

Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) – Operating Mobile Plant – Vernon Conservation Park

ORGANISATION DETAILS			
Principal contractor:	Brendan McKenna Earthmoving PTY LTD	Contact number:	0417 710 806
Project manager or supervisor:		Contact number:	
Person completing the SWMS:	Brendan McKenna	Contact number:	0417 710 806
Position:	Site Manager	Reviewed by:	Ron Broadhurst
Date prepared:	15/05/2026	Review date:	As required
PROJECT DETAILS			
Project	Vernon Conservation Park – Fireline Construction Works		
Project Reference	P263811		
What is the scope of the work?	Operating Mobile Plant		
Who else was consulted/involved in preparing this SWMS?	This SWMS has been developed in consultation with relevant workers, supervisors and subject matter experts. Control measures will be monitored by onsite Managers/Supervisors and reviewed where site conditions, work activities or hazards change.		
What high risk work activities are covered by this SWMS?	Operating Mobile Plant		
References: Legislation, Australian Standards, Codes of Practice, MSDS and SOPs.	WHS Act and Regulations 2011 / Local and State legislation / QPWS Road Maintenance Manual / Fraser Coast Regional Council Rail Trail Closure Approval / Traffic Management for Construction or Maintenance Work Code of Practice / Queensland Guide to Temporary Traffic Management		
Plant involved in the scope of work:			
What high risk licence classes will be required to do the work?			

Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) – Operating Mobile Plant – Vernon Conservation Park

The following notes apply to the risk controls where relevant:

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): The following PPE will need to be worn by workers at times on this project as directed:

☐ High Vis Garments ☐ Hearing protection ☐ Safety Glasses ☐ Hard Hats ☐ Gloves ☐ Safety Footwear ☐ Other

SAFETY MESSAGES

Determine the exclusion zone around the plant and make sure workers on the worksite are informed and remain outside of the exclusion zone whenever the plant is turned on (including maintenance and inspection activities).

No one is to stand in the drop zone of the load at any time

Make sure that employees and other persons on the worksite, who need to work inside the determined exclusion zone, have made contact with the plant operator, and they have stopped operating the plant before entering the exclusion zone.

Ensure that a daily plant pre-start has been completed, for each piece of plant

Ensure that all plant tickets and licences are visually inspected before work commences

Plant must only be used as per Manufacturer's specifications

Use the Plant Risk Assessment form to conduct a risk assessment on any plant – Refer to the Brendan McKenna Earthmoving Plant Risk Assessment.

If the plant is used for excavation the plant operator must ensure that no worker is inside any part of an excavation whilst excavation work is taking place.

Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) – Operating Mobile Plant – Vernon Conservation Park

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?
On-site planning and site and task preparation	Hazard: Site obstacles plant and traffic. Risk: Hit by plant or traffic	Ensure that employees and other persons on the worksite have undertaken a documented site-specific Work Health & Safety (WH&S) induction. Personal Risk Assessment Take5 to be filled out each shift. Exclusion zones must be determined and documented by the operator in conjunction with the supervisor and clearly marked prior to work commencing. Instructions will be given to employees and other persons on the worksite through a toolbox talk before work commences. No-one is to stand directly in the drop zone of a load. No-one is to be in an excavation whilst the plant is excavating. Traffic controls must be implemented Site Supervisor to consider the use of a water truck if a large amount of dust is being generated on site. Ensure that the site is adequately barricaded to prevent public access. Ensure that any additional equipment, (e.g. buckets, ramps, trailers, etc.) associated with plant are adequately stored or barricaded. Operators must comply with identified habitat tree protection zones and environmental exclusion areas. No unauthorised clearing or disturbance outside approved work areas is permitted. All employees and other persons on the worksites with powered mobile plant must: Wear safety helmets when within the exclusion zone or where there is a chance of being hit by falling objects. - Gloves, where required. - Disposable facemasks should be worn if employees and other persons on the worksite are exposed to dust.	Site Manager or Supervisor

Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) – Operating Mobile Plant – Vernon Conservation Park

		Other PPE (e.g. eye protection, hearing protection) must be determined to be required through a risk assessment.	
Plant operation	Hazard: Unsafe plant. Risk: Plant rollover causing crush injury Hazard: Unsafe operation Risk: Workers struck by plant or objects. Hazard: Site ground stability. Risk: Plant tipping, sliding into excavation,	Ensure that the Daily Plant Inspection Checklist is completed prior to work commencing. All tie-down points, ramps, chains, and tie-down mechanisms are to be checked daily and kept in good order. Operators must be inducted on unfamiliar plant by an experienced Operator prior to use. Ensure that the Logbooks are completed. Do not use plant with any defects. Only a qualified mechanic is to carry out repairs. Machine must be isolated prior to works commencing, using lock-out process, determined through the unsafe plant isolation procedure and machine maintenance risk assessment. Assess the weight capacity of plant used for lifting to ensure it is not overloaded. Do not use modified plant or attachments unless the modifications have been certified and plated by a qualified engineer. Plant MUST only be operated by a person who has been deemed competent in the use of that plant by a competent and experienced operator. Seat belts MUST be worn where fitted. Proximity of plant (including vehicles, trucks) to the top of the trench or excavation shall be determined through a risk assessment. The risk assessment should take into account the weight of the plant or vehicle involved as well as the type of soil, weather conditions and any other site-related risks. Prior to operating plant near waterways or creek crossings, operators must assess ground stability, water flow, bogging potential, edge stability and safe access/egress routes. Works must cease where conditions present an unacceptable risk.	Site Manager or Supervisor

Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) – Operating Mobile Plant – Vernon Conservation Park

		Check and comply with the manufacturer's gradient requirements for use. Where mobile communication coverage is unreliable, alternative communication arrangements or designated check-in procedures shall be implemented. Quick hitches are to be locked, and buckets changed away from work area and workers. Use warning signs and engage flashing lights and reversing signals where appropriate (audible reversing alarm). Ensure that all equipment and signage needed to undertake the work task is available. Ensure that all plant and equipment is maintained as per manufacturer instructions. Before operating the plant or equipment, conduct a thorough inspection of the machine and attachments e.g. steering, brakes, controls, warning devices, brake fluid, hydraulic oil, etc.	
Plant refuelling and fuel handling	Hazard: Flammable liquids, fuel spills/leaks, ignition sources, environmental contamination, hot machinery components Risk: Fire or explosion, burns, environmental harm, inhalation exposure, property damage	Refuelling shall only be undertaken by competent personnel. Allow machinery to cool where required prior to refuelling activities. Refuelling shall not occur near waterways, drainage lines or environmentally sensitive areas. Fuel shall be stored and transported in approved containers. Spill kits shall be available at all times and workers trained in spill response procedures. Any fuel spills must be contained, cleaned up immediately and reported to the Site Supervisor. No smoking or ignition sources are permitted during refuelling activities. Maintain fire extinguishers on plant and support vehicles.	Plant Operator / Site Manager or Supervisor
Carrying out work near overhead	Hazard: Working near power lines, underground services	Refer to: - Overhead Power - Working in or around trenches, excavation	Site Manager or Supervisor

Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) – Operating Mobile Plant – Vernon Conservation Park

powerlines or underground services	Risk: Electrocution, Hitting asset.		
Public interface and traffic management operations	Hazard: Public interaction and pedestrian access. Plant movement near public access areas. Traffic movement and temporary closures. Risk: Workers or members of the public struck by plant or vehicles. Collision, crush injury or unauthorised entry into work zones. Vehicle collision, public exposure to construction activities or traffic incidents.	Only competent and authorised operators are permitted to operate plant onsite. UHF communication must be maintained between operators, spotters and supervisors at all times where multiple plant or public interface activities are occurring. Exclusion zones must be established around operating plant and maintained during works. Plant operators must not proceed into active public interface areas until confirmation has been received that the area is clear of pedestrians and unauthorised persons. Traffic Guidance Scheme controls, signage and barricades must be implemented and inspected daily. Daily toolbox discussions must be undertaken to confirm operator responsibilities, public interface controls and communication procedures.	Site Manager or Supervisor
Public interface and pedestrian interaction controls	Hazard: Public interaction near rail trail closures. Light vehicle interaction. Communication failure between operators and spotters. Risk:	Operators and spotters must maintain a high level of awareness where works interface with public access areas or temporary rail trail closures. Spotters or designated personnel must monitor pedestrian and vehicle interaction where required by the Traffic Guidance Scheme or site conditions. Operators must maintain communication with designated personnel prior to entering shared access or controlled movement areas. Signage, barricades and exclusion zones must remain in place for the duration of works affecting public access areas.	Site Manager or Supervisor

Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) – Operating Mobile Plant – Vernon Conservation Park

	Pedestrian injury, unauthorised site access or interaction with plant. Vehicle collision or interaction with workers and plant. Communication failure between operators and spotters. Uncontrolled plant movement or public exposure to hazards.	Emergency access routes must be maintained at all times. Operators, spotters and traffic management personnel must be approved by the Site Supervisor prior to commencing works. Any issues relating to public interaction, traffic management or site safety must be reported immediately to the Site Supervisor and Principal Representative.	
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This SWMS has been developed in consultation and has been read, understood and signed by all workers undertaking the scope of works:

Print Names:	Signatures:	Dates: