

1. Pre-Start Planning

- Complete a site-specific environmental risk assessment before work starts.
- Identify nearby watercourses, drainage systems, sensitive habitats, protected species, and any environmental constraints.
- Confirm whether permits, licences, consents, or other approvals are required.
- Ensure river protection measures are included within the project's Environmental Management Plan.

2. Preventing River Pollution

- Prevent waste, debris, materials, concrete, fuels, oils, chemicals, and sediment from entering any watercourse.
- Do not leave materials or waste on riverbanks, estuary banks, or in locations where they could be washed into the river.
- Use appropriate pollution-prevention measures, including drip trays, spill mats, bunded storage, and designated storage areas.
- Protect drains, groundwater, and surface waters from contamination.

3. Fuel, Oil and Chemical Controls

- Do not refuel plant or equipment on riverbanks, foreshore areas, or directly over water.
- Position drip trays (plant nappies) beneath equipment containing fuel, oil, or hydraulic fluids.
- Keep spill response kits readily available wherever fuels, oils, or chemicals are stored or used.
- Inspect plant, fuel lines, hoses, and equipment daily for signs of leakage.

4. Silt and Sediment Management

- Minimise disturbance to riverbanks and surrounding ground.
- Prevent sediment-laden runoff from entering watercourses.
- Install suitable silt control measures where excavation or earthworks take place near water.
- Ensure environmental plans include appropriate silt management and discharge control arrangements.

5. Wildlife and Habitat Protection

- Protect vegetation, wildlife, and all identified ecological features.
- Stop work immediately and seek specialist advice if protected species, nests, or other sensitive ecological features are discovered.

- Keep working areas to the minimum necessary to reduce habitat disturbance.

6. Site Housekeeping

- Maintain high housekeeping standards throughout the project.
- Remove waste regularly and leave no materials or rubbish on riverbanks at the end of each shift.
- Use only designated access routes.

7. Inspections and Monitoring

- Conduct daily inspections of environmental protection and pollution-control measures.
- Record inspections, incidents, waste transfers, and environmental controls.
- Review and update controls as work progresses.

8. Emergency Response

- Stop work immediately if any material, fuel, debris, equipment, or contaminant enters the watercourse.
- Where safe to do so, contain spills using the available spill response equipment.
- Inform the Site Supervisor without delay and report all environmental incidents and near misses.
- Follow the site's Environmental Incident and Emergency Response Procedures.

Regulatory Requirements

Some activities carried out in, over, under, or near rivers may require permits, consents, or approvals before work can commence, particularly where works could affect flood defences, river channels, structures, water flows, excavations, or discharges. Always confirm applicable requirements during the planning stage.

Related Internal Documents

- EP 10 Site Environmental Management Plans Procedure V1 Rev 1 2025
- ENV08 Project Environmental Plan Template 2025.docx
- EP02 Procedure for Environmental Legislation and other requirements V3 2026.docx
- OP15 HSE Incident, Accident and NCR Reporting
- EP08 Storage Procedure
- Risk and Method Statement
- EP11 Incident Response Plan