

ORGANISATION DETAILS			
Principal contractor:	Brendan McKenna Earthmoving PTY LTD	Contact number:	0417 710 806
Project manager or supervisor:	Site Supervisor	Contact number:	
Other contractors (PCBUs):	Project-specific - identify where applicable	Contact number:	
Person completing the SWMS:	Brendan McKenna	Contact number:	0417 710 806
Position:	Site Manager	Reviewed by:	Leanne Bergin
Date prepared:	28/08/2026	Review date:	28/08/2028
PROJECT DETAILS			
What is the scope of the work?	Working in, over or adjacent to water, including work near dams, ponds, sumps, drainage paths, dewatering areas, soft or saturated ground and waterway edges.		
Who else was consulted/involved in preparing this SWMS?	This SWMS has been developed in consultation with relevant workers and subject matter input. It is to be reviewed following an incident, a significant change in work practices or site conditions, a change in legislation, or as part of the scheduled review cycle. Effectiveness of controls will be monitored by Site Managers/Supervisors.		
What high risk work activities are covered by this SWMS?	Work in, over or adjacent to water where there is a risk of a person or plant entering water, drowning, loss of stability, or exposure to unstable/soft ground.		
References: Legislation, Australian Standards, Codes of Practice, SDS and SOPs.	Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Qld); Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 (Qld); applicable Queensland Codes of Practice; project-specific safety requirements; relevant plant manufacturer instructions; Brendan McKenna Earthmoving IMS procedures and risk assessments.		
Plant involved in the scope of work:	Project-specific plant may include excavators, dozers, rollers and other mobile plant identified in the applicable project risk assessment / pre-start.		
What high risk licence classes will be required to do the work?	As required for the plant and work activity. Operators must be trained, competent and authorised.		

The following notes apply to the risk controls where relevant:

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): High visibility garments, hearing protection, safety glasses, hard hats, gloves, safety footwear and any additional PPE identified by the site risk assessment, SWMS, SDS or supervisor.

Purpose: This SWMS provides controls for work in, over or adjacent to water and for associated risks including drowning, falls, unstable edges, soft or saturated ground, plant instability and changing water conditions.

IMPORTANT SAFETY MESSAGES

1. Plan the work and assess the water hazard, ground conditions, access, weather, water depth/flow, submerged hazards and emergency arrangements before starting.
2. Establish appropriate controls to prevent people or plant entering water, including exclusion zones, safe stand-off distances, edge protection and flotation/rescue equipment where required.
3. Do not work alone where there is a foreseeable risk of drowning, entrapment in soft ground or delayed rescue.
4. Stop work if water levels, dewatering, rainfall, erosion, bank stability or ground saturation changes and the existing controls are no longer adequate.
5. Where unusual or changing conditions exist, complete a task-specific risk assessment / Take 5 and review the controls before work continues.

All hazards/ risks have been assessed to be as low as reasonably achievable.

Identify each task in order	Specify the hazards/risks you have identified	What are the risks to health and safety?	Who is responsible for implementing and monitoring controls?
Arriving on site/ pre-start site assessment	Hazard: - Inadequate planning; changing water or ground conditions Risk: - Unsafe work area, drowning, plant instability, slips/falls or delayed rescue	Conduct a site-specific pre-start assessment before work begins. Identify retained water, sumps, dewatering areas, drainage paths, soft/saturated ground, unstable edges and access limitations. Confirm weather forecast, recent rainfall, water levels and any planned dewatering activity. Record hazards and controls in the pre-start / Take 5 process. Confirm appropriate plant, communications, rescue equipment and PPE are available. Confirm workers are competent and understand the applicable SWMS and site controls. Do not work alone where there is a risk of drowning, entrapment or delayed rescue. If conditions are not understood or cannot be adequately controlled, stop work and contact the Site Supervisor	Site Manager or Supervisor
Working adjacent to or over water	Hazard: - Water edge, slips/trips, unstable banks, submerged hazards Risk: - Drowning, fall into water, injury or entrapment	Establish an exclusion zone and safe stand-off distance appropriate to the water depth, bank condition, ground stability and task. Restrict access to the water hazard to workers required for the task. Assess water depth, flow, temperature, submerged hazards and the ability to self-rescue. Provide life jackets / buoyancy vests, life buoys or retrieval equipment where the risk assessment identifies they are required. Provide edge protection, fall prevention or fall arrest systems where required by the work activity and legislation. Maintain clear access and an emergency retrieval / rescue path. Stop work where water levels, flow or bank stability changes and reassess controls.	Site Manager or Supervisor

Operating mobile plant adjacent to water, sumps or soft ground	Hazard: • Soft/saturated ground, unstable edges, poor visibility, plant rollover or bogging Risk: • Plant entering water, rollover, operator injury, drowning or entrapment	Inspect ground conditions and identify soft areas, saturated sediment, unstable banks, erosion, voids and drop-offs before plant enters the area. Establish plant stand-off distances from water edges, sumps, excavations and unstable ground based on actual site conditions and plant loading. Use a spotter where visibility, restricted access or proximity to an edge creates additional risk. Maintain a firm working platform and do not operate plant on ground that cannot safely support the plant. Keep attachments and loads positioned to maintain stability and avoid sudden movements near edges. Maintain positive communication between operators and ground personnel. Stop and withdraw plant if cracking, slumping, excessive pumping, unexpected movement or loss of traction/stability is observed. Where plant becomes bogged or immobilised, stop work and develop a controlled recovery plan before attempting recovery.	Site Manager or Supervisor
Working near dewatering, sumps and changing water levels	Hazard: • Dewatering equipment, changing water level, wet silt, soft ground, hoses/pipes Risk: • Engulfment, slips/trips, entrapment, plant instability or unexpected inundation	Coordinate work with the person controlling dewatering activities before entering the affected area. Confirm the location of pumps, hoses, pipes, sumps and discharge arrangements. Keep workers and plant clear of deep mud, unstable sump edges and areas where the ground condition is uncertain. Do not enter water or deep mud unless the activity has been specifically assessed and authorised. Maintain a clear escape route for workers and plant. Monitor changing water levels and ground conditions throughout the task. Stop work if dewatering stops unexpectedly, water rises, heavy rain occurs or the work area becomes unstable.	Site Manager or Supervisor

Emergency response / rescue	Hazard: • Person or plant enters water; entrapment; sudden ground failure Risk: • Drowning, serious injury or secondary injury to rescuers	Raise the alarm immediately and contact emergency services (000) for a serious or life-threatening emergency. Do not enter the water or unstable area to attempt a rescue unless trained, equipped and it is safe to do so. Use available life buoy, retrieval line or other rescue equipment from a safe position where practicable. Stop nearby plant and make the area safe for rescuers and emergency services. Maintain clear emergency access and direct emergency services to the incident location. Provide first aid within the responder's level of training. Report the incident in accordance with Brendan McKenna Earthmoving and project requirements and do not recommence until the area and controls have been reviewed.	Site Manager or Supervisor
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WORKER CONSULTATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This SWMS is to be communicated to workers undertaking the scope of works. Workers must understand the hazards and controls before commencing the activity. Consultation and acknowledgement may be recorded through the MCK Group App or other approved company record. A paper signature is not required where electronic acknowledgement is used.

Site-specific review: Before use on a project, the Site Supervisor must confirm the SWMS is applicable to the actual water hazard, plant, ground conditions, emergency arrangements and project requirements, and add any additional site-specific controls through the pre-start / risk assessment process.