



SEDIMENT TASK FORCE - FOR DEVELOPERS

HOW TO REDUCE YOUR RISK DURING SUBDIVISION



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions



SWAN CANNING
RIVERPARK



Perth NRM

How to reduce your risk during subdivision

Major environmental impacts are to be expected during subdivision. Even when land disturbance is kept to a minimum, significant soil losses can still occur. Land developers must consider on-site soil erosion and sediment control as part of their subdivision planning. **It's the law and fines apply.**

Make sure your planned activities and management systems conform to your contractual performance criteria, and that your company has the adequate resources and skills to meet legislative requirements.

Regular inspections, monitoring and auditing will provide the basis to implement corrective action, and to ensure environmental standards are achieved.

Reduce your risk by:

- Minimising the amount of site disturbance beyond the limit of approved development works.
- Scheduling slope stabilisation and revegetation works to follow as soon as possible after the completion of earthworks formation.
- Undertaking earthworks that conserve the original soil horizons.
- Stockpiling topsoil on site, outside all drainage path lines.
- Stabilise spoil heaps kept on site. (If natural regeneration does not occur after 14 days, stabilise spoil heaps by seeding a sterile vegetation cover).
- Covering stockpiles that cannot be stabilised by vegetation cover with an appropriate wind- and waterproof membrane. Surround all spoil heaps by a silt fence at the toe of the stockpile.
- Deciding on mandatory and temporary hold points. (Hold points are normally imposed at a stage where further activity could cause environmental damage if the appropriate protection measures are not in place).
- Making sure your works is a safe distance from drains and watercourses. (<50m is a high erosion risk; 50m – 200m a moderate erosion risk; >200m a low erosion risk).
- Protecting remnant vegetation down slope of your development site, so it remains intact and free of vehicular damage.

Further Information

[Perth NRM: Sediment Task Force](#)

[Environment Protection Authority Victoria - Follow a risk management process](#)

[IECA \(Australasia\) - Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control \(BPESC\) Document](#)

[Catchments & Creeks - Erosion & Sediment Control \(ESC\) - Field Guides](#)

For the Latest Innovations in Erosion and Sediment Control

[IECA \(Australasia\) - Environmental Excellence Awards](#)



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