

Task Risk Control Sheet

Maintain Vegetation – Manually Fed Chipper

RCS No: NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/OT08
Issue: 5

Key Risks !

- Contact with machinery
- Struck by flying object
- Manual Handling
- Underfoot Conditions
- Any Line Open to Traffic
- Struck by Train

Personnel Involved

E&P	
S&T	
Track	
Off Track	✓
Property	

Tools / Equipment Push Stick, Spill Kit, First Aid Kit (see NR/L2/OHS/00110)

Plant Wood Chipper

ALL WORK USING MECHANISED TOOLS ON OR NEAR THE LINE SHALL BE UNDERTAKEN IN A GREEN ZONE

Key Risks	Controls	Implemented By
Trains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA01 – Work On or Near the Line. 	All Staff
Underfoot conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GH02 – Underfoot Conditions. • Carry out a pre-site survey to assess ground conditions. Brief all staff on hazards. • Clear/distribute arisings as work progresses. • Check on usage of land and conditions, especially significant changes in elevated gradient. • Monitor conditions on an ongoing basis; if circumstances change especially significant changes in elevated gradient or height, cease work and review safe system of work. 	All Staff
Darkness / Poor Visibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where possible perform all work during daylight. • Provide lighting that meets the minimum and average lighting levels set out in Table 1. • See Task Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/SP16 – Use of Site Lighting. • Install any site lighting clear of the path of machines and attachments. 	All Staff

In line with the HSE Guidance 38, Lighting at Work, the following minimum and average lighting levels shall be established for the various activities involved, this is the definition of suitable and sufficient for the purposes of this document.

Activity	Minimum Lighting Level	Average Lighting Level
Site access	5 Lux	5 Lux
Site preparation	20 Lux	50 Lux
Chipping	20 Lux	50 Lux
Vegetation management activities at ground level (including chainsaws and hand saws)	50 Lux	100 Lux
Tree climbing and use of associated equipment	100 Lux	200 Lux

Table 1 – minimum and average lighting levels

Check achieved lighting levels using a light meter at the point of activity prior to work commencing.

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Key Risks	Controls	Implemented By
Manual Handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Task Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GH01 – Manual Handling. Cut all material being fed into the chipper to a manageable size. All material to be chipped should be stacked 'butt' end towards the chipper. 	All Staff
Fuelling of Plant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire / Explosion Contact with fuel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Task Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA17 – Decanting Fuel and Fueling Small Plant. 	All Staff
Transportation, loading and unloading of Wood Chipper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depending on the gross weight of chipper, trailer and vehicle, staff shall be competent to transport equipment by road vehicle. This may require use of a tachograph and/or Driver's CPC. Secure loads correctly prior to transportation Provide fall restraints for staff working on the trailer during loading and unloading. Load and unload chipper according to the manufacturer's operating instructions. When loading and unloading chipper from trailers, take into account direction of travel and location of controls. When manoeuvring chipper, implement an exclusion zone and take into account traffic management on the public highway. 	Operator / Staff
Use of Wood Chipper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check that planned preventative maintenance and inspections are in date. 	Line manager / Operator
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out pre-use checks so that safety guards and attachments are securely fixed in position and all emergency stops are functioning correctly. Machines shall only be operated by those trained and competent in their use. Mount machines on a firm, stable surface with adequate stable ground for operators to stand on. Maintain adequate ventilation at all times. Set up an exclusion zone of 20 metres, using additional control measures as required. Wear correct PPE (including eye and ear protection) at all times when in the exclusion zone. Do not touch any moving parts when the engine is running or attempt to release trapped material. Do not put any part of your body into the in-feed hopper whilst the machine is running – use a push stick at least 1.5m long for short items and for the last piece of material being chipped. Let go of the material as soon as it is pulled / engaged by the machine. Shut down, remove engine key and secure before leaving or transporting machine. (See section Underfoot conditions) From site visit data, the transit path of the chipper on site shall be clear of obstacles. Take into account gradients and banks. Put mitigation in place as required. 	Operator / Staff
All Tasks including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being struck by objects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The person in charge shall set up and maintain an exclusion zone of 20m in line of sight of the chipper. Advise all staff to turn down the speed of the feed rollers to the lowest speed when feeding timber in excess of 250 mm. A nominated competent person shall be the only operative allowed to feed the chipper. Feed the chipper in accordance with the Manufacturers' operating 	Operator / Staff




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	<p>instructions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear correct PPE (including gloves, eye and ear protection) for the tasks including when entering the exclusion zone. 	
Electrocution Contact with OHLE or DC electrified line or utility services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Risk Control sheets NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA20 – Working Adjacent to DC Electrified Rails Risk Level 1- 5. See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA21 – Working Near Electrical Overhead Line Equipment. Perform a pre-site survey to identify utility services – where necessary they shall be protected, moved or isolated. 	All Staff
Any Line Open to Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If work activities might foreseeably foul an open line, undertake a Risk Assessment (RA) and document in the Safe System of Work (SSOW) how those risks shall be mitigated. Use NR/L2/RMVP/0200 (Infrastructure Plant Manual) and M&EE Code of Practice COP0032 to complete the RA. The ALO Coordinator shall manage the ALO risks on site. Brief all risks and mitigations to the operators and staff on site. 	Operator / ALO Coordinator / Supervisor / Staff
Lone Workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lone working is not permitted when chipping. 	Line Manager/All Staff

PPE Required by NR / Maintenance Policy

				<p>If safety glasses introduce a risk (i.e. weather conditions) then the Team Leader shall assess the risk. The outcome of the assessment shall be recorded on the SSOWP pack and safety glasses may be removed.</p> <p>This does not supersede the requirements for eye protection detailed on relevant Task Risk Control Sheets.</p>
Wear Head Protection	Wear Foot Protection	Wear Hi Visibility Clothing	Wear Safety glasses to BS EN 166.F	

Additional PPE Required by Task Risk Control Sheet

						
Wear Hand Protection	Wear Safety mesh visor to EN 1731	Wear ear protection				