

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is outline Council's position on Erosion and Sediment Control in the Whitsunday Regional Council area, and to provide guidance on the implementation, monitoring and compliance of Erosion and Sediment Control measures associated with development.

Scope

This policy is applicable to all sites where development, construction and soil disturbance is taking place in the Whitsunday Regional Council area, including sites where Council is undertaking works.

This policy aims to reduce erosion from development sites and minimise the loss of sediment into nearby waterways with a proactive, educational and preventative approach to the effective management of Erosion and Sediment and the potential impact on the waterways of the Whitsundays.

Policy Statement

1. Education - Council will develop an Erosion and Sediment Control Guideline incorporating a training, education and awareness program to guide internal Council officers, the construction and development industry to take greater responsibility in managing water quality flowing into sea grass and coral habitats of the Coral Sea.
2. Development Planning & Implementation - Erosion and Sediment Control Plans must be submitted, implemented and monitored with all forms of development applications, including operational works, reconfiguring a lot, material change of use and building applications that involve displacement of soil or vegetation clearing.
3. Council-led Best Practise - Erosion and Sediment Control Plans must be developed, implemented and monitored for all Council lead construction sites involving displacement of soil or vegetation clearing.
4. Industry Best Practise - Erosion and Sediment Control Plans by Council or private development must be developed in-accordance with the following guidelines:
 - a) ICEA IECA Best Practise Guidelines (2007),
 - b) Urban Stormwater Quality Management Guidelines (2010), and
 - c) Queensland Government Road Drainage Design Manual (2002).
5. Water Quality Focus - Erosion and Sediment Control Plans should complement Water Quality Management Plans submitted with development applications, addressing stormwater quality objectives in construction phase within the Whitsunday Regional Council Planning Scheme.
6. Ongoing Support, Training and Compliance - Council will develop and implement an internal Erosion and Sediment Control Program which will include:

- a) Which Council Directorate will be responsible for the review of Erosion and Sediment Control Plans submitted to Council,
 - b) Which Council Directorate will be responsible for the compliance of Erosion and Sediment Control Plans on development and construction sites,
 - c) Which Council Directorate will be responsible for the development and implementation of Erosion and Sediment Control Plans for Council work sites, and,
 - d) Identify and provide training on Erosion and Sediment Control.
7. Where these policy actions have not been followed, Council will enforce compliance at a scale that is relative to the seriousness of the breach in accordance with the Whitsunday Regional Council Education, Compliance and Enforcement Policy and Manual.

Applicable Legislation

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 1997

Reef Plan 2050

State Planning Policy

All Queenslanders have a legally binding duty under the Environmental Protection Act 1994 to take all reasonable and practicable measures to minimise or prevent environmental harm. Such harm can be caused if sediment enters stormwater drains or waterways. In addition, the Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 1997 defines specific offences for discharging sediment and building wastes to stormwater or placing these materials in a location where they could pollute stormwater.

Definitions

CEO refers to the Chief Executive Officer of the Whitsunday Regional Council appointed in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Council refers to the Whitsunday Regional Council

Employee refers to any employee, contractor, volunteer etc. of the Council

ESC refers to Erosion and Sediment Control.

Related Documents

Erosion and Sediment Control Program

Human Rights Compatibility Statement

This Policy has been assessed as compatible with the Human Rights protected under the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

Erosion and Sediment Control Policy

Community Services - Natural Resources & Climate
COMM_15

COUNCIL POLICY			
Date Adopted by Council	8 September 2021	Council Resolution	2021/09/08.10
Effective Date	8 September 2021	Next Review Date	8 September (year TBC)
Responsible Officer(s)	Coordinator Natural Resource Management and Climate	Revokes	LSP_C&ENV_16
Public Consultation: Yes / No			