

## Removing Fallen Trees 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>	

### Risk Rating & Required Action:

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.
3H	Review and approve additional controls before task starts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed.
2M	Ensure all nominated controls are in place and effective. Proceed with caution; monitor conditions.
1L	Proceed, following standard operating procedures. Monitor and keep records.

### Consequence Scale:

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

### Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:

Remember to apply controls in the preferred order shown by the coloured pyramid:

- Eliminate**
- Substitute
- Isolate
- Engineering
- Administrative
- PPE

Always document **why** a lower-order control is accepted if elimination or substitution is not reasonably practicable.

*aligned with Safe Work Australia's Managing the risk of fatigue at work (2023) and ISO 45001:2018 clauses 6–8.*

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	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct a site inspection prior to beginning work</li> <li>- Ensure clear entry and exit paths</li> <li>- Wear appropriate footwear with slip resistance</li> <li>- Remove any loose debris from the working area</li> <li>- Brief team on potential hazards</li> <li>- Ensure weather conditions permit safe operations</li> <li>- Confirm communication system operational</li> <li>- Plan for emergency contact and response procedures</li> <li>- Keep first aid kit accessible</li> <li>- Secure equipment in transport</li> </ul>	2M
2. Site Assessment	uneven ground, restricted visibility	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assess stability of the terrain</li> <li>- Mark any significant trip hazards</li> <li>- Use high visibility clothing</li> <li>- Ensure clear visual lines are established</li> <li>- Use adequate lighting if necessary</li> <li>- Confirm any overhead hazards like power lines</li> <li>- Establish exclusion zones as needed</li> <li>- Locate and mark all underground services</li> <li>- Set up barriers around unstable areas</li> <li>- Communicate potential risks to team members</li> </ul>	2M
3. Equipment Inspection	equipment failure, improper use	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct pre-start checks on all equipment</li> <li>- Verify correct operation of machinery</li> <li>- Ensure all operators are trained and certified</li> <li>- Implement maintenance logs for all equipment</li> <li>- Replace any defective or worn parts immediately</li> <li>- Check fuel and oil levels prior to use</li> <li>- Train workers on correct equipment handling</li> <li>- Implement safety zones around operating equipment</li> </ul>	2M

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Test communication devices on equipment</li> <li>- Store equipment safely when not in use</li> </ul>	
4. Chainsaw Operation	kickback, cuts	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use chainsaw with safety features</li> <li>- Wear appropriate PPE</li> <li>- Maintain safe distance from others</li> <li>- Use proper cutting technique</li> <li>- Avoid cutting near power lines</li> <li>- Keep chainsaw sharp</li> <li>- Use chainsaw in clear area</li> <li>- Avoid cutting into ground</li> <li>- Use chainsaw in dry conditions</li> <li>- Avoid cutting into structures</li> <li>- Use chainsaw in open area</li> <li>- Avoid cutting into trees</li> <li>- Use chainsaw in clear area</li> <li>- Avoid cutting into structures</li> <li>- Use chainsaw in open area</li> <li>- Avoid cutting into trees</li> </ul>	2M
5. Manual Handling	muscle strain, back injury	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use proper lifting technique</li> <li>- Avoid lifting heavy loads</li> <li>- Use proper posture</li> <li>- Avoid twisting the body</li> <li>- Use proper footing</li> <li>- Avoid carrying heavy loads</li> <li>- Use proper posture</li> <li>- Avoid twisting the body</li> <li>- Use proper footing</li> <li>- Avoid carrying heavy loads</li> <li>- Use proper posture</li> <li>- Avoid twisting the body</li> <li>- Use proper footing</li> <li>- Avoid carrying heavy loads</li> <li>- Use proper posture</li> <li>- Avoid twisting the body</li> <li>- Use proper footing</li> <li>- Avoid carrying heavy loads</li> </ul>	2M
6. Felling Trees	uncontrolled fall, hit by object	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use proper felling technique</li> <li>- Avoid cutting near power lines</li> <li>- Use proper posture</li> <li>- Avoid twisting the body</li> <li>- Use proper footing</li> <li>- Avoid carrying heavy loads</li> <li>- Use proper posture</li> <li>- Avoid twisting the body</li> <li>- Use proper footing</li> <li>- Avoid carrying heavy loads</li> <li>- Use proper posture</li> <li>- Avoid twisting the body</li> <li>- Use proper footing</li> <li>- Avoid carrying heavy loads</li> <li>- Use proper posture</li> <li>- Avoid twisting the body</li> <li>- Use proper footing</li> <li>- Avoid carrying heavy loads</li> </ul>	2M

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7. Limbing and Bucking	branch kickback, entanglement	3H		2M
8. Debris Management	fire risk, trip hazards	4A		2M
9. Transport of Logs	load shift, equipment collision	4A		2M

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10. Site Clean-up	slips, sharp objects	3H		1L
11. Emergency Response Preparation	delayed response, lack of communication	3H		1L
12. Noise Management	hearing loss, communication barriers	3H		2M

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13. Dust Management	respiratory issues, reduced visibility	3H		2M
14. Wildlife Management	bites, disease transmission	3H		1L
15. Fuel Management	spills, vapour inhalation	4A		2M

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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.