

Weather Hazard Awareness (Rain, Wind) 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:

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:

1. **Eliminate**
2. **Substitute**
3. **Isolate**
4. **Engineering**
5. **Administrative**
6. **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	incomplete weather forecasting, lack of equipment	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check weather forecasts using multiple reliable sources. - Ensure all weather monitoring equipment is functional and calibrated. - Communicate anticipated weather conditions to all team members. - Prepare contingency plans for unexpected weather changes. - Confirm availability of emergency shelters or safe havens. - Schedule work activities considering predicted weather. - Document all preparations undertaken. - Implement communication protocol for weather updates. - Train staff on recognising severe weather signs. - Review previous weather-related incidents. 	2M
2. Site Inspection	slippery surfaces, falling branches	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a thorough site inspection before starting work. - Identify and mark areas prone to water accumulation. - Clear walking paths of debris to prevent tripping. - Inspect trees for loose branches and remove hazards. - Use non-slip mats on slippery surfaces. - Provide staff with non-slip, waterproof footwear. - Ensure proper drainage is in place to prevent pooling. - Deploy warning signage around high-risk areas. - Document inspection findings. - Brief staff on identified hazards. 	1L
3. Equipment Setup	equipment failure due to water, high wind affecting stability	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use equipment that is rated for wet conditions. - Secure all equipment to stable structures. - Inspect electrical connections for weatherproofing. - Avoid placing equipment on soft, unstable ground. - Anchor tents and temporary structures securely. - Double-check stability of all scaffolding and ladders. - Regularly inspect ropes and tie-downs. - Cease use of equipment if winds exceed operational limits. 	2M

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep a log of equipment maintenance activities. - Cover equipment not in use to protect from elements 	
4. Worker Briefing	insufficient communication, lack of awareness	2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a safety briefing before work begins. - Ensure all workers are aware of the hazards and control measures. - Assign a competent person to oversee the work. - Use clear communication methods (e.g., hand signals, radios). - Establish a safe work area and boundaries. - Provide necessary PPE and ensure it is worn correctly. - Monitor workers for signs of fatigue or distraction. - Have a first aid kit and emergency procedures in place. - Conduct a final safety check before starting work. - Review the work plan and control measures regularly. - Stop work immediately if a hazard is identified. - Provide training and supervision for all workers. - Use barriers and signage to restrict access to the work area. - Ensure all equipment is in good working order. - Maintain clear communication throughout the work. - Assign a competent person to oversee the work. - Use clear communication methods (e.g., hand signals, radios). - Establish a safe work area and boundaries. - Provide necessary PPE and ensure it is worn correctly. - Monitor workers for signs of fatigue or distraction. - Have a first aid kit and emergency procedures in place. - Conduct a final safety check before starting work. - Review the work plan and control measures regularly. - Stop work immediately if a hazard is identified. - Provide training and supervision for all workers. - Use barriers and signage to restrict access to the work area. - Ensure all equipment is in good working order. 	1L
5. Commencement of Work	rapid weather changes, distracted workers	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor weather conditions and have a plan for sudden changes. - Assign a competent person to oversee the work. - Use clear communication methods (e.g., hand signals, radios). - Establish a safe work area and boundaries. - Provide necessary PPE and ensure it is worn correctly. - Monitor workers for signs of fatigue or distraction. - Have a first aid kit and emergency procedures in place. - Conduct a final safety check before starting work. - Review the work plan and control measures regularly. - Stop work immediately if a hazard is identified. - Provide training and supervision for all workers. - Use barriers and signage to restrict access to the work area. - Ensure all equipment is in good working order. - Maintain clear communication throughout the work. - Assign a competent person to oversee the work. - Use clear communication methods (e.g., hand signals, radios). - Establish a safe work area and boundaries. - Provide necessary PPE and ensure it is worn correctly. - Monitor workers for signs of fatigue or distraction. - Have a first aid kit and emergency procedures in place. - Conduct a final safety check before starting work. - Review the work plan and control measures regularly. - Stop work immediately if a hazard is identified. - Provide training and supervision for all workers. - Use barriers and signage to restrict access to the work area. - Ensure all equipment is in good working order. 	2M
6. Midday Break Assessment	heat stress in wet conditions, misjudged weather improvement	2M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitor weather conditions and have a plan for sudden changes. - Assign a competent person to oversee the work. - Use clear communication methods (e.g., hand signals, radios). - Establish a safe work area and boundaries. - Provide necessary PPE and ensure it is worn correctly. - Monitor workers for signs of fatigue or distraction. - Have a first aid kit and emergency procedures in place. - Conduct a final safety check before starting work. - Review the work plan and control measures regularly. - Stop work immediately if a hazard is identified. - Provide training and supervision for all workers. - Use barriers and signage to restrict access to the work area. - Ensure all equipment is in good working order. - Maintain clear communication throughout the work. - Assign a competent person to oversee the work. - Use clear communication methods (e.g., hand signals, radios). - Establish a safe work area and boundaries. - Provide necessary PPE and ensure it is worn correctly. - Monitor workers for signs of fatigue or distraction. - Have a first aid kit and emergency procedures in place. - Conduct a final safety check before starting work. - Review the work plan and control measures regularly. - Stop work immediately if a hazard is identified. - Provide training and supervision for all workers. - Use barriers and signage to restrict access to the work area. - Ensure all equipment is in good working order. 	1L

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7. Handling Tools and Materials	tools slipping, unsecured materials	4A		2M
8. Communication and Coordination	miscommunication, language barriers	2M		1L
9. Exposure to Wet and Wild Conditions	hypothermia, strong winds	4A		2M

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10. Post-Work Evaluation	neglected hazards, unreported incidents	3H		1L
11. Inclement Weather Response	inadequate evacuation, panic	4A		2M
12. Vehicle Operations	slippery roads, limited visibility	3H		1L

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13. Roof Work and Elevated Areas	falls, instability due to wind	4A		2M
14. Water Management	flooding, water-borne impurities	3H		2M
15. End-of-Day Site Closure	unsecured equipment, loose debris	3H		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.