

April 2024

By: James Dean

## Work Zone Safety

Editor: Emily Hanson

Intermountain Power Service Corporation



# Supervising Safety Newsletter

When most people think of a work zone, they think of a highway or road construction zone. However, many workers are exposed to work zones daily. A broader definition of a work zone is a work area where vehicle or pedestrian traffic should be minimized to protect workers, while reducing the potential of an accident or injury from occurring. Work zones should be designed to protect those working within the boundaries that have been established as well as those working outside, above, and below the work zone. Work zones should be clearly marked and workers should be well-trained to recognize the dangers within the work zone. Some of the ways that work zones can be marked include:

- Posted Signs
- Caution/ Danger Tape
- Physical Barriers
- Warning Lights
- Cones
- Flagging

New construction has changed the landscape and travel routes around IPSC, bringing more signs and detours. These new signs along with worker notifications are what help promote a safer work site for everyone. Workers are given proper training and notified of changes through email and crew meetings and are expected to abide by the rules and signs posted throughout the facility. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, transportation incidents and workers being struck by vehicles or mobile equipment account for the highest number of fatal worker injuries nationwide.

### Work Zone Pedestrian Safety

As a pedestrian in a work zone, we should be vigilant and watch out for hazardous situations.

- Whenever possible, walk on the sidewalk. If no sidewalk is available, walk facing traffic.
- Follow the rules of the road, obeying all traffic signs

and signals.

- Look left, then right, and then left again before crossing roadways or busy work areas. Make eye contact with drivers and equipment operators to make sure they see you.
- Stay alert. Keep your head up and screens off when navigating work zones.
- Wear high visibility reflective clothing and use a flashlight at night.
- Watch for vehicles entering or exiting parking areas or backing up.

As we navigate an ever-changing work zone environment, we should all remember to look out for our coworkers. When we make safety a priority, we demonstrate our commitment and dedication to promoting a safer workplace.

