Standing Operating Procedure (SOP) for
Personnel Protective Equipment: Footwear Standards

1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this SOP is to define Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE) footwear standards required in different types of field work performed by OANRP staff.

2. SCOPE. Includes standards that outline footwear PPE requirements for field operations.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES.
   a. Natural Resource Supervisors: Review procedures with Natural Resource Management Staff to ensure understanding and compliance during safety briefings.
   b. Natural Resource Staff: Follow footwear PPE standards when conducting fieldwork.
   c. Failure to comply with this SOP may result in disciplinary action.

4. PROCEDURES. OANRP staff perform many types of fieldwork. Depending on the demands of the operation different types of footwear PPE are required. The following standard was developed considering the demands of the various tasks with overall personnel safety being the primary consideration and the pros and cons of footwear PPE types.
   a. Hiking in steep terrain: For hiking in steep, loose, or wet terrain, the following types of footwear PPE are authorized. Either lace up boots above the ankle or metal spiked tabis. Boots without spikes are not authorized in steep and/or slippery terrain.
   b. Hiking in terrain with foot puncture hazards: Boots or tabis with puncture resistant insoles are recommended for areas with hazards including old skirting wire or numerous pongee type stumps.
   c. Helicopter operations: Boots above the ankle, all leather upper with no metal against the skin. No tabis or spiked boots allowed. For sling load operations; boots above the ankle, all leather uppers, no metal must contact the sock or bare skin. Tabis or spiked boots allowed for receiving sling loads in steep terrain where this type of footwear is required.
   d. Power tool operations for chainsaw and bladed weed eaters: Operations require the following type of footwear PPE. All personnel involved must have above the ankle boots. Operations in steep terrain require corked/spiked boots.
   e. Operations for auger and string line (whip) weed eaters: All personnel involved must have above the ankle boots or metal spiked tabis or boots. In steep terrain boots must be corked/spiked.
f. Hand tool operations: For all hand tool operations including the use of machetes, picks and Pulaskis, the following type of footwear PPE is required. All personnel involved must have above the ankle boots or metal spiked tabis or boots. Boots may have nonskid or lug soles. In steep terrain boots must be corked/spiked.

g. Application of pesticides: It is required to follow label directions for all PPE when applying pesticides. Rubber boots are often required in greenhouse pesticide applications. Pesticide greenhouse PPE requirements will be strictly enforced.

h. Daily operations at base yard: For all operations at the Environmental baseyard the following type of footwear PPE is required. All personnel must have covered shoes while working in fuel storage, chemical storage or greenhouse areas. Additional footwear PPE maybe required if work involves activities specified above.

i. For driving government trucks: The staff member operating the vehicle is required to have closed toed shoes.