

RISK ASSESSMENT KEY (Based on DWS 2015 publication: Section 21 c and I water use Risk Assessment Protocol)

Negative Rating

TABLE 1- SEVERITY

How severe does the aspects impact on the resource quality (flow regime, water quality, geomorphology, biota, habitat) ?

Insignificant / non-harmful	1
Small / potentially harmful	2
Significant / slightly harmful	3
Great / harmful	4
Disastrous / extremely harmful and/or wetland(s) involved	5
Where "or wetland(s) are involved" it means that the activity is located within the delineated boundary of any wetland. The score of 5 is only compulsory for the significance rating.	

TABLE 2 – SPATIAL SCALE

How big is the area that the aspect is impacting on?

Area specific (at impact site)	1
Whole site (entire surface right)	2
Regional / neighboring areas (downstream within quaternary catchment)	3
National (impacting beyond secondary catchment or provinces)	4
Global (impacting beyond SA boundary)	5

TABLE 3 – DURATION

How long does the aspect impact on the resource quality?

One day to one month, PES, EIS and/or REC not impacted	1
One month to one year, PES, EIS and/or REC impacted but no change in status	2
One year to 10 years, PES, EIS and/or REC impacted to a lower status but can be improved over this period through mitigation	3
Life of the activity, PES, EIS and/or REC permanently lowered	4
More than life of the organisation/facility, PES and EIS scores, a E or F	5
PES and EIS (sensitivity) must be considered.	

TABLE 4 – FREQUENCY OF THE ACTIVITY

How often do you do the specific activity?

Annually or less	1
6 monthly	2
Monthly	3
Weekly	4
Daily	5

TABLE 5 – FREQUENCY OF THE INCIDENT/IMPACT

How often does the activity impact on the resource quality?

Almost never / almost impossible / >20%	1
Very seldom / highly unlikely / >40%	2
Infrequent / unlikely / seldom / >60%	3
Often / regularly / likely / possible / >80%	4
Daily / highly likely / definitely / >100%	5

TABLE 6 – LEGAL ISSUES

How is the activity governed by legislation?

No legislation	1
Fully covered by legislation (wetlands are legally governed)	5
Located within the regulated areas	

TABLE 7 – DETECTION

How quickly/easily can the impacts/risks of the activity be observed on the resource quality, people and property?

Immediately	1
Without much effort	2
Need some effort	3
Remote and difficult to observe	4
Covered	5

TABLE 8: RATING CLASSES

RATING	CLASS	MANAGEMENT DESCRIPTION
1 – 55	(L) Low Risk	Acceptable as is or consider requirement for mitigation. Impact to watercourses and resource quality small and easily mitigated.
56 – 169	(M) Moderate Risk	Risk and impact on watercourses are notably and require mitigation measures on a higher level, which costs more and require specialist input. Licence required.
170 – 300	(H) High Risk	Watercourse(s) impacts by the activity are such that they impose a long-term threat on a large scale and lowering of the Reserve. Licence required.

A low risk class must be obtained for all activities to be considered for a GA

TABLE 9: CALCULATIONS

Consequence = Severity + Spatial Scale + Duration
Likelihood = Frequency of Activity + Frequency of Incident + Legal Issues + Detection
Significance/Risk = Consequence X Likelihood

RISK ASSESSMENT MUST BE CONDUCTED BY A SACNASP REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL MEMBER AND THE ASSESSOR MUST:

1) CONSIDER BOTH CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONAL PHASES OF PROPOSED ACTIVITIES;
2) CONSIDER RISKS TO RESOURCE QUALITY POST MITIGATION CONSIDERING MITIGATION MEASURES LISTED IN TABLES PROVIDED;

3) CONSIDER THE SENSITIVITY (ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE AND SENSITIVITY – EIS) AND STATUS (PRESENT ECOLOGICAL STATUS - PES) OF THE WATERCOURSE AS RECEPTOR OF RISKS POSED;

4) CONSIDER POSITIVE IMPACTS/RISKS REDUCTION AS A VERY LOW RISK IN THIS ASSESSMENT;
5) INDICATE CONFIDENCE LEVEL OF SCORES PROVIDED IN THE LAST COLUMN AS A PERCENTAGE FROM 0 - 100%.

ON THE EXCELL SPREADSHEET POP-UP COMMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ALL COLUMNS IN THE HEADINGS WHICH EXPLAINS THE PURPOSE OF EACH COLUMN!