



WEDDIN SHIRE COUNCIL

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 16.13.2

MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR GRAVEL PITS AND QUARRIES

Adopted: 21 September 2017

MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR GRAVEL PITS AND QUARRIES (NO. 16.13.1)

1. **Title:** Management Plan for Gravel Pits and Quarries
2. **Number:** Document Number 16.13.1
3. **Purpose**
The objective of this plan is to adopt management and operational procedures for Council's gravel pits and quarries which provides for efficient pit operation without detriment to fanning activities and undue damage to the pit environment.
4. **Application**
The Plan applies to all gravel puts and quarries operated by Council within the Weddin Shire.
5. **Associated legislation and other references (as amended)**
Local Government Act 1993
A code of Practice for Establishing, Managing and Rehabilitating Gravel Quarries (Aug 1998) – DLWC
Design Manual for Soil Conservation Earthworks – LD Hockridge (WSC)
6. **Operator's Obligation to the landholder**
The Operator will:
 - * Enter into the attached agreement with the landholder to allow access to the land for the purpose of operating the pit or quarry.
 - * In conjunction with the landholder, plan the work at the site and the access road in such a way as to cause minimal disturbance to the landholder and his activities.
 - * Ensure all quarrying and associated activities are kept within the agreed area, and to a minimum area consistent with efficient site operations.
 - * Direct that water or timber can only be used with the permission of the landholder.
 - * Ensure that any fences or improvements affected by quarrying operations shall be promptly repaired and that any gates or openings will only be established with the landholders consent
 - * Ensure that all gates are left as found, whether open or shut

Ensure that staff are familiar with the provisions of relevant legislation covering the project and with the conditions attaching to any licence or agreement applying_

 - * Fully brief staff as to their responsibilities under any access agreement and this Plan and from time to time consult with the landholder to ensure ongoing satisfactory operation.

7. Environment Considerations

7.1 Land Degradation

- * Prevent discharge of any pollutants onto land, and by good management practices, progressively rehabilitate the quarry site and utilise where necessary, barrier screens or trees to reduce adverse affects on the aesthetics of the area.

7.2 Water Pollution

- * Prevent pollution of water by the introduction into watercourses or ground water of any pollutants or excess sediment.

7.3 General Site Management

- * No rubbish, pollutants (oils, fuels) are to be disposed on site by burial or burning, or discarded into surrounding area.
- * Any excess sediment shall be controlled by sediment basins and barriers in accordance with current practise.

7.4 Other Aspects

- * The site will not affect any conservation agreement or plan of management under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. Due regard will be taken of any Wildlife Corridor that may exist.
- * Ensure there are no wilderness areas likely to be affected by the use of the area as a quarry.
- * Ensure the pit or quarry will not have a significant affect on the environment of endangered fauna.

Ensure the land to be used by the quarry is suitable for the purpose and it is not subject to flooding, tidal inundation, subsidence, slip or any other risk. Bush fires will not have any affect on the development

8. Location and Site Plan

8.1 Site

The Council or Operator will prepare a site plan which will:

- * Show all access roads and extent of pit area, as agreed,
- * Provide details of all gates or other specific roads, area and features;
- * Provide for site drainage control;

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- * Where the quarry area is adjacent to any main road or public reserve in particular, steps will be taken to maintain the existing aesthetic appearance of the area when used for the extraction of material and viewed from any main road or public reserve. Where necessary, screening trees will be planted.
- * Most quarry sites are more than 90 metres distant from the nearest alignment of a main road or an arterial road and will often have indirect access. In the event that a quarry is located at 90 metres, then access to the main or arterial road will be indirect or by an entry that complies with Road and Traffic Authority standards.
- * Ensure the provision of sufficient space at the site of operations for the loading, unloading, manoeuvring and parking of vehicles and plant.

8.2 Access Roads

- * Access roads are to be deviated wherever possible to avoid damage to vegetation or landscaped features, especially in areas where vegetation is scant.
- * As far as practicable, plan access roads to fit the topography so as to minimise earthworks, avoiding watercourses, steep side slopes and permanently wet and boggy areas.
- * Track driven machinery is not to be driven down the centre of access roads. All turns are to be carried out with minimum damage to the access road.
- * Vehicles are to be driven at a moderate speed to minimise dust and noise.

9. Environmental Management Plan

The aim of this plan is to take in to consideration the soil elements, water elements, erosion and sediment control works and the necessary stabilisation, preservation, and revegetation works that need to be carried out to keep erosive surfaces to a minimum and to prevent sediment movement from the site.

Previously worked out areas will be restored on an ongoing basis by preparing batter slopes, replacing overburden and rehabilitation with native grasses and, where suitable, with appropriate trees. In appropriate circumstances, there will be consultation with the Department of Land and Water Conservation.

9.1 Soil Management

- * All topsoil shall as far as practicable be saved in stockpiles not more than 500 mm high so organic material is not destroyed.
- * This topsoil shall be placed on any exhausted extraction areas which have been reshaped to its final configuration. This direct placement of the topsoil will give best results in revegetation of the area.
- * If the saved topsoil has to be stockpiled for later reuse, it must be planned to place it in areas out of the way of continuing operations, but at the same time in a convenient area for recovery when required.

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- * Erosion and sediment control measures (such as sediment control fencing) shall be installed to protect the stockpiles of topsoil and subsoil, where required.

9.2 Water Management

- * Site drainage shall separate natural run off from water contaminated by quarrying operations.
- * Water pollution control measures such as diversion drains and sediment ponds will be implemented as necessary.

9.3 Erosion And Sediment Control

- * Apply erosion control measures within the site to minimise erosion; and
- * Take the necessary steps to retain sediment from the erosion of the exposed earth surfaces within the work site, by use of contour drains and sedimentation dams.
- * Site restoration works will restore the area to previous conditions as much as it can be, and insure stability.
- * Programs will be prepared to monitor the effectiveness of the erosion and sediment control measures their ongoing efficiency.

9.4 Preservation of Vegetation

- * The removal or damaging of plants, trees, wildflowers, etc, is not permitted except to the extent necessary for efficient working of the site.
- * No indiscriminate felling of trees is permitted on the site.
- * Where timber must be removed it is to be done in accordance with conditions of any access agreement, and in a manner acceptable to the landholder. Any tree removal must be in accordance with any regulation in force.
- * The consent of the Department of Land and Water Conservation is required for the clearing, killing, burning, destruction, damage, removal, severing or lopping of native vegetation to which SEPP 46 (or subsequent legislation) applies.

9.5 General Site Management

- * All rubbish is to be placed in appropriate bins for removal, from its site and disposal. All solid wastes including workshop and quarry rubbish are to be disposed of in such a way as to prevent them escaping their containers and creating pollution or litter, prior to removal.
- * Staff vehicles are to carry rubbish containers and staff are to avoid littering.

9.3 Safety

- * All work performed in the quarry shall be in accordance with the Mines Inspection Act, 1901, and the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1983, and the Operator's Occupational Health and Safety rules.
- * Appropriate warning signs shall be displayed on the road on either side of the entrance to the quarry whenever more than 50 m³ is being removed from the quarry at the one time, or whenever material is removed from a quarry for which the entrance is located on a State Highway or Main Road.

9.4 Blasting

Whenever any blasting is to be conducted it will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Mineral Resources, Workcover Authority, and the Environment Protection Authority.

Blasting operations should in most cases be confined to the periods Monday to Saturdays, 9 am to 3 pm. Blasting outside of these times should be approved only where blasting during the preferred times is clearly impracticable, and should be in limited number. Blasting at night should be avoided unless it is absolutely necessary.

The ground vibration, peak particle velocity generated by any blasting in the quarry shall be limited to 5 mm/second when measured at any dwelling or occupied building PROVIDED that this limit may be exceeded on infrequent occasions such that not more than 5% of the total number of blasts should not exceed 100 mm/second at any time.

The blast overpressure noise level generated by any blasting in the quarry shall be limited to 115dB (linear) when measured at any dwelling or occupied building PROVIDED that this limit may be exceeded on infrequent occasions such that not more than 5% of the total number of blasts should not exceed 120 dB (linear) at any time.

9.8 On Completion

- * Clean up the area so that the area is left in a clean and tidy condition. No litter, plastic, wire, nails etc. are to be left, as they may be ingested by livestock and cause injury.
- * Remove all pegs, stakes and other markers, wires and the like.
- * Remove all equipment and materials unless specific approval of the landholder is obtained to leave or bury any abandoned equipment or materials on site.
- * Complete the rehabilitation of the site without undue delay.
- * Invite the landholder to inspect the work area and seek a clearance from the landholder.
- * Arrange prompt payment of any royalties or other compensation still outstanding.

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10. **Review and Amendment**

- This plan shall be reviewed by September 2017 and thereafter at four (4) yearly intervals, to ensure it meets all statutory requirements and the needs of Council.
- This plan may be amended or cancelled by Council at any time without prior notice or obligation.

11. **Adoption**

- This policy commences as from the date of adoption by Council, being TBA and replaces any previous similar policy.

10. **History**

Version Number	Details
Original	Adopted 2000 (approx.)
16.13.1	Adopted TBA

Appendix

WEDDIN SHIRE COUNCIL

**AGREEMENT TO PROPERTY ACCESS AND OPERATION OF GRAVEL
PIT OR QUARRY**

WHEREAS the Council requires access to property for the purposes of extracting gravel or other materials; THAT the proposed location of pit and access roads have been jointly inspected by the landholder and a representative of the Council; AND THAT the Council is to operate the pit for its own purposes and will have the responsibility for good management of the site:

THIS AGREEMENT between

- the owner for the time being of the land specified in the schedule below (referred to as the landholder) on the one part; AND Weddin Shire Council (referred to as the Council) on the other part; PROVIDES; subject to this Agreement and any special conditions specified below:

ACCESS:

- * The landholder will allow the Council access to the land (as determined) for the purpose of extracting gravel or other material.
- * The Council in conjunction with the landholder will plan the work at the site and the access road in such a way as to cause minimal disturbance to the landholder in the normal usage of the property and minimal damage to the land and its appurtenances.
- * The Council shall be responsible for the maintenance of the access road to the pit site.
- * The Council shall, where possible, give 24 hours notice to the landholder or his representative of the carrying out of any blasting, dozing, stockpiling or similar operation at the site or removal of material from the site.

SITE MANAGEMENT

- * The Council shall be responsible for the day to day operational management of the pit site; the ongoing rehabilitation of the area; and the safety procedures involved.
- * The Council will manage the site in accordance with its Management Plan and policy and with best management practices.

SAFETY MANAGEMENT

- * The Council shall comply with safety requirements as contained within its Plan for the Operation of a pit or quarry and for the protection of the environment and its staff.
- * The landholder shall ensure that stock and farm machinery and the like do not impeded the safe working of the site and area, as far as is reasonable, kept away from possible dangerous locations.

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COMPENSATION

- * The Council shall pay compensation (royalty) to the landholder at a rate per cubic metre as determined by Council from time to time.
- * Such rate of payment shall be reviewed annually.
- * Such compensation shall be paid monthly for the amount of material transported from the site, unless subject to an alternative agreement.

THIS AGREEMENT is subject to review at five yearly intervals. Special individual conditions may be negotiated from time to time.

DATED THIS.....day of
.....20.....

Landholder (Signature)

Council (Signature)

(Signature)

SCHEDULE

Land referred to: Owner.....Gravel Pit No:.....

.....Local Name.....

Description

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.....

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Rate of compensation as at date of Agreement:.....per cubic metre

Special Conditions, if any (see attached)