1000 V RMS, Class 1 gloves up to 7,500 V RMS). Team members must wear leather protector gloves over rubber insulating gloves to protect them unless limited use conditions require high finger dexterity.

(2) Insulating gloves must be inspected for damage before each use and immediately following any incident that can reasonably be suspected of causing damage. Insulating gloves must be air tested (i.e., by blowing into them or using compressed air) to identify leaks while doing the visual inspection. In accordance with OSHA 1910.137 and ASTM D120-09, rubber insulating gloves must also be

tested before they are issued the first time and every 6 months thereafter by a testing laboratory accredited by the North American Independent Laboratories (NAIIL) for protective equipment testing. If the rubber insulating gloves were electrically tested but not issued for service, they may not be placed into service unless the testing took place within the previous 12 months.

/sgd/ Stephen Guertin
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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