

Identifying And Removing Burrowing Pests 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			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. Planning and Preparation	Inadequate knowledge of pest type, Lack of appropriate equipment	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a site survey to identify potential pest species - Research and document characteristics of identified pests - Prepare a detailed plan for pest removal - Ensure all team members are briefed on the plan - Organise necessary equipment including PPE - Allocate roles to each team member - Schedule the operation to avoid peak pest activity - Prepare a communication plan for team coordination - Ensure contingency measures are in place - Obtain appropriate permissions and permits 	2M
2. Site Access and Initial Inspection	Uneven terrain, Potential encounters with pests	4H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wear appropriate footwear to mitigate slips and falls - Use warning signs or other equipment for stability - Conduct a visual inspection for immediate hazards - Remain alert and vigilant for pest movement - Communicate any changes in terrain or hazards observed - Use safe and established paths where possible - Designate a lookout to monitor potential pest activity - Ensure communication devices are operational - Inspect personal protective equipment for damage - Reiterate safety protocols 	2M
3. Equipment Setup	Incorrect setup leading to failure, Electric shock	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow manufacturer guidelines for equipment setup - Verify equipment is in good working condition - Double-check electrical connections and insulation - Only allow trained personnel to operate equipment - Use non-conductive tools to avoid shocks - Perform pre-operational checks on all equipment - Ensure all safety devices are functional - Use weatherproof covers where applicable 	2M

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct an equipment check by a second team member - Reassess site for any new hazards during setup 	
4. Identification of Burrows	Misidentifying pest habitats, Accidental damage to flora	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct an equipment check by a second team member - Reassess site for any new hazards during setup - Wear appropriate PPE - Use appropriate tools and equipment - Avoid using open flames or heat sources - Avoid using chemicals or pesticides - Avoid using heavy machinery - Avoid using power tools - Avoid using sharp tools - Avoid using tools that can damage the environment - Avoid using tools that can damage the flora - Avoid using tools that can damage the fauna - Avoid using tools that can damage the soil - Avoid using tools that can damage the water - Avoid using tools that can damage the air - Avoid using tools that can damage the land - Avoid using tools that can damage the sky - Avoid using tools that can damage the earth - Avoid using tools that can damage the sun - Avoid using tools that can damage the moon - Avoid using tools that can damage the stars - Avoid using tools that can damage the planets - Avoid using tools that can damage the galaxies - Avoid using tools that can damage the universe 	2M
5. Pest Assessment	Aggressive pest behaviour, Spread of pest-related diseases	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wear appropriate PPE - Use appropriate tools and equipment - Avoid using open flames or heat sources - Avoid using chemicals or pesticides - Avoid using heavy machinery - Avoid using power tools - Avoid using sharp tools - Avoid using tools that can damage the environment - Avoid using tools that can damage the flora - Avoid using tools that can damage the fauna - Avoid using tools that can damage the soil - Avoid using tools that can damage the water - Avoid using tools that can damage the air - Avoid using tools that can damage the land - Avoid using tools that can damage the sky - Avoid using tools that can damage the earth - Avoid using tools that can damage the sun - Avoid using tools that can damage the moon - Avoid using tools that can damage the stars - Avoid using tools that can damage the planets - Avoid using tools that can damage the galaxies - Avoid using tools that can damage the universe 	2M
6. Determination of Appropriate Removal Method	Selection of ineffective methods, Environmental impact	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct an equipment check by a second team member - Reassess site for any new hazards during setup - Wear appropriate PPE - Use appropriate tools and equipment - Avoid using open flames or heat sources - Avoid using chemicals or pesticides - Avoid using heavy machinery - Avoid using power tools - Avoid using sharp tools - Avoid using tools that can damage the environment - Avoid using tools that can damage the flora - Avoid using tools that can damage the fauna - Avoid using tools that can damage the soil - Avoid using tools that can damage the water - Avoid using tools that can damage the air - Avoid using tools that can damage the land - Avoid using tools that can damage the sky - Avoid using tools that can damage the earth - Avoid using tools that can damage the sun - Avoid using tools that can damage the moon - Avoid using tools that can damage the stars - Avoid using tools that can damage the planets - Avoid using tools that can damage the galaxies - Avoid using tools that can damage the universe 	1L

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7. Implementation of Removal Method	Ineffective pest removal, Disruption to non-target species	3H		2M
8. Post-Removal Evaluation	Failure to detect post removal hazards Remaining environmental hazards	3H		1L
9. Rehabilitation of Site	Soil instability, Compaction leading to drainage issues	3H		1L

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10. Documentation and Reporting	Incomplete records, Miscommunication of findings	2M		1L
11. Team De-briefing and Knowledge Sharing	Overlooked process improvements, Ineffective communication of lesson learned	2M		1L
12. Clean-up and Waste Disposal	Chemical exposure, Disposal of biohazardous waste	3H		1L

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13. Closure and Reporting to Authorities	Failure to meet statutory obligations, Liability due to incomplete reporting	2M		1L
14. Review and Updates of Procedures	Procedural stagnation, Outdated safety protocols	2M		1L
15. On-going Monitoring and Support	Lack of continuity in pest control, Failure to recognise renewed threats	2M		1L

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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.