



## Work Health and Safety Risk Assessment

### Identified activity for Risk Assessment

Working from heights

### Describe the identified activity / actions

**Ladder work:**

1. Manual handling the ladder.
2. Assessing the ladder requirement.
3. Transport of ladder.
4. Set up the ladder.
5. Climbing ladder.
6. Working on the ladder.
7. Getting down from ladder (while holding animal).
8. Pack down.
9. Working order.

**Situations:**

- Soft release.
- Placing release boxes
- Collecting foliage.
- Placing possum boxes.

**Types of ladders / height equipment:**

- Step ladder / A-frame.
- Extension ladder.
- Footstep.
- Platform ladder.
- Elevated work platform (contracted only).

### Location of actions

1. Rescue property (private)
2. Volunteer housing
3. Public place
4. Vehicles
5. Other

### Identify the hazards, potential risks and current risk controls then rate them

1. Identify each hazard associated with the actions.
2. List existing controls and determine a risk rating.
3. List any tools or equipment needed.



# Work Health and Safety Risk Assessment

## RISK MATRIX

| What harm could occur? |   | What is the likelihood of the harm occurring? |  | Calculate the Risk Score |                      |          |          |          |                |          |
|------------------------|---|---|--|--------------------------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|----------|
| Consequence            | Description   | Likelihood                                    | Description  | Consequence              | Likelihood           |          |          |          |                |          |
|                        |   |   |  |                          | Rare                 | Unlikely | Possible | Likely   | Almost certain |          |
| <b>Catastrophic</b>    | Potential for death, permanent disability or ill-health.                                  | <b>Almost certain</b>                         | The event will occur at some time or occur as a consequence of another event.<br>Once every 1-3 years. |                          | <b>Catastrophic</b>  | Moderate | Moderate | High     | Critical       | Critical |
| <b>Major</b>           | Potential serious long-term injury.   | <b>Likely</b>                                 | The event is expected to occur at some time in the near future.<br>Once every 3-5 years.               |                          | <b>Major</b>         | Low      | Moderate | Moderate | High           | Critical |
| <b>Moderate</b>        | Potential for injury or illness resulting in short term hospitalisation.                  | <b>Possible</b>                               | The event does occur from time to time.<br>Once every 5-8 years.                                       |                          | <b>Moderate</b>      | Low      | Moderate | Moderate | Moderate       | High     |
| <b>Minor</b>           | Potential for injury or illness resulting in medical attention and several days off work. | <b>Unlikely</b>                               | The event might occur but is not expected.<br>Once every 8-10 years.                                   |                          | <b>Minor</b>         | Very low | Low      | Moderate | Moderate       | Moderate |
| <b>Insignificant</b>   | No treatment required or first aid treatment.   | <b>Rare</b>                                   | Conceivable but highly unlikely to occur.<br>Once every 10-15 years.                                   |                          | <b>Insignificant</b> | Very low | Very low | Low      | Low            | Moderate |



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| Hazard<br>(What could cause harm) | Potential risk<br>(What could happen)                    | Current risk controls<br>(What is currently in place to reduce the risk)   | Residual Risk |              |             | Primary Impact  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|---------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
|                                   |  |  | Likelihood    | Consequence  | Risk Rating |                 |
| Working from ladder               | Fall off ladder.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working from height training.</li> <li>Self-assessment of dangers.</li> <li>Do not climb or work over 2m.</li> <li>Avoid ladders where possible.</li> <li>No overreaching or side loading</li> </ul>  | Possible      | Major        | High        | Human           |
|                                   | Ladder could fall / slide, defects not identified        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2nd person while operating with ladders.</li> <li>Securing ladders when required.</li> <li>Choosing stable footing for ladder.</li> <li>Ladder maintenance.</li> <li>Defective ladders tagged and removed from service</li> <li>Preference for platform ladders or elevated work platforms</li> <li>Pre-use ladder inspection before each task</li> <li>Avoidance of soft, wet, or uneven surfaces</li> </ul> | Possible      | Catastrophic | High        | Human, property |
|                                   | Drop hazards - items fall on person head while on ladder | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Securing rescue equipment.</li> <li>Ensure an exclusion is established below ladder</li> <li>No loose items carried in hands while climbing</li> </ul>  | Likely        | Major        | High        | Human, Injury   |
|                                   | Transporting Ladders on Vehicles                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of approved roof racks and restraints</li> <li>Load rated straps and locking mechanisms</li> <li>Pre-trip load security checks</li> <li>Compliance with road transport regulations</li> <li>No transport of damaged ladders</li> <li>Driver training and fatigue management</li> </ul>  | Rare          | Major        | Moderate    | Human/Property  |
|                                   | Poor lighting, misjudging rungs or footing               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid dusk/night work at heights</li> <li>Use of head torches</li> <li>Ensure 3-point contact at all times</li> </ul>   | Possible      | Major        | Moderate    | Human           |



