

Destruction Of Natural Habitats 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			Elimination Remove the hazard.	
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEED	Substitution 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.	Engineering Isolate the hazard	
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	1L LOW	Monitor and keep records.	Administrative Change	
								PPE	
Risk Rating & Required Action:								Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:	
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. Eliminate	
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	
Consequence Scale:								Always document why 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. Site Assessment	unfamiliar terrain, unknown wildlife	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct pre-assessment site visits - Consult local environmental experts - Employ GIS technology for terrain mapping - Ensure team is briefed about local wildlife risks - Equip team with GPS devices - Limit site visits to daylight hours - Carry wildlife deterrents - Have first aid kits on site - Develop emergency communication plan - Conduct impact assessments on surrounding habitats 	2M
2. Clearance Preparation	use of heavy machinery, accidental vegetation damage	4H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop machinery operation protocols - Train operators on environmental impact - Set clear boundaries for machinery operation - Use manual tools where possible - Implement spotter system during operations - Regularly maintain machinery to prevent leaks - Conduct environmental impact sessions - Establish vegetation management strategy - Employ environmental monitors - Ensure proper disposal of cleared vegetation 	3H
3. Construction	noise pollution, soil erosion	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apply noise minimisation techniques - Install noise barriers where feasible - Schedule construction during less sensitive times - Monitor noise levels consistently - Implement erosion control measures - Schedule regular site inspections - Consult soil experts for guidance - Use silt fences and sediment traps 	2M

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure responsible waste disposal - Rehabilitate disturbed areas promptly 	
4. Waste Management	improper waste disposal, hazardous material releases	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a waste management plan that includes proper disposal methods and locations. - Train staff on proper waste handling and disposal procedures. - Use appropriate containers and labeling for hazardous materials. - Implement a system for tracking and documenting waste disposal. - Regularly inspect waste disposal sites for leaks or spills. - Establish a spill response plan and conduct regular drills. - Use secondary containment for hazardous materials. - Minimize the amount of waste generated. - Recycle materials where possible. - Dispose of waste at licensed facilities. 	2M
5. Water Management	water contamination, alteration of water courses	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct regular water quality monitoring. - Implement erosion control measures to prevent sediment runoff. - Use best management practices to reduce chemical use. - Establish buffer zones between water bodies and land activities. - Implement a water conservation program. - Regularly inspect and maintain water infrastructure. - Avoid activities that could alter water flow or create obstructions. - Use appropriate materials for construction near water. - Implement a sediment control plan. - Monitor for and promptly address any signs of contamination. 	3H
6. Vegetation Management	habitat destruction, spread of invasive species	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a thorough vegetation assessment. - Implement a vegetation management plan that includes removal of invasive species. - Use appropriate methods for vegetation removal. - Monitor for and promptly address any signs of invasive species. - Implement a revegetation plan to restore native habitat. - Use native plant species for revegetation. - Regularly inspect and maintain vegetation management measures. - Avoid activities that could destroy habitat. - Implement a sediment control plan. - Monitor for and promptly address any signs of contamination. 	3H

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7. Staff Training	lack of awareness, improper procedure handling	3H		1L
8. Monitoring and Reporting	delayed hazard reporting, data collection	3H		2M
9. Community Engagement	public opposition, dissemination of misinformation	3H		1L

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10. Site Rehabilitation	slow recovery of ecosystems, failure to restore habitats	4A		3H
11. Biodiversity Surveys	incomplete species inventory, disturbance to local species	3H		2M
12. Emergency Preparedness	inadequate response to environmental incidents, lack of emergency equipment	3H		1L

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13. Ecological Monitoring	untracked ecological changes, inadequate monitoring frequency	4A		2M
14. Resource Management	overuse of natural resources, inefficient resource allocation	3H		2M
15. Policy Review and Update	outdated environmental policies, non-compliance with new regulations	3H		1L

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16. Land Use Planning	improper land use allocation, conflict with existing land uses	4A		2M
17. Infrastructure Maintenance	degradation causing environmental harm, insufficient infrastructure management	3H		2M
18. Legal and Regulatory Compliance	failure to meet legal standards, non-compliance fines	3H		1L

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19. Implementation of Green Technologies	inadequate technology assessment, inefficient application	3H		2M
20. Climate Change Adaptation	unforeseen climate impacts, inflexible adaptation strategies	4A		2M

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>

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>

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>

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.

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>

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>

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