

Rescuing Trapped Wildlife 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. Preparation	Lack of equipment, Miscommunication	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct pre-task briefing to discuss roles and responsibilities - Ensure all equipment is checked and operational - Equip team with personal protective equipment (PPE) - Use radios or mobile phones for communication - Designate a team leader for clarity - Prepare a site-specific risk assessment prior to response - Confirm weather conditions are favourable - Develop a contingency plan for unexpected situations - Review wildlife handling procedures - Ensure team members have relevant training 	2M
2. Site Assessment	Unstable terrain, Environmental hazards	4H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a visual assessment for signs of unstable ground - Avoid hazardous areas as marked by warning signs - Discuss alternative routes if initial site is too dangerous - Use proper lighting in low visibility conditions - Confirm the absence of hidden dangers like sinkholes - Assess for potential interaction with other wildlife - Use drones or binoculars for site overview - Wear appropriate footwear to avoid slips - Ensure team members are aware of local flora and fauna - Limit people in high-risk areas to essential personnel 	3H
3. Approach the Wildlife	Animal aggression, Sudden movement	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approach quietly and from a direction visible to the animal - Use non-invasive techniques to assure the animal - Equip team with animal handling tools - Have a veterinarian on call if needed - Limit the number of people in close proximity - Monitor animal's behaviour and adjust approach - Ensure no team member is left alone with the animal - Use barriers if necessary to guide animal movement 	2M

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure all exits for the animal are blocked safely - Consider use of noise reduction ear protectors 	
4. Initial Capture Plan	Inadequate capture methods, Team coordination issues	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a detailed capture plan with roles and responsibilities - Conduct a pre-capture meeting to discuss the plan - Ensure all team members are trained in capture techniques - Use appropriate capture methods for the animal - Have backup plans in case of unexpected situations - Communicate clearly and effectively throughout the process - Monitor the animal's stress levels and adjust the plan as needed - Have a designated person to manage the animal's welfare - Ensure the capture area is secure and free of distractions - Have a designated person to manage the animal's transport 	3H
5. Actual Capture	Physical injury, Stress on animal	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use appropriate capture techniques - Avoid unnecessary handling or restraint - Monitor the animal's stress levels and adjust the plan as needed - Have a designated person to manage the animal's welfare - Ensure the capture area is secure and free of distractions - Have a designated person to manage the animal's transport - Use appropriate restraint techniques - Avoid sudden movements or loud noises - Have a designated person to manage the animal's behavior - Ensure the animal is comfortable and safe throughout the process 	2M
6. Transport Preparation	Improper containment, Vehicle issues	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use appropriate containment methods - Ensure the vehicle is secure and free of distractions - Have a designated person to manage the animal's transport - Use appropriate restraint techniques - Avoid sudden movements or loud noises - Have a designated person to manage the animal's behavior - Ensure the animal is comfortable and safe throughout the process 	2M

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7. Transport	Vehicle accidents, Animal agitation	4A		3H
8. Release or Transfer to Care Facility	Releasing in unsuitable environment, Injury during release	3H		2M
9. Post-Rescue De-brief	Emotional stress, Missed analysis opportunities	3H		2M

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10. Equipment Cleaning and Maintenance	Equipment damage, Contamination	3H		2M
11. Documentation and Reporting	Incomplete records, Data breaches	3H		2M
12. Review of Safety Protocols	Outdated protocols, Non-compliance	3H		2M

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13. Assessment of Team Wellbeing	Mental exhaustion, Physical injury	3H		2M
14. Wildlife Rehabilitation Coordination	Improper care, Miscommunication	4A		3H
15. Incident Review and Improvement	Missed learning opportunities, Repetitive incidents	3H		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.