

Railway Track Maintenance Flagger Safety Inspection Checklist

Site / Project	_____	Address	_____
Inspector name	_____	Company	_____
Date	_____	Time	_____

Documentation aid only. Adapt this resource to the site, manufacturer instructions, and applicable local requirements. It does not replace a competent person, professional judgment, legal advice, or a required statutory form.

Inspection checklist

Roadway Worker Protection (RWP) & Job Briefing

☐ Is a documented Roadway Worker Protection (RWP) plan established and readily available on site?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Was a comprehensive job briefing conducted with all personnel involved, covering potential hazards and safety procedures?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Is a clear and concise communication protocol established and understood by all team members, including hand signals and radio procedures?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Are emergency procedures, including evacuation routes and contact information, clearly defined and communicated?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Are all fouling points clearly identified and marked to prevent accidental track fouling?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Is the method for warning of approaching trains (e.g., radio, horn, visual signal) clearly defined and tested?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ If a Watchman/Lookout is used, are they properly trained and qualified according to FRA regulations?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ Is the RWP documentation complete, accurate, and signed by the Employee in Charge (EIC)?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐ If using alternative methods of protection, are they approved by the railroad and documented?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____

☐	Are measures in place to protect against hazards from adjacent live tracks?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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Flagger Equipment & PPE

☐	Are all flaggers wearing ANSI Class 3 high-visibility clothing (vests, jackets, or shirts) in good condition?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Are flags clean, in good repair, and of the correct size (minimum 24 inches square)?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Are radios fully functional, with charged batteries, and set to the correct channel?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Is appropriate hearing protection provided and used in areas with excessive noise levels?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Are safety glasses or goggles worn to protect against dust, debris, and other potential eye hazards?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Are all personnel wearing appropriate safety footwear (steel-toed boots) meeting ASTM F2413 standards?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Is a whistle readily available for emergency signaling?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	For night work, is adequate illumination provided to ensure visibility of flaggers and the work area?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Is sunscreen provided and encouraged for use during prolonged exposure to sunlight?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Is potable water readily available to all personnel to prevent dehydration?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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Site Conditions & Hazard Control

☐	Are all potential obstructions on or near the track (e.g., tools, equipment, materials) removed or clearly marked?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Is the ground stable and free from hazards such as holes, uneven surfaces, or slippery conditions?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Are weather conditions (e.g., high winds, heavy rain, extreme temperatures) monitored and appropriate precautions taken?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Are clear and unobstructed escape routes established and maintained in case of emergency?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
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☐	Is equipment positioned to minimize the risk of fouling the track or creating obstructions?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Are warning signs properly placed and visible to approaching trains and personnel?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Is vegetation controlled to ensure clear visibility of the track and warning signals?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Are potential electrical hazards (e.g., overhead power lines) identified and appropriate precautions taken?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	If working near public roadways, is adequate traffic control in place to protect flaggers and the public?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Is a first-aid kit readily available and are personnel trained in basic first aid and CPR?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____

Communication & Coordination

☐	Was a radio communication test conducted before the start of work to ensure clear and reliable communication?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Are all personnel aware of scheduled train movements and potential unscheduled movements?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Is an emergency contact list readily available and accessible to all personnel?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Are all personnel proficient in the use of standard hand signals for communication?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Are language barriers addressed and effective communication methods established for all personnel?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Is there a clear and documented shift handoff procedure to ensure continuity of safety information?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Is there a clear escalation procedure for reporting safety concerns or potential hazards?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____
☐	Is a daily safety briefing conducted to review the day's tasks, potential hazards, and safety procedures?	☐ Pass	☐ Fail	☐ N/A	Notes: _____

Findings

#	Item	Location	Severity	Action required
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

Signature

Inspector signature _____

Name _____

Date _____