

SOP 09 – Fencing

DO NOT proceed in this operation unless appropriately instructed in its safe use and operation and permission to operate has been given.

COMPULSORY PPE



AS NEEDED PPE



PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. Load vehicle with all required fencing material and tools for the allocated fencing work.
2. Check the proposed fence line for underground hazards and services, e.g., cables, water and gas mains. Where present, ensure they are clearly marked.
3. Consult the local electricity company as required if working on fences with overhead power lines.
4. When loading equipment, use safe lifting techniques including:
 - a) Use lifting aids
 - b) Use workmates to help with heavy or awkward equipment.
5. Unload a ute / trailer from the top side or the rear when it is on a side slope.
6. If digging new strainer post holes, call dial before you dig (1100).
7. Consult the local electricity company as required if working on fences under overhead power lines.
8. When dismantling fences, check for vegetation growth that could make the behavior of the wire and net unpredictable. Take particular care with old fences.

OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

MANUAL HANDLING

1. Do not attempt to carry too much and adjust the load to suit the site conditions
2. Lift the power tool using the leg and arm muscles. Keep the back straight
3. Tools and equipment must be well maintained with all cutting edges adequately guarded when not in use
4. Do not place hand tools on the top of posts/stakes
5. Organize the delivery of fencing materials to minimize manual handling; use mechanized unloading or team work at a prepared site
6. Organize the layout of materials on the site to minimize carrying

MANUAL POST DRIVING TOOLS

1. Do not support the post by hand, use a post holder
2. Do not test or adjust the post by hand while the driving tool is being used.
3. Keep a firm stance with the feet and legs clear of the driving tool.
4. When using a stake/post driver do not allow it to be lifted too high above the top of the post.
5. When using a maul, ensure no one is close to or in line with the swing

This SOP should be used in conjunction with relevant machinery manuals and manufacturer recommendations.

Procedure Reference	Version	Effective Date	Review Date	Page Number	Date Printed
WHS SOP 7	1.0	28/03/2018	28/03/2021	1	24/04/2018

Safe Operating Procedures



MECHANICAL POST/STAKE DRIVERS

1. This is a one-person operation.
2. If the post/stake driver is mounted to a tractor via a three-point linkage, the tractor must be large enough to remain stable during post/stake driving.
3. The machine must be properly parked and braked before post/stake driving begins.
4. There is a risk of flying debris from the driven post/stake. Suitable face protection should be worn.
5. The post driver should be fitted with a gripping device to remove the need for the operator to hold the post during operation of the machine. Ropes or Y poles can be used to guide the post rather than a hand being placed anywhere upon the post.

BARBED WIRE

1. Always wear protective gloves when handling barbed wire.
2. When dispensing barbed wire keep it taut.
3. Take care to avoid breakage and recoil, particularly with LT barbed wire.
4. Wear safety glasses with barbed wire / High tensile wire.

WIRE SPINNERS

1. Always wear protective gloves when setting wire on the spinner.
2. Set coil in place, centre on spinner and then lock in place using locking screws.
3. Feed out the wire slowly to avoid tangles and crimps in the wire.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

1. Manual handling techniques
2. Eye injury - Safety glasses
3. Hand injury - Protective gloves
4. Hearing injury - Ear plugs or ear muffs

OTHERS

- **Chemical & Relevant Safety Data Sheets – Copper Chrome Arsenate (CCA) obtained by UNE subscription to Chemwatch**

SPECIAL NOTE

NO PERSONNEL ARE TO USE THIS EQUIPMENT PRIOR TO OBTAINING:

- COMPETANCY IN THE CORRECT USE OF THE EQUