

Task Risk Identification and Treatment – Moving livestock using aircraft external sling loads from muddy & wet ground - Version 1

Area / property (where relevant): NW NSW			
Prepared by	J Loughlin (Project Officer – Health & Safety)	Date completed	15 March 2010
Authorised by	Ross Burton (AASFA Coordinator)	Date authorised	17 March 2010

1 Specific Risk	2 Source(s) of Risk	3 Area(s) of Impact	4 Current Risk Treatment
Personnel being injured or killed during loading of livestock from muddy and/or wet ground into stock crates lifted by helicopters for the purpose of animal rescue in flooded areas	<p>Organisation & management</p> <p>Environment & natural events</p> <p>Community & human behaviour</p>	<p>Human health, safety & well being</p> <p>Animal health</p> <p>Reputation & image</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aircraft activities are undertaken according to NSW I&I policies and procedures, requiring an approved plan for the task to be undertaken. • Contracted aircraft – all aircraft operators, aircraft and pilots must be currently contracted to I&I NSW and approved to perform the task of external (sling) loads in accordance with the task profile. Pilot to ensure a competent (trained) person to hook sling/crate to aircraft prior to take-off. • Location of personnel – all personnel (such as landholders and other agency personnel) except those directly involved in operational activities marshal at the designated point away from the aircraft operating area. • Location – a GPS available to give locations of operations if emergencies occur. Personnel are competent to use the GPS. • Weather monitoring – the weather is monitored (temp/wind direction & speed, precipitation) throughout the operation. Changes to the predicted conditions may necessitate changes in the operation due to reduced visibility, traction and staff comfort. • Induction – a condition of entry to the operation for all personnel. Operation induction must include explanation of hazards, the measures in place personnel must follow, and specific responsibilities of personnel. • Communications – SARS must be established and in place according to the aircraft procedures. Communication systems must be tested at the briefing. • First aid and response – qualified personnel and appropriate first aid equipment to be available for immediate response and included in the medical plan for the operation. • Manual handling – currently the process involves lifting of heavy wet/muddy sheep with limited mobility into the crate. Personnel should avoid operating in muddy/wet areas due to difficulty of moving around safely (eg personnel and/or footwear stuck in mud). • Hearing – protect using disposable hearing protection devices when in the vicinity of aircraft where possible • Visibility – all personnel on the ground operating within the aircraft working zones must wear a reflective vest, reflective clothing or clearly indicate to pilots their location by

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			<p>remaining within eye sight of pilot (eg waving arms). Operations may only occur during daylight hours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visibility at night – no operations are to be conducted at night • Traction of personnel – suitable footwear must be worn to prevent slipping in wet conditions. If areas become too slippery and boggy or the area is covered in water then personnel must be prevented from entry. • Traction of equipment (eg motorbikes, 4WD) – machinery must be suitable for the environment in which it is operating. Wet/slippery conditions may require use of track wheel machines instead of rubber tyre wheels. • Crush – under no circumstances shall personnel enter the area in the vicinity of the aircraft until the sling load is stationary on the ground. Personnel should at no times be under the stock crate or aircraft once it is in the air or on departure or arrival. • Head protection – where personnel must be in the vicinity of machinery or personnel operating overhead, approved hard hats must be worn • Sun protection – sunscreen and wide brim hats (if appropriate) must be worn by all personnel when working in daylight hours

5 Current Risk Profile			6 Proposed Risk Treatment	7 Risk Profile After Treatment			8 Comment**
5a L Likelihood	5b C Consequence	5c Risk Rating		7aL Likelihood	7bC Consequence	7c Risk Rating	
B (likely)	4 (major)	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual handling – should be eliminated by only loading livestock that can walk freely into the crate. Ground should be dry (ie not boggy, muddy or under water.) Mustering of livestock into crates may involve use of temporary fencing, prodders or use of dogs. • Animal welfare - plan for task to include survivability evaluation of livestock prior to consideration of rescue by aircraft. Animals unlikely to survive must not be moved. Destruction to occur on animal welfare grounds at the earliest, safest opportunity. • Personnel – only qualified people with experience in handling livestock may load or unload livestock from crates. Preferably personnel should be trained to work around aircraft. • Briefing – qualified personnel involved in ground activities must be briefed for the task they are undertaking. This includes landholders and other agency personnel performing the task of loading their own animals into crates. 	D (unlikely)	3 (moderate)	Medium	Eliminate risk by ground mustering of animals (preferably prior to the flood) to high ground with sufficient feed (or temporarily stored fodder).

**Mandatory requirement if assessed level of risk rating is X (extreme) or H (high)

Consequence Description for each Area of Impact

Rating	Consequence	Animal health & production	Plant health & production	Human health, safety & well being	Economic	Commercial	Environmental	Organisational capability	Political (govt & business sector)	Reputation & image
1	Insignificant	No loss	No loss	No injuries	No economic loss	No financial loss	No environmental impact	Organisational capability intact, negligible impact on objectives	No political/organisational impact	No damage to reputation/image
2	Minor	Limited illness/injuries &/or deaths on single enterprise	Limited damage/loss on single enterprise	Minor injuries; no public health risk; short term well being impact	Few businesses locally affected or single/few properties	Low financial loss; single/few properties affected	Minor,/recoverable short-term isolated/localised environmental impact	Local capability affected, minor impact on objectives, easily remedied	Local political / organisational impact	Recoverable / short term local damage to reputation/image
3	Moderate	Some illness/injuries/deaths on multiple properties across a locality	Some damage/loss on single property – multiple paddocks	Limited public health risk &/or injuries requiring medical & mental health treatment	Widespread industry impact; multiple industries / properties per district	Medium financial loss; multiple properties per district	Moderate, medium term, medium spread environmental impact	Regional capability affected, some objectives affected	Regional political / organisational impact	Medium term / regional damage to reputation/image
4	Major	Considerable illness/injuries/deaths on multiple properties across a region	Considerable damage/loss on multiple properties across a region	Major public health risk &/or major injuries/well being impact	High economic /trade risk to region &/or state	High financial loss	Serious, long term, widespread environmental impact	State capability affected, important objectives not achieved	State political / organisational impact	Long term/ state damage to agency reputation/image
5	Catastrophic	Significant illness/injuries/deaths on multiple regions	Considerable damage/loss across multiple regions	Significant public health risk &/or human deaths/ long lasting well being issues	Major national economic implications	Major national financial loss	Irreversible environmental impact	National capability affected, most objectives not achieved	National political / organisational impact	Long term / (inter) national damage to reputation / image irreversibly impacted

