

## Burning Brush Piles Risk Assessment

Business Name:	ABN:	
Business Address:		
Contact Person:	Phone:	Email:

## THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU ON THE PROJECT

Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) is required to ensure that a RISK ASSESSMENT is prepared before the proposed work starts.

Full Name:		
Signature:	Title:	Date:

## CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS

Client:	SCOPE OF WORKS
Project Name:	
Project Address:	
Project Manager:	
Contact Phone:	
Date Risk Assessment supplied to Project Manager:	

RISK MATRIX									
LIKELIHOOD	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC	SCORE	ACTION	HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS	
ALMOST CERTAIN	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE			<b>Elimination</b> Remove the hazard.	
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEED	<b>Substitution</b> Replace the hazard.	
POSSIBLE	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	3H HIGH	Review before work starts.	Isolation Isolate People from the hazard	
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	2M MODERATE	Ensure control measures in place.	<b>Engineering</b> Isolate the hazard	
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	1L LOW	Monitor and keep records.	<b>Administrative</b> Change	
								<b>PPE</b>	
<b>Risk Rating &amp; Required Action:</b>								<b>Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:</b>	
4A Stop work. The risk is intolerable. Eliminate the hazard or redesign the activity before proceeding. A Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) or higher-level authorisation is required.								Remember to apply controls in the preferred order shown by the coloured pyramid:	
3H Review and approve additional controls before task starts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed.								1. <b>Eliminate</b>	
2M Ensure all nominated controls are in place and effective. Proceed with caution; monitor conditions.								2. Substitute	
1L Proceed, following standard operating procedures. Monitor and keep records.								3. Isolate	
								4. Engineering	
								5. Administrative	
								6. PPE	
<b>Consequence Scale:</b>								Always document <b>why</b> a lower-order control is accepted if elimination or substitution is not reasonably practicable.	
Consequence	People (injury/illness)		Project / Assets		Compliance / Reputation				
Catastrophic	Fatality or permanent total disability		project shutdown		Significant regulator intervention; criminal prosecution				
Major	Serious injury/illness (hospital > 5 days)		critical delay		Improvement notice; major media coverage				
Moderate	Medical-treatment injury; lost-time > 1 day		moderate delay		Minor breach; adverse client comment				
Minor	First-aid only, no lost time		negligible delay		Isolated non-conformance				
Insignificant	No injury		no schedule impact		Deviation caught and corrected on site				
								<i>aligned with Safe Work Australia's Managing the risk of fatigue at work (2023) and ISO 45001:2018 clauses 6–8.</i>	

JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
1. Preparation	Slips, trips and falls, Inadequate training	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct site inspection to identify potential slip hazards.</li> <li>- Ensure all workers are trained in brush pile burning procedures.</li> <li>- Provide adequate signage around slippery areas.</li> <li>- Require the use of non-slip footwear.</li> <li>- Regularly review training programs.</li> <li>- Assign tasks according to worker competence level.</li> <li>- Maintain clear walkways and work areas.</li> <li>- Establish communication protocols.</li> <li>- Ensure proper footwear worn at all times.</li> <li>- Schedule pre-start meetings to address potential risks.</li> </ul>	2M
2. Gathering Equipment	Heavy lifting injuries, Faulty equipment	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct manual handling training.</li> <li>- Use mechanical aids, such as trolleys, where possible.</li> <li>- Inspect equipment prior to use.</li> <li>- Implement routine maintenance schedules for all equipment.</li> <li>- Ensure all workers understand safe lifting techniques.</li> <li>- Use appropriate PPE when handling equipment.</li> <li>- Store equipment in designated areas to minimise clutter.</li> <li>- Tag and report any faulty equipment immediately.</li> <li>- Limit the weight of items to be lifted by individuals.</li> <li>- Encourage teamwork for lifting heavy items.</li> </ul>	2M
3. Site Clearance	Exposure to hazardous materials, Uneven terrain	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct site inspections to identify hazardous materials.</li> <li>- Implement control measures for handling dangerous substances.</li> <li>- Ensure workers wear appropriate PPE, including gloves and masks.</li> <li>- Brief workers on the location of uneven terrain.</li> <li>- Use barriers to mark off unsafe areas.</li> <li>- Regularly review terrain conditions.</li> <li>- Develop a spill containment procedure.</li> <li>- Ensure good housekeeping to prevent uncovering hazards.</li> </ul>	3H

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use appropriate tools for clearing vegetation.</li> <li>- Remove debris and potential trip hazards.</li> </ul>	
4. Establishing Perimeter	Unauthorized access, Insufficient visibility	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> </ul>	2M
5. Ignition of Brush Piles	Fire spread, Inadequate control of ignition source	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> </ul>	3H
6. Monitoring Burn	Heat exposure, Airborne particles and smoke	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> <li>[REDACTED]</li> </ul>	2M

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7. Post-Burn Site Inspection	Hot spots, Structural damage to land	3H		2M
8. Equipment Dismantle and Removal	Manual handling injuries, Sharp objects or equipment	3H		2M
9. Waste Management	Improper disposal of hazardous materials, Environmental damage	4A		3H

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10. Site Reclamation	Erosion, Residual heat	3H		2M
11. Review and Reporting	Incomplete risk assessments, Lack of documentation	2M		1L
12. Staff Debrief	Miscommunication, Inconsistent information dissemination	2M		1L

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13. Emergency Preparation	Unclear emergency procedures, Delayed emergency response	4A		3H
14. Tool Maintenance	Equipment malfunction, Injury from faulty tools	3H		2M
15. Continuous Improvement	Resistance to change, Lack of continuous feedback	2M		1L

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			<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	

SAMPLE



## EMERGENCY RESPONSE – CALL 000 FOR EMERGENCIES

Ensure to have an Emergency Management Plan in place as well as adequate numbers of trained first aid staff with easy access to fully stocked first aid kits, rescue equipment, material safety data sheets, adequate access to emergency communication equipment and fire-fighting equipment suitable for all classes of fire and ignition sources.

## LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICE. DELETE THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES IF ANY STATE THAT ARE NOT APPLICABLE

### Queensland & Australian Capital Territory

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011

Legislation QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/work-health-and-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Legislation ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

### Victoria

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/occupational-health-and-safety-act-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/compliance-codes-and-codes-practice>

### New South Wales

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/legal-obligations/legislation>

Codes of Practice NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/list-codes-of-practice>

### Western Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2020

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2022

Legislation Western Australia: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/legislation>

Codes of Practice WA: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/codes-practice>

### Northern Territory

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulations 2011

Legislation NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplace-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

### Safe Work Australia Links

Law and Regulation (All States): <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation>

Model Codes of Practice: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-publications/model-codes-of-practice>

### Model Codes of Practice

- Managing noise and preventing hearing loss at work
- Confined spaces
- Labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals
- Managing risks of hazardous chemicals in the workplace
- Welding processes
- First aid in the workplace
- Managing the risk of falls at workplaces
- Hazardous manual tasks
- Managing the risk of falls in housing construction
- Managing electrical risks in the workplace
- Demolition work
- Excavation work
- Work health and safety consultation, cooperation and coordination
- Managing the work environment and facilities
- How to manage work health and safety risks
- Managing risks of plant in the workplace
- Construction work

### South Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 (SA)

Legislation for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/resources/legislation>

Codes of Practice for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/workplaces/codes-of-practice#COPs>

### Tasmania

Work Health and Safety Act 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2012

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional) Regulations 2012

Legislation for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Details of permits, licenses or access required by regulatory bodies (add or delete as required):

- Permits from local council
- Authorisation to commence work
- Any required documents.