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|---|--|--|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
|   |  |  | Likelihood    | Consequence  | Risk Rating |                |
|   | Manual handling of Ladders and Equipment                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of team lifting for heavy or awkward loads</li> <li>• Use of mechanical aids (trolleys, carriers with handles) where practicable</li> <li>• Pre-task assessment of load weight, stability, and access</li> <li>• Correct handling/lifting equipment</li> <li>• Correct lifting posture and techniques</li> <li>• Refer to Manual Handling risk assessment.</li> </ul>         | Unlikely      | Minor        | Low         | Human          |
| Adverse weather conditions                | Loss of balance, ladder instability, heat stress.                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weather monitoring prior to work</li> <li>• Work suspended in high wind, rain, or storms</li> <li>• Ground assessment and levelling</li> <li>• Use of anti-slip bases</li> <li>• Adequate lighting provided</li> <li>• Work rescheduled if unsafe conditions exist</li> <li>• Sun protection and heat management</li> <li>• Refer to Working Outdoors risk assessment.</li> </ul> | Unlikely      | Major        | Moderate    | Human          |
| Unstable or uneven ground conditions      | Ladder base shifts or sinks causing the ladder to collapse                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site assessment</li> <li>• Avoid unstable ground</li> <li>• Stop work if conditions change</li> </ul>   | Possible      | Major        | Moderate    | Human          |
| Ladder falling from car                   | Failing to properly secure ladder to vehicle.<br>Hit road bumps.<br>Accidents. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of proper strapping to appropriate roof structures.</li> <li>• Use of locking mechanism.</li> </ul>   | Rare          | Major        | High        | Property       |
| Handling animal / boxes / items at height | Rescuer falls off ladder.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 points of connection at all times.</li> </ul>   | Possible      | Catastrophic | High        | Human          |
|   | Rescuer get injured by animal.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Correct PPE worn during rescues.</li> <li>• Ensure Vaccinations are current.</li> </ul>   | Possible      | Moderate     | Moderate    | Human          |



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|-----------------------------------|---|---|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
|                                   |   |   | Likelihood     | Consequence | Risk Rating |                   |
|                                   | Manual handling.                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to species training regarding correct handling techniques</li> <li>Team lifting for heavy or awkward loads</li> <li>Use of vehicles and trolleys for transport</li> <li>Planned access routes</li> <li>Avoidance of overexertion</li> <li>Refer to Manual Handling Risk Assessment</li> </ul>                    | Possible       | Minor       | Moderate    | Human             |
|                                   | Using equipment at height.                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Securing Equipment and Tools (e.g. tool belt).</li> </ul>  | Moderate       | Major       | Moderate    | Human             |
| Working with elevated platforms   | Injury while working around platform on the ground. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licensed Contractor used.</li> <li>Contractor ensures exclusion zone is established.</li> </ul>  | Rare           | Minor       | Very low    | Human             |
| Working Outdoors                  | Slips and falls, Heat stroke, and sunburns          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check weather conditions before deployment and adjust plans accordingly</li> <li>Wear appropriate PPE (hat, sunscreen, enclosed footwear, weather-appropriate clothing)</li> <li>Conduct site assessment for terrain, access, and environmental hazards</li> <li>Refer to Working Outdoors risk assessment.</li> </ul> | Almost certain | Minor       | Moderate    | Human             |