



Work Health and Safety Risk Assessment

Identified activity for Risk Assessment

Working with chemicals

Describe the identified activity / actions

1. Use of Wildlife related chemicals
2. Mixing and dilution of chemicals in accordance with SDS
3. Handling and storage of chemicals
4. Transport of chemicals between locations and during operations
5. Use of PPE when handling or applying chemicals
6. Disposal of chemical waste
7. Clean up of chemical spills and leaks

Location of actions

1. Rescue property (private)
2. Volunteer property
3. Public place (national parks, roadway, waterway, camps)
4. Creche facilities
5. Vehicle
6. Vet

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



1-5 / 117 Old Pittwater Rd, Brookvale NSW 2100
 PO Box 7276, Warringah Mall NSW 2100
 Donations P: (02) 8977 3396 F: (02) 8977 3399
 Wildlife Rescue Line 1300 094 737
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CFN 10170
 ABN 30768872928
 Incorporation No. Y0116216
 info@wires.org.au
www.wires.org.au



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



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Hazard (What could cause harm)	Potential risk (What could happen)	Current risk controls (What is currently in place to reduce the risk)	Residual Risk			Primary Impact
			Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating	
Exposure to disinfectant chemicals (Virkon, F10)	Skin and eye irritations, chemical burns, respiratory irritation	Safety Data Sheet available and followed: PPE worn (Gloves, eye protection), adequate ventilation, chemicals used in accordance with manufacturer instructions	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Human, Injury/Illness
Incorrect dilution or mixing of chemicals	Release of toxic fumes, chemical injury, ineffective disinfection	Dilution guides followed; training provided; incompatible chemicals not mixed; mixing conducted away from animals in ventilated areas	Unlikely	Major	moderate	Human, Injury/Illness
Chemical spills during handling or transport	Slips, chemical burns, environmental contamination	Spill kits available; secure containers used; immediate clean-up procedures; incident reporting process followed	Unlikely	Moderate	Moderate	Injury / Environmental harm
Improper storage of chemicals	Accidental exposure to chemical degradation, unauthorised access	Chemicals stored in labelled containers; secured storage away from food and animals; regular inspection of storage areas	Rare	Major	Low	Injury / Illness
Incorrect disposal of chemicals	Environmental harm, regulatory non-compliance	Disposal in accordance with SDS and local council requirements; no discharge to stormwater or waterways	Rare	Major	Low	Environmental harm
Inhalation of chemical vapours or aerosols during spraying	Respiratory irritation, Headaches, dizziness	Use of low-spray or wipe methods where possible; adequate ventilation; PPE such as masks used where required; avoidance of enclosed spaces	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Injury / Illness
Manual handling of chemical containers	Musculoskeletal strain or injury	Use of smaller containers where practicable; correct lifting techniques; manual handling training provided	Possible	Minor	Low	Injury
Chemical exposure to wildlife	Stress, poisoning or injury to animals	Animals removed from area prior to chemical use; correct dilution; allowing surfaces to dry before reintroduction of animals	Unlikely	Major	Moderate	Animal Welfare
Use of chemicals in confined or	Built up of fumes leading to respiratory distress	Ventilation assessed prior to use; Door/windows opened; Avoidance of chemicals use in confined spaces where practicable	Unlikely	Major	Moderate	Injury/illness



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poorly ventilated areas						
Unauthorised or untrained use of chemicals	Incorrect application, exposure or injury	Access restricted to trained personnel and volunteers; clear labelling and storage: supervision where required	Rare	Major	Low	Injury/Illness



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