

CONVOY PROCEDURES:

Start:

1. Before or at the commencement of the trip, the Trip Leader shall:
 - a. Provide copies of Convoy procedure and briefing of participants including asking and responding to questions – remember many people have never driven in a convoy
2. Arrange the convoy order and nominate a vehicle / driver to be last in the convoy (Sweep or Whip). All vehicles should stay in convoy order unless directed otherwise by the Trip Leader.
3. Headlights / sidelights are to be turned ON while in convoy to notify oncoming traffic.
4. Communications - Convoy communication shall be by the designated CB Radio or UHF Radio channel selected. (Mineralogical Society Channel: UHF38)
5. If you are unable to make radio contact, flash your headlights to the vehicle ahead. This is a signal for the rest of the convoy to stop.
6. Keep unnecessary chatter on the radio to a minimum, more so when navigating difficult areas.
7. Acknowledge all radio calls from the Trip Leader. "Name; understood; standing by"
8. Texting or telephone use whilst moving is illegal unless you have an operational hands-free kit

Travelling:

1. Keep the vehicle behind you in view * at all times and at any decision point (corner, intersection, deviation, and obstacle): * ask your passenger to monitor side and check rear-view mirror
 - a. Wait for the following vehicle to come into sight
 - b. Indicate where to go (use indicators as appropriate)
2. Proceed only when acknowledgment is received (by following vehicles indicator or flash of headlight high-beam) Remember you are responsible for the vehicle behind you!
3. *Drive to conditions*, at your COMFORTABLE and SAFE speed especially in unfamiliar environments. Use radio communication to warn others
4. Generally keep 4-6 vehicle lengths distance between vehicles and try to keep the convoy moving.
5. All gates are to be left as they were found. The Trip Leader is responsible to ensure that the last vehicle knows to leave the gate open or closed.
6. Vehicles should not leave the convoy other than in exceptional circumstances and before doing so must obtain approval from the Trip Leader.
7. When vehicle Convoy stops or assembles try to pull vehicle at least two metres off the edge of the sealed surface to allow safe opening and closing of doors and 'surprise' passing traffic.
8. Do not park vehicles opposite each other on both sides of the road as over width vehicles such as heavy or agricultural machinery may not be able to stop or pass.
9. In dusty conditions close vent intakes and put fan on high to minimise dust inside
10. On steep inclines or obstacles: Proceed one vehicle at a time and on very steep or difficult terrain: Call the next vehicle through only when you are clear
11. If in any doubt of the best or safest way to proceed through hazards or obstacles, ask the Trip Leader or a more experienced driver for advice. Remember, you probably won't be the only one experiencing difficulty!
12. Code of Ethics - At all times abide by road rules and regulations and drive in a manner consistent with the Four Wheel Driver's Code of Ethics.