

SOP - Wildlife Removal from Trees

DO NOT use this plant* or complete this task unless you have been inducted in its safe use and operation by an Authorised Experienced Operator

This SOP may not cover all possible hazards and risks and should be referred to as a control measure in the risk assessment process. Additional training may be required for high risk plant/work. Site and task may change required PPE.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Eye protection must be worn



Long and loose hair must be contained or covered.



Hearing protection must be worn



Foot protection must be worn



Hand protection must be worn



Protective body clothing must be worn



High visibility clothing must be worn

POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS

- ❗ Cutting, Stabbing or Puncturing**
Injury from sharp or flying object (chainsaw)
Injury from contact with moving parts (chainsaw, EWP)
- ❗ Bites and Scratches**
Injury due to being bitten or scratched by wildlife or snakes
Infection due to being bitten or scratched by wildlife
Contraction of disease e.g. Australian Bat Lyssavirus due to being bitten or scratched from wildlife
- ❗ Slip, Trips, Falls**
Slip, trip, fall due to uneven or slippery work surfaces
Slip, trip, fall from entry/exit of plant and slippery plant surfaces
- ❗ Manual Task Injury**
Manual task injury from incorrect manual handling techniques
- ❗ Other**
Injury due to fall from heights (EWP)
Injury due to kickback from sharp rotating parts (chainsaw)
Hearing damage from excessive noise (chainsaw)

PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Complete site specific risk assessment
- ✓ Ensure you are licenced under the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service 1974
- ✓ All wildlife removal operators shall be trained and experienced in handling wildlife
- ✓ Ensure you have been Working at Heights trained
- ✓ Ensure a Working at Height Risk Assessment Checklist has been completed prior to removal of any wildlife from trees
- ✓ Wildlife Operators are to be inducted onto the work site and follow relevant safety and traffic plans and follow the directions of the chainsaw and EWP operators
- ✓ Consult with EWP operator and chainsaw operator to determine the appropriate course of action to check hollows, check for wildlife and remove wildlife. Consideration should be given to the use of:
 - Torches
 - "Burrow Cam" or similar camera probes
 - Use of hard wearing gloves to remove decaying material and timber

OPERATING PROCEDURES

- ✓ Keep clear of moving plant parts
- ✓ Inspect tree and hollows in the EWP without cages/bags

- ✓ Implement action plan utilising appropriate cages and agreed tree-cutting methodology
- ✓ Wildlife should be removed from hollows whilst in the EWP
- ✓ Crane hire may be required if the weight of the limb exceeds the capacity of the EWP
- ✓ The EWP operator shall be responsible for determining the capacity of the EWP to lower the limb

LOADING AND TRANSPORTING ANIMALS

- ✓ All animals that require care shall be placed in secure cages
- ✓ Cages shall be secured in the vehicles at all times, either in the tray of a utility, behind luggage cages or within the boot of a sedan

DO NOT

- ✗ Do not use if plant is faulty. Attach an Out of Service tag and report fault to your supervisor
- ✗ Do not handle/operate machinery (including chainsaws)
- ✗ Do not manually lift heavy items (such as timber)
- ✗ Do not handle animals more than strictly necessary

*Plant in this SOP refers to any machinery, equipment, appliance, container, implement and tool.