

Task Risk Control Sheet

Maintain Vegetation – Mechanised Flailing/Mowing/Mulching/Cutting

RCS No: NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/OT06
Issue: 3

Key Risks !

- Struck by Train
- Struck by OTP
- Struck by flying object
- Manual Handling
- Underfoot Conditions
- Work with hand tools

Personnel Involved

E&P	
S&T	
Track	
Off Track	✓
Property	

Tools / Equipment

Plant

OTP, Flail/Mowing/Mulching Attachments, Cutting, Lifting Chains

ALL WORK USING MECHANIZED TOOLS ON OR NEAR THE LINE SHALL BE UNDERTAKEN IN A GREEN ZONE

Key Risks	Controls	Implemented By
Trains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA01 – Work On or Near the Line • Work with OTP shall be performed in green zones 	Line Manager
Underfoot conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GH02 – Underfoot Conditions • Arisings shall be cleared/distributed as work progresses • Conduct pre-site survey to assess ground conditions and brief all staff on hazards • Check on usage of land and conditions, especially significant changes in elevated gradient • Monitor conditions on an ongoing basis; if circumstances change, especially significant changes in elevated gradient or height, cease work and review safe system of work 	All Staff
Use of OTP and Attachments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA019 – Working with or near OTP • See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/ MP01 – Use and Control of OTP • See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/ MP07 – Use of OTP with attachments 	Machine Controller
Darkness / Poor Visibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where possible all work shall be performed during daylight • Suitable and sufficient lighting shall be provided on machine/attachments - see guidance below • Personal lighting shall be provided and used by supporting ground staff 	Line Manager / All Staff

In line with the HSE Guidance 38, Lighting at Work, the following minima and average lighting levels shall be established for the various activities involved, this is the definition of suitable and sufficient for the purposes of this document.

Activity	Minimum Lighting Level	Average Lighting Level
Site access	5 Lux	5 Lux
Site preparation	20 Lux	50 Lux
Chipping	20 Lux	50 Lux
De-veg activities (inc chain saw) at ground level	50 Lux	100 Lux
Tree climbing and use of chain saws at height	100 Lux	200 Lux

Achieved lighting levels shall be checked using a light meter at the point of activity prior to work commencing.

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Key Risks	Controls	Implemented By
Manual Handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GH01 – Manual Handling Only staff authorised to carry out slinging/coupling associated with the OTP shall perform the duties 	All Staff
Use of a Flail/Mower/Mulcher attachment including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact with moving parts of machine or blades Blade shattering when striking object or object being thrown up at person Noise Vibration Dust 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attachments shall only be operated and controlled by those trained and competent in their use Inspection certificates shall be checked prior to use Gloves shall be worn at all times when checking condition of plant All guards and general operation shall be checked prior to commencing work An exclusion zone of 100m shall be maintained at all times whilst machine is in operation Pre-scope the location before work to check there are no obstructions/materials in undergrowth that could cause injury or damage if struck In addition to standard PPE, the following personal protective equipment shall be worn: a metal mesh visor to BS EN1731 Hearing protection shall be worn at all times whilst the machine is in operation Dust mask to BS EN149 shall be worn 	Machine Controller/All Staff
All Tasks including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being struck by objects Snake bites, stings Contact with OHLE or DC electrified line or utility services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear eye protection to BS EN166.F and gloves Perform a Pre-site survey to check for hazards such as snakes, bee or wasp nests Check for dangerous weeds such as giant hogweed, Himalayan balsam See Risk Control sheets NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA20 Working Adjacent to DC Electrified Rails Risk Level 1- 5, See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA21 - Working Near Electrical Overhead Line Equipment Perform a pre-site survey to identify utility services – where necessary they shall be protected moved or isolated 	All Staff
Fuelling of OTP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire / Explosion Contact with fuel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only the supplier shall re-fuel the OTP. This shall normally be off site Any on site re-fueling shall be from an approved, bunded fuel tank See Risk Control Sheet NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA17 – Decanting Fuel and Fueling Small Plant 	All Staff
Lone Workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lone working is not permitted 	Line Manager/All Staff