



Rural and Wire Fencing Post Driving	and Tensioning   SAFE W	ORK METHOD STATEMENT	(SWMS)
TASK OR ACTIVITY:	Rural and Wire Fencing Post Dr	iving and Tensioning	
Business Name:		ABN:	SWMS#
Business Address:			
Contact Person:	Phone:	E il:	
THIS SAFE WORK METHOD	STATEMENT IS APPROVED BY	THE PCL OF THE ROJECT	
Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conduct the proposed work starts.	eting a business or undo	required to er. 3 that a safe work method s	statement (SWMS) is prepared before
Full Name:			
Signature:		Title:	Date:
Details of the person(s) responsible for ensuring implementation, monitoring	poliance the VMS a vell as review	s and modifications of the SWMS.	
Full Name:		Title:	Phone:
ALL PERSONNEL PARTICIPATING IN ANY ACTIVITY ON THIS 5 MS M HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATED	NAL OF ALL RELEVANT PERSONNI EVELOPMENT AND APPROVAL OF	EL WHO HAVE BEEN CONSULTED AND CO THIS SWMS	OMMUNICATED TO IN THE
Safety meetings or toolbox talks will be scheded in accomply with gislative requirements to first identify any site hazards, and then to further take steps to either eliminate or continuous each hazard.			
If an incident or a near miss occurs, all work must sto, quately. Depending on the severity of the incident, a meeting will be called with all workers to amend the SWMS if required. The meeting may also be an educational opportunity.			
Any changes made to the SWMS after an incident or a near miss must be approved by the Person Conducting Business or Undertaking and communicated to all relevant personnel.			
The SWMS must be kept and be available for inspection at least until the work is completed. Where a SWMS is revised, all versions should be kept. If a notifiable incident occurs in relation to which the SWMS relates, then the SWMS must be kept for at least two years from the occurrence of the notifiable incident.			

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CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL	CONTRACTOR DETAILS
Client:	SCOPE OF WORKS
Project Name:	
Project Address:	
Project Manager:	
Contact Phone:	
Date SWMS supplied to Project Manager:	
ANY HIGH-RISK CONSTRUCTOR	ON WO K BEIN O KRIED OUT
☐ involves a risk of a person falling more than 2 meters	☐ is carried out on or near pressurised gas mains or piping
☐ is carried out on a telecommunication tower	carried out on or near chemical, fuel or refrigerant lines
☐ involves demolition of an element of a structure that is load-bearing	☐ is carried out on or near energised electrical installations or services
☐ involves demolition of an element related to the physical integration of a ructure	☐ is carried out in an area that may have a contaminated or flammable atmosphere
☐ involves, or is likely to involve, disturbing asb	☐ involves tilt-up or precast concrete
☐ involves structural alteration or repair that — quires term — ov sup — rt to prevent collapse	☐ is carried out on, in or adjacent to a road, railway, shipping lane or other traffic corridor
is carried out in or near a confined space	☐ is carried out in an area of a workplace where there is any movement of powered mobile plant
☐ is carried out in/near a shaft or trench deeper tha tunnel involving use of explosives	☐ is carried out in areas with artificial extremes of temperature.
☐ is carried out in or near water or other liquid that involves a risk of drowning.	☐ involves diving work.
ANY HIGH-RISK MACHINER	RY OR EQUIPMENT NEARBY

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	RISK MATRIX										
LIKELIHOOD	INSIGNIFICANT	MINOR	MODERATE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC	SCOBE	ACTION		HEIRARCHY OF CONTROLS		
ALMOST CERTAIN	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	SCORE	SCORE ACTION -		Elimination Remove the hazard.		
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCE		Substitution		
POSSIBLE	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE	3H HIGH	Review befor work starts.		Replace the hazard.		
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	2M MODERATE	Ensure control measures in place.		Isolate People from the hazard		
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	1L LOW	nitor and		Engineering Isolate the hazard.		
is the second m	rchy of Controls: ost effective metho nging the work is th	d of controlling a	hazard. Enginee	ring by isolati		et. 'ive, while	rd. Substitution Administrative effective		Administrative Change the work.  PPE		

