MCK GROUP – HS-RA-001 SLASHER RISK ASSESSMENT

Worker-Accessible App Extract – Master Document: HS-RA-001 Risk Assessment Register V1.1

Related Documents: HS-PR-001 Risk Assessment Procedure; HS-PR-002 Daily Plant Inspection Procedure; HS-PR-003 Personal Risk Assessment (Take 5) Procedure; HS-PR-005 Incident Investigation & Reporting Procedure; OP-PR-003 Workshop Procedure; OP-PR-017 Unsafe Plant Isolation Procedure; Fatigue Management Procedure; Working Alone Procedure; Spill Management & Containment Procedure; Operating Mobile Plant SWMS; Vegetation Clearing & Mulching SWMS; Hazardous Tree Removal & Chainsaw Operations SWMS; Loading & Unloading Plant & Equipment SWMS; Relevant task-specific SWMS; Plant Maintenance Register; Training & Competency Register; Relevant EMP and SSMP; MCK Group IMS Registers Master.

BRENDAN MCKENNA EARTHMOVING

Risk ID	Risk Event / Activity	Hazard	Causes	Potential Impacts	Current Controls	Initial Risk	Residual Risk
SL-001	Pre-start inspection	Undetected mechanical or safety defect	Inspection not completed, defect overlooked or not reported	Plant failure, thrown-object event, fire, injury	Daily Plant Inspection; defect reporting; maintenance system; operator checks before use	15	4
SL-002	Operator competency	Untrained or unauthorised operation	Inadequate competency verification or unfamiliarity with slasher/tractor combination	Serious injury, rollover, equipment damage, uncontrolled debris	Competency verification; training records; supervision; manufacturer instructions; site induction	15	4
SL-003	Mounting and dismounting tractor	Slip or fall from plant	Mud, damaged steps, poor three-point contact	Sprains, fractures, lost time injury	Three points of contact; clean access steps; suitable footwear; no jumping from plant	9	4
SL-004	Starting and moving tractor/slasher	Collision with people or plant	Blind spots, poor communication, people in operating area	Crushing, collision, serious injury or fatality	Exclusion zones; competent operator; horn; mirrors where fitted; radios; pre-start communication	15	4
SL-005	Slashing operations	Thrown rocks, timber or debris	Blades contact hidden objects, stones, metal or hard timber	Serious injury or fatality, property damage	Large exclusion zone; guarding/chains/deflectors maintained; work area inspection; controlled speed; no persons in discharge zone	20	4
SL-006	Working near public or traffic	Thrown debris reaching public area	Insufficient separation, poor barriers, hidden debris	Serious public injury, vehicle/property damage, complaints	Work-area closure where required; barriers/signage; large exclusion zone; traffic/public interface controls	15	4
SL-007	Rotating blades / PTO-driven equipment	Contact with moving components	Operator or worker approaches before complete stop	Amputation, fatality or serious injury	No access while blades/PTO moving; shutdown; isolation; wait for complete stop; guards maintained	15	2
SL-008	PTO shaft and guarding	Entanglement in rotating shaft	Missing/damaged guard, loose clothing, approach while operating	Fatality or serious injury	PTO guards fitted and maintained; exclusion zone; no loose clothing; isolation before access	15	2
SL-009	Blocked slasher deck	Unexpected movement / stored energy	Vegetation jam, blade inertia, PTO/hydraulic energy	Crushing, laceration, serious injury	Shutdown and isolation; PTO disengaged; wait for complete stop; use tools rather than hands where practicable	15	2
SL-010	Operating on slopes	Tractor/slasher rollover	Excessive gradient, side travel, soft ground, raised implement	Fatality, serious injury, major plant damage	ROPS; seatbelt; competent operator; slope assessment; implement kept low where practicable	15	4
SL-011	Operating near edges or drop-offs	Edge collapse / rollover	Soft shoulders, hidden voids, excessive proximity to edge	Fatality, serious injury, plant loss	Safe setback; ground assessment; controlled travel path; spotter where required	15	4
SL-012	Operating on soft or unstable ground	Bogging or loss of stability	Saturated ground, weak fill, hidden holes	Rollover, plant damage, recovery risk	Ground assessment; weather monitoring; approved work paths; competent operator	15	4
SL-013	Overgrown forestry rows	Hidden stumps, rocks or obstacles	Dense vegetation obscures old stumps and debris	Sudden impact, blade/tractor damage, operator injury	Slow initial passes; work area inspection; known hazards communicated; suitable guarding; damaged areas reported	15	4
SL-014	Fence wire or metal debris	Entanglement in blades / projectile hazard	Hidden wire, fencing or scrap metal in vegetation	Blade damage, thrown object, sudden stoppage	Inspect work area; remove visible metal/wire; controlled approach; exclusion zone	15	4
SL-015	Vegetation clearing near hazardous trees	Falling tree or limb	Dead/damaged trees, unstable limbs, poor work sequence	Fatality, serious injury, cab damage	Hazardous tree assessment; exclusion zones; avoid working beneath unstable trees; approved removal method	15	4
SL-016	Working near other mobile plant	Plant-to-plant collision	Multiple machines, blind spots, poor separation	Serious injury, fatality, plant damage	Work sequencing; exclusion zones; radio communication; designated work zones; supervisor coordination	15	4
SL-017	Working near workers on foot	Person struck or hit by debris	Pedestrian enters operating or debris exclusion zone	Fatality or serious injury	Large no-go zone; high-vis PPE; radio/visual communication; operator stops if exclusion zone breached	20	4
SL-018	Operating near overhead powerlines	Electrical contact or arcing	Tractor/attachment or vegetation contacts powerlines	Electrocution, fire, fatality	Identify powerlines; exclusion distances; spotter where required; work planning	15	4
SL-019	Operating near underground services	Damage to buried services	Ground contact, hidden services, stump/root impact	Electrocution, explosion, flooding, service outage	Before You Dig where relevant; service plans; marking; controlled work; supervisor oversight	15	4
SL-020	Three-point linkage / hitching	Crush and pinch points	Hands/body between tractor and slasher during connection	Crushing, hand injury, serious injury	Park tractor securely; engine off where required; clear communication; keep hands clear of pinch points; use correct hitching method	15	4
SL-021	Hydraulic system	High-pressure hydraulic leak or hose failure	Damaged hoses, fittings, poor maintenance	Fluid injection injury, fire, environmental spill	Daily inspection; preventative maintenance; isolation/depressurisation before repair; defect reporting	10	4
SL-022	Engine and exhaust area	Fire from hot surfaces or accumulated debris	Dry vegetation, oil leaks, grass around engine/exhaust	Plant fire, bushfire, injury, environmental damage	Daily inspection; frequent debris cleaning; fire extinguisher where fitted; leak control	20	4
SL-023	Slashing in high fire-risk conditions	Ignition from hot components or blade strike	Dry fuel load, sparks, hot bearings/exhaust	Bushfire, major environmental/property damage	Fire danger monitoring; work restrictions; extinguishers; clean plant; emergency response; stop-work criteria	20	4
SL-024	Refuelling	Fuel spill or fire	Overfilling, hose failure, ignition source	Environmental contamination, burns, fire	Spill kits; controlled refuelling; trained personnel; no ignition sources; inspections	12	4
SL-025	Dust and airborne vegetation	Reduced visibility / respiratory exposure	Dry ground, fine grass, wind	Collision, respiratory irritation, nuisance	Enclosed cab where fitted; dust suppression where practicable; PPE where required; controlled speed	12	4

