NOISE – Categorising risk



RISK FACTORS

Noisy equipment used on site

Location and housing of noisy equipment

Location of sensitive receivers

Use of area (eg recreational such as boating and fishing)

Operating hours of noisy equipment

Duration of the dredge campaign

Probability of marine megafauna visiting the dredge area

Prevailing wind direction

Compliance history

History of complaints

ACTIVITIES

Movement of vessels and vehicles

Deployment and operation of machinery at the dredge or dewatering location

Operation of pumps and generators

Anchoring of vessels at sea

NOISE

OPERATIONAL CONTROLS

Handling of equipment

Maintenance of equipment

Noise assessment with appropriate controls

Community notification prior to works and continued engagement throughout campaign

Complaints resolution processes

Locations where pumps and generators are positioned

Encapsulation of pumps, generators or dredge site (eg screening or barriers) to attenuate noise

Noise time restrictions.

Marine mammal observers

Slow start procedures

IMPACTS

Nuisance noise

Health and wellbeing

Complaints from residents or other sensitive receivers

Impacts on marine megafauna

RISK

LOW

Low levels of noise

Greater than 300 m from a sensitive receiver

Operating within approved hours (7 am to 7 pm Monday to Saturday)

MEDIUM

Less than 300 m from a sensitive receiver

24-hour operation of noisy equipment for less than a week

Noisy equipment is used on site

Duration of campaign is 2–8 weeks

Noise exceeds permitted levels

Complaints received for previous campaigns

HIGH

Less than 300 m from a sensitive receiver

24-hour operation of noisy equipment for over a week

Duration of campaign is over 2 months

Operation within whale migration season or within Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary

SUGGESTED MANAGEMENT

Complaints register

SUGGESTED MANAGEMENT

Complaints register

Noise management plan

Community notification and consultation

Noise mitigation measures

SUGGESTED MANAGEMENT

Complaints register

Acoustic report

Noise management plan

Marine mammal observer

Noise mitigation measures

Community notification and engagement

NOISE – EPA Expectations

DREDGE APPLICANTS OR LICENSEES MUST	Met	Notes/Evidence
Not exceed the noise levels as specified in the Noise Policy (refer to information sheets for Construction noise and General environmental noise).		
Limit noisy activities to between 7 am to 7 pm, Monday to Saturday.		
Obtain written permission from the EPA or another agency such as a council that administers the <i>Environment Protection Act</i> 1993 if work is undertaken that generates noise between 7 pm to 7 am Monday to Saturday or on a Sunday or Public Holiday and is likely to impact sensitive receivers.		
Take reasonable and practicable measures to minimise noise impacts to sensitive land users (eg by selecting quiet equipment, enclosing equipment to reduce noise levels, maintaining equipment, operating noisy equipment at appropriate times).		
Inform or engage with neighbouring properties of the degree and duration of noise if impacts are likely to occur.		
Use a complaints register to record and address complaints.		