				PERS		TIVE EQUIPM					
		Select the app	ropriate PPL	abo. ~uitab	ic or the equip	oment used or	the job task	being perform	ned (if applica	able).	
FOOT PROTECTION	HAND PROTECTION	HEAD PROTECTION	ARING STION	F' CTIO	RL PIRATORY PROTECTION	FACE PROTECTION	HIGH-VIS CLOTHING	PROTECTIVE CLOTHING	FALL PROTECTION	SUN PROTECTION	HAIR/JEWELLERY SECURED
Other PPE R	equired:										
	Pe	ermit or Licen	ses Requirem	ents		Mandatory Qualifications and Training					



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
Pre-start planning and consultation	Unidentified underground services     Unclear property boundaries     Fatigue and remote work isolation     Inadequate emergency access     Extreme weather conditions	ЗН	<ul> <li>Confirm property boundaries with owner or canager before work and mark fence line with survey pegs or flagging tape</li> <li>Contact Dial Before You Dig (1100) and revice of as for underground services before driving posts or using earthmoving equipment.</li> <li>Walk the full fence alignment and identify dams, universatively for underground, hidden holes, gullies, unstable banks and overhead power!</li> <li>Develop a SW and tax plan and allocates ass, rest breaks, communication methods and emergency procedures for mote w.</li> <li>Ensurat least your area are on site or remote locations or implement a lone-worker system with schedule check and GPS tracking.</li> <li>Confirm bille plans or UHF radio coverage and record nearest hospital, RFDS contact, property grid references a GPS cordinates.</li> <li>Establic vehiclaccess routes for emergency services and keep gates unlocked or keys accessible with work is undowny.</li> <li>Check ather forecast for heat, storms, strong winds or fire danger and postpone work when severe notitions are predicted.</li> <li>Eyef all workers on risks of barbed wire, electric fencing, wire tensioning and powered post drivers before commencing work.</li> <li>Record all planning decisions and site hazards in a pre-start meeting record or job safety analysis form.</li> </ul>	2M
Site inspection and housekeeping	Uneven ground and trip hazards Hidden holes and animal burrows Sharp scrap metal and old wire Overhanging branches and vegetation Livestock movement through work area	ЗН	<ul> <li>Walk the work area and flag or barricade holes, washouts, steep edges and unstable banks using high-visibility markers</li> <li>Remove or stack old wire, star pickets and scrap steel in a designated scrap zone away from vehicle and foot traffic</li> <li>Cut back low branches, blackberries and dense vegetation along the fence line using appropriate tools before stringing wire</li> <li>Mark and protect any wet or boggy ground and re-route vehicle access where there is risk of bogging or rollover</li> <li>Install temporary fencing or gates to keep livestock out of the immediate work area during post driving and tensioning</li> <li>Store wire coils, posts and fittings on level ground with chocks or restraints to prevent rolling or collapse</li> <li>Maintain clear walkways around vehicles, post driver, chain wire machine and tensioning areas to reduce manual handling twists</li> </ul>	2M



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
			Collect loose offcuts of wire, tie-offs and staples regularly and place in sturdy containers to prevent foot punctures	
Manual handling and material loading	Musculoskeletal strain from lifting posts     Crush injuries from falling bundles     Hand cuts from sharp wire edges     Foot injuries from dropped tools     Pinch points with wire coils	зн	Use mechanical aids such as tractors, loader post trailers, wire jennies or wire dispensers to move posts and wire rolls wherever practicable  Break down heavy bundles of star pickets, wher proposed and chain wire into smaller loads that can be lifted within safe manual handling limits  Lift with neutral spine and to in-lift long or heavy costs; averaging while carrying and place loads down by bending knees not be  Wear cut-resistant provide meet. AS/NZS 2161 when handling barbed wire, chain wire, electric wire and steel post  Wear steel-coined safet poots meet as 2210 to protect against dropped posts, tools and wire reels  Chain tie down a coils before cutting binding wires to prevent uncontrolled springing or rolling  Position ands away from pinch points when rotating or feeding wire coils onto jennies or spindles  DO Ni Toam loads at obstruct vision; use spotters when carrying long posts through uneven or agetate ground.	2M
Vehicle and plant operation on rural terrain	Unplanned vehicle movement     Vehicle rollover on slo     Plant collision with workers     Contact with overhead powerlines     Overloaded ute or trailer	4A		2M



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
Setting out and post alignment	Eye injury from tensioned string line     Trip hazards from marking pegs     Hand injury from driving pickets     Struck by moving post rammer	3H		<b>1</b> L
Post driver and auger operation	Crush injury from post direction  Noise-induced hearing loss  Flying debris from post  Entanglement with rotating auger  Hydraulic hose failure and fluid injection	4A		2M



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
Installing strainers and bracing assemblies	Collapse of unstable end assemblies Struck by swinging crowbar or rammer Back strain from digging post holes Hand injury from sledgehammer use	зн		2M
Stringing and clipping fencing wires	Wire recoil and snap-b     Hand and arm lacerations     Eye injury from wire ends     Entanglement in moving wire jenny     Trip hazards from loose wire	4A		2M



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
Barbed wire and chain wire installation	Puncture wounds from barbs Lacerations from chain wire edges Snagging on clothing and skin Strain from handling heavy mesh rolls Collapse of partially fixed chain wire	4A		2M
Wire tensioning and adjustment	Wire snap-back a Sonning     Struck by failed tensioner or grip     Overtension causing position     Muscle strain from manual strainers	4A		2M
Cutting wire and metal fencing components	Metal shards and flying sparks     Noise from grinders or saws     Electric shock from power tools	ЗН		1L



JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE  • Burns from hot cut edges  • Fire ignition in dry grass	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
Electric fence installation and testing	Electric shock from Sigis output     Inadvertent energiation during work     Contact with over Signs Supplement of Signs Supplement of Signs Supplement of Signs Si	1A		2M
Chain wire fencing machine operation	Entanglement in moving mesh     Crush injuries from rollers     Noise exposure from machinery	4A		2M



JOB STEP	POTENTIAL HAZARDS	IR	CONTROL MEASURES	RR
SPECIFIC WORK STEPS	HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE     Manual handling of heavy panels     Unexpected machine start-up	INITIAL RISK	SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS	RESIDUAL RISK
Clipping, stapling and fixing wires	Impact injuries from     Hammer strikes mands     Flying staples or s     Repetitive strain from hand tools	ЗН		1L
Environmental exposure and remote work	<ul> <li>UV radiation exposure</li> <li>Heat stress and dehydration</li> <li>Cold stress and hypothermia</li> <li>Snake and insect bites</li> <li>Working alone in remote areas</li> </ul>	3H		2M



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
				I
Demobilisation and post-work review	Residual sharp wire     Unsecured tools of equipment     Public contact was incomes.     Fatigue driving home	2M		1L



#### **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. ANY STATE AT 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 2025

Legislation NSW: https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/legal-obligations/legislati

Codes of Practice NSW: https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/lis

#### **Northern Territory**

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulation 201

Codes of Practice NT: https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/f

#### 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/le\_lation

Codes of Practice for SA: https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/wor/ aces/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

Or pational Health a. Safety Act J4

Occational Health and afety gulations 2017

Legis on VIC: https://www.sksafe.vic.gov.au/occupational-health-and-safety-act-and-

gulat

tes of actice VIC attps://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): <a href="https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation">https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation</a> Model Codes of Practice: <a href="https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-publications/model-codes-of-practice">https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-publications/model-codes-of-practice</a>

#### **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





#### SIGNATORIES OF THE SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT

The signed and dated personnel listed below have cooperated in the consultation and development of this Safe Work Method Statement which has been approved by the Person/s Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU). In signing this Safe Work Method Statement each individual acknowledges and confirms that they have read this SWMS in full, having raised any questions for items on this Safe Work Method Statement that require clarification, and confirms that they are competent, skilled and knowledgeable for the task assigned to them. Every person acknowledges that they have received the relevant training and qualifications where required, before carrying out any work contained in this Safe Work Method Statement. By signing this Safe Work Method Statement each individual agrees to work safely, to follow any safe work instructions which are provided, and agrees to use all Personal Protective Equipment where appropriate.

Worker Name	Signature

### SAFE WORK IN THE STATEMENT MONITORING AND REVIEW

The SWMS must be reviewed regularly to make sure it remains fective of must be reviewed (and revised if necessary) if relevant control measures are rovised. The view respectively should be carried out in consultation with workers (including contractors as a sub-intractors of the SWMS and their health and safety representatives who represented that work group at the workplace.

When the SWMS has been revised the PCBU must ensure that advised that a revision has been made and how they can acces he revised SWMS, including all persons who will need to change a work procedure or system as a region of the review are advised of the changes in a way that will enable them to implement their duties and the revised SWMS. All workers that will be involved in the work must be provided with the relevant information and instruction that will assist them to understand and implement the revised SWMS.

The SWMS must be monitored regularly for the effectiveness of ensuring hazard controls are effective in reducing the risk of incidents, keeping the workplace safe for all personnel. The person responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the Safe Work Method Statement should employ a multi-faceted approach which includes but is not limited to:

- Spot Checks.
- 2. Consultation with workers, contractors and sub-contractors.
- Internal audits on a continual basis.

An approach of continuous improvement, promptly recording inconsistencies or deficiencies, followed up by immediate corrective action and consultation with all relevant personnel ensures that the PCBU is consistently developing ever-improving systems of safe work principles.

REVIEW NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NAME							
INITIALS							
DATE							

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### SAFE WORK METHOD STATEMENT REVIEW CHECKLIST

This Safe Work Method Statement Review Checklist is to be followed and used upon initial development of the SWMS to help ensure that all steps have been adequately taken before work commences. Think of this document as an internal audit review checklist before commencing work, and may form part of a Toolbox Talk (safety meeting) and may be used as an opportunity for education and training.

ITEMS WHICH MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE SWMS	COMPLETED	COMMENTS
The company details have been entered, including the project name and address.		
All relevant personnel consulted during the development of the SWMS.		
Name, signature, position and date signed of the person approving the SWMS.		
Specific personnel and qualifications, experience is noted in the SWMS.	7	
Provides a step-by-step process of tasks required to carry out the activity or task.	k	
Adequate risk assessment of any identified hazards has been completed.	$\boxtimes$	
Foreseeable hazards are identified and documented for each step.	$\boxtimes$	
Any hazards listed in any site risk assessments have been added to the SWMS		
SWMS initial risk (IR) column as well as residual risk (RR) colum mpleted.	$\boxtimes$	
Check control measures added to the SWMS are the most effective selections.		
Responsible person is assigned and listed on the part of the important of	$\boxtimes$	
Permit or licenses requirements specified, sur as Hot Work, Electric Work, Work at Heights etc.	$\boxtimes$	
SWMS identifies plant and equipment to be use	$\boxtimes$	
Details of inspection checks required for any equipment listed an onthe SWMS.	$\boxtimes$	
Describes any mandatory qualifications, experience, use or skills required to perform the work.	$\boxtimes$	
Applicable personal protective equipment is selected on the SWMS.		
Reflects and documents any legislative references and/or Australian Standards.	$\boxtimes$	
Identifies any hazardous substances used with specific control measures in line with any SDS.	$\boxtimes$	
REVIEWED BY	DATE REVIEWED	
SIGNATURE	DATE COMPLETED	