

## Clearing Paths Of Obstructions Risk Assessment

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

### THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU ON THIS 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	Trip hazards from tools and equipment, Inadequate signage	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Perform a site inspection to identify potential trip hazards</li> <li>- Ensure tools and equipment are organised and not obstructing walkways</li> <li>- Place prominent signage to inform workers of path clearing activities</li> <li>- Ensure all workers are briefed on the task and potential hazards</li> <li>- Use brightly coloured tape to mark any temporary obstructions</li> <li>- Maintain clear communication among team members</li> <li>- Designate a safety officer to monitor compliance</li> <li>- Ensure appropriate personalised protective equipment (PPE) is used</li> <li>- Establish emergency protocols and ensure all workers are informed</li> <li>- Have first aid kits readily accessible</li> </ul>	2M
2. Gathering Equipment	Manual handling injuries, Slippery surfaces	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct manual handling training for all workers</li> <li>- Use mechanical aids for heavy or awkward items</li> <li>- Inspect equipment for damage and replace where necessary</li> <li>- Wear suitable footwear with non-slip soles</li> <li>- Maintain a clean and dry equipment storage area</li> <li>- Arrange equipment logically to minimise manual handling</li> <li>- Implement buddy system for handling awkward items</li> <li>- Ensure easy access to equipment</li> <li>- Plan route beforehand to avoid unnecessary carrying</li> <li>- Regularly inspect walkways for any spills or wet spots</li> </ul>	2M
3. Clearing Vegetation	Cuts from sharp tools, Insect bites	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use appropriate hand tools that are well maintained and regularly sharpened</li> <li>- Wear gloves and long sleeves to protect from cuts and bites</li> <li>- Apply insect repellent before commencing work</li> <li>- Establish a first aid procedure in case of injuries</li> <li>- Train workers in the correct use of hand tools</li> <li>- Keep a safe distance from co-workers when using tools</li> <li>- Ensure adequate lighting in the work area</li> <li>- Review and maintain clear and consistent communication</li> </ul>	1L

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Have a plan in place for adverse weather conditions</li> <li>- Ensure all workers know the location of the first aid kit</li> </ul>	
4. Removing Debris	Lifting injuries, Hidden sharp objects	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use proper lifting techniques</li> <li>- Wear appropriate PPE</li> <li>- Inspect area for hidden hazards</li> <li>- Use hand tools to move debris</li> <li>- Communicate with team</li> <li>- Keep work area clear</li> <li>- Use designated disposal area</li> <li>- Report any injuries immediately</li> <li>- Follow company safety protocols</li> <li>- Use proper body mechanics</li> <li>- Avoid overexertion</li> <li>- Use team lifting when necessary</li> <li>- Keep feet flat on the ground</li> <li>- Bend at the knees, not the back</li> <li>- Lift with the legs</li> <li>- Hold the load close to the body</li> <li>- Turn with the feet, not the torso</li> <li>- Avoid twisting the body</li> <li>- Take short breaks if needed</li> <li>- Stay hydrated</li> <li>- Wear comfortable clothing</li> <li>- Use proper footwear</li> <li>- Keep the back straight</li> <li>- Use the power of the legs</li> <li>- Lift from the base of the load</li> <li>- Lower the load by the same path</li> <li>- Set the load down gently</li> <li>- Step back after lifting</li> <li>- Keep the load balanced</li> <li>- Use a spotter if available</li> <li>- Communicate clearly</li> <li>- Stay alert</li> <li>- Watch for tripping hazards</li> <li>- Keep the path clear</li> <li>- Use caution around equipment</li> <li>- Follow the lead of the supervisor</li> <li>- Stay focused on the task</li> <li>- Avoid distractions</li> <li>- Use common sense</li> <li>- Stay safe at all times</li> </ul>	2M
5. Inspecting for Residual Hazards	Missed hazards, Complacency	2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct thorough inspection</li> <li>- Use appropriate tools</li> <li>- Check for hidden hazards</li> <li>- Communicate findings</li> <li>- Report any issues</li> <li>- Follow safety protocols</li> <li>- Stay alert</li> <li>- Watch for tripping hazards</li> <li>- Keep the path clear</li> <li>- Use caution around equipment</li> <li>- Follow the lead of the supervisor</li> <li>- Stay focused on the task</li> <li>- Avoid distractions</li> <li>- Use common sense</li> <li>- Stay safe at all times</li> </ul>	1L
6. Disposal of Waste	Chemical exposure, Improper waste segregation	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use proper disposal methods</li> <li>- Wear appropriate PPE</li> <li>- Segregate waste properly</li> <li>- Label waste containers</li> <li>- Follow company protocols</li> <li>- Stay alert</li> <li>- Watch for tripping hazards</li> <li>- Keep the path clear</li> <li>- Use caution around equipment</li> <li>- Follow the lead of the supervisor</li> <li>- Stay focused on the task</li> <li>- Avoid distractions</li> <li>- Use common sense</li> <li>- Stay safe at all times</li> </ul>	2M

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7. Final Inspection	Unidentified hazards, Overlooked areas	2M		1L
8. Demobilisation	Injury from hasty dismantling Inadequate storage of equipment	3H		2M
9. De-briefing	Miscommunication, Failure to document lessons learned	2M		1L

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10. Reporting	Incomplete records, Privacy breaches	2M		1L
11. Closing Communication	Miscommunication, Unclear instructions for follow-up	2M		1L
12. Equipment Maintenance Review	Equipment failures, Missed maintenance schedules	3H		1L

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13. Continuous Improvement Review	Stagnation in safety practices, Resistance to change	2M		1L
14. Document Archiving	Loss of records, Unauthorised access	2M		1L
15. Stakeholder Feedback Collection	Incomplete feedback, Bias in feedback collection	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>	
16. Review of Risk Assessment	Overlooked hazards, Neglected updates	2M	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	1L



## 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.