SL-026	Noise exposure	High noise levels	Engine, PTO, rotating blades and vegetation impact.	Hearing loss, reduced communication, reduced awareness and increased incident risk.	Enclosed cab where fitted; hearing protection where required; maintained equipment and limit exposure	**12**	**4**
SL-027	Whole-body vibration	Operator vibration exposure	Rough terrain, prolonged operation, poor seat condition	Fatigue, musculoskeletal discomfort	Maintained suspension seat; controlled speed; breaks and task rotation where practicable	**9**	**4**
SL-028	Loading or unloading tractor/slasher for transport	Plant rollover from ramps or trailer	Poor alignment, slippery ramps, unsuitable loading area	Fatality, serious injury, plant damage	Competent operator; level loading area; rated ramps; exclusion zone; spotter where required	**15**	**4**
SL-029	Transport restraint	Plant movement during transport	Insufficient or damaged chains/restraints	Road crash, plant damage, public injury	Rated restraints; approved tie-down points; pre-departure checks; restraint inspections	**15**	**4**
SL-030	Maintenance and repairs	Unexpected movement or stored energy	Inadequate isolation, blade inertia, PTO/hydraulic energy	Crushing, serious injury, entanglement, fluid injection	Unsafe Plant Isolation Procedure; competent maintenance personnel; blades fully stopped; PTO disconnected/isolated; depressurise systems	**15**	**4**
SL-031	Remote or isolated operation	Delayed emergency response	Communication blackspots, remote forestry or park work	Serious injury escalation, delayed rescue	Working Alone Procedure; check-ins; radios/phones; emergency contacts; site location details; first aid resources	**10**	**4**
SL-032	Fatigue during prolonged operation	Reduced concentration and reaction time	Long shifts, repetitive work, heat, vibration	Collision, rollover, poor judgement	Fatigue Management Procedure; scheduled breaks; fit-for-work expectations; supervisor monitoring	**15**	**4**
SL-033	Environmental disturbance	Unauthorised vegetation damage or habitat disturbance	Work outside approved limits, poor identification of no-go areas	Environmental harm, client/regulatory action	EMP/SSMP controls; approved work boundaries; fauna/habitat checks; exclusion areas; supervisor oversight	**15**	**4**
SL-034	Psychosocial hazards	Psychosocial hazards associated with the task	Remote work, fatigue, vegetation clearing and poor communication.	Stress, reduced concentration, psychological injury and increased incident risk.	Worker consultation; work planning; Fatigue Management Procedure; regular breaks; effective communication.	**12**	**6**
SL-035	Manula handling	Hazardous manual tasks	Heavy or awkward loads, repetitive movements, bending and twisting	Musculoskeletal injuries, strains and sprains	Mechanical aids; team lifting where appropriate; reduce load weights; safe work positioning; manual handling training	**9**	**6**

Controlled Document Notice: This document is a worker-accessible extract from the MCK Group HS-RA-001 Risk Assessment Register. The controlled master register contains the complete risk assessment, action tracking and review information. Refer to the current controlled version for full details.