



Frequently asked Questions - Woombye

Environmental Planning and Management process

What is Queensland Rail's environmental planning and management process for projects such as the South East Queensland Stabling Program?

Environmental oversight for Queensland Rail projects is conducted in accordance with the Environment Planning and Management (EPM) process. This process provides a framework for the assessment and management of environmental aspects associated with projects and works conducted by Queensland Rail.

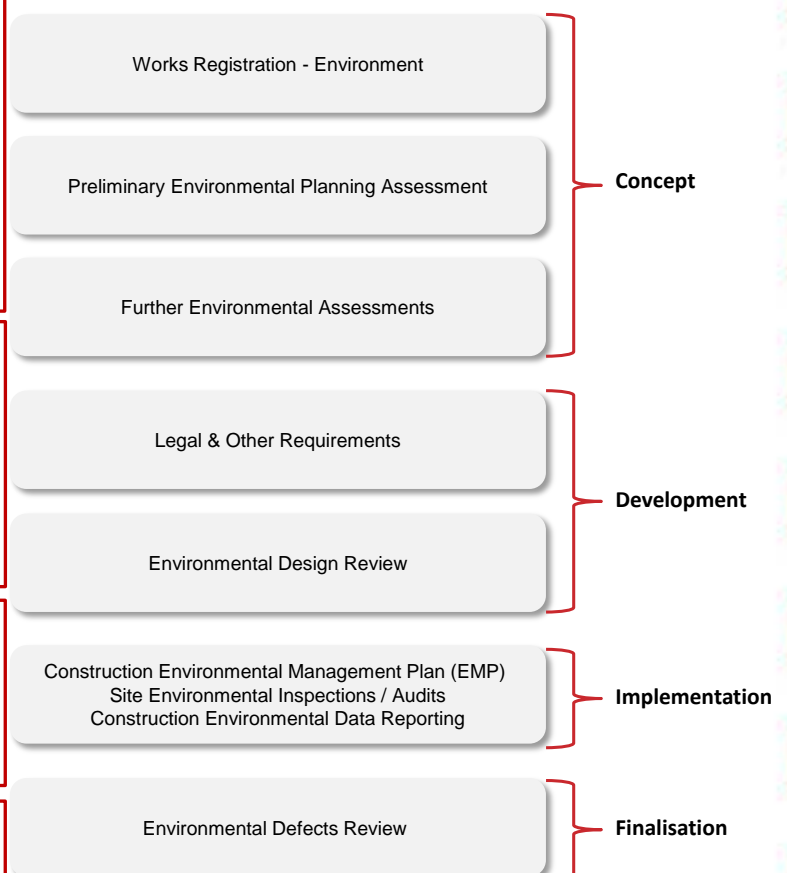
This process has been in place since 2006. In the 2015 financial year, close to 200 projects across the State were managed in this way. The process is aligned to the four key project stages which include:

Concept: Includes Work Registration (Environment) and a Preliminary Environmental Planning Assessment (PEPA). At this stage, potential environmental risks, legal and other obligations and environmental efficiencies associated with the project are identified. Importantly at this stage, we also identify any specific required environmental assessments and studies and ensure they are conducted prior to the commencement of the project.

Development: Includes the refinement of Legal and Other Requirement Registers and Environmental Design Reviews. Environment Design Reviews are carried out to identify environmental risks, legal and other requirements and opportunities which need to be addressed prior to the commencement of operation.

Implementation (construction): Includes the development and implementation of the Construction Environmental Management Plan, environmental inspections and environmental data reporting.

Finalisation: Includes a pre-handover inspection, which in this instance is from the construction contractor back to Queensland Rail. This is undertaken post-construction but prior to the operation of the facility. This process identifies any issues that need to be addressed prior to the commencement of operations.





Completed ecological study findings

What studies will need to be undertaken prior to construction?

An ecological assessment study and report was conducted as part of the concept stage of the project, with the assessment concluding that no federal approvals were required. An additional ecological assessment has been conducted of the area to identify any environmental approvals which may be required under State and local legislation.

Have the studies completed to date identified any species of conservation significance?

No species of conservation significance were identified in the ecological assessment, within the footprint of the proposed design. Fauna species of conservation significance were at that time identified within the study area but outside the footprint of the proposed design. A further ecological assessment of the clearing footprint has been conducted to determine if there are any species requiring approval and management under State legislation.

Impact of cleaning during operation

Once the stabling facility is built, will the land be officially designated and listed on the Contaminated Land Register or Environmental Management Register?

There will be no activities conducted that will see the Woombye stabling facility registered on the Environmental Management Register or the Contaminated Land Register. Queensland Rail does not own or manage land which is listed on the Contaminated Land Register and this site and its activities are expected to be no different.

What cleaning products will be used at the stabling facility?

The only cleaning activities that will occur will be internal vacuuming and spot cleaning. Chemicals used for internal maintenance activities are no more hazardous than common cleaning agents used in most household products. No external train cleaning will occur on the premises.

What protocols does Queensland Rail have in place to manage cleaning products?

Any chemicals required to be kept on site (likely to be small volumes of common cleaning agents) will be stored and used in such a way that minimises the potential for their release to the environment. The management and control of chemicals and cleaning products will be consistent with Queensland Rail's standard approach to the use and storage of chemicals.

Water

Will the proposed stabling yard footprint directly impact Paynter Creek?

The value of Paynter Creek is recognised and Queensland Rail requires the design and construction contractor to provide for all appropriate measures to minimise impact from the stabling facility during both construction and operation.

The proposed stabling yard footprint will not impact directly on Paynter Creek.



How will water discharge be managed during construction and operation?

Queensland Rail requires its design and construction contractor (Leighton Contractors) to plan and implement appropriate drainage measures to minimise the effect of water discharge from the stabling facility during both construction and operation. Drainage measures will be designed and maintained in accordance with design standards that meet regulatory requirements.

Fauna management

What considerations will be made to ensure safe fauna movement?

Leighton Contractors is required to design and construct the Woombye stabling facility to manage possible fauna impacts. This will include infrastructure to facilitate safe fauna movements and passage, where necessary.

A Fauna Management Plan will be developed and implemented to ensure effective management of any potential risks to fauna in close proximity to the site. It is expected that the Plan will include design and construction solutions, together with monitoring controls to mitigate the risk of impact to fauna.

Will the stabling facility infrastructure, particularly fencing, pose an increased danger to local fauna?

Stabling facility infrastructure will be designed to facilitate safe fauna movement, where fauna passages have been identified. Security fencing in these zones will be designed to discourage protected native animals like koalas, possums and flying foxes from being caught, injured and prone to predator attack. Queensland Rail has successfully installed devices such as koala exclusion strips and bat tags and tape as part of security fencing design in other projects.

Vegetation

What vegetation has been identified within the site footprint?

The vegetation within the majority of the site footprint area is characterised predominantly by open grassland with exotic dominated species (camphor laurel).

Will there be any vegetation clearing?

The Woombye stabling facility will be built on land that has previously been cleared and used for farming.

Vegetation clearing will be predominantly limited to introduced vegetation types such as pasture grasses and camphor laurel trees, considered by many Councils, including the Sunshine Coast Council, to be a weed species. Clearing is required for the stabling yard turnout on the western side of the North Coast railway line.

For your information



What are the species and growth rates of the tubestock used in the recently planted vegetation screen?

The vegetation screen consists of 2,000 native tubestock including 76 original and supplementary species.

Fast growing species, such as Acacia, Homolanthus, Commersonia, Polyscias, Melicope, Glochidion, were planted throughout the planting site to encourage the rapid development of the visual screen.

It is anticipated that within five years, weather conditions and other factors permitting, some of the species planted will grow to eight metres high and will continue to grow vertically and become denser in the following years.

Where can I find out more information?

If you have a specific question that has not been addressed in this fact sheet and would like to register for more information or speak to a member of the Project Team, please contact:

Phone: 1800 783 334 (free-call) Email: stabling@qr.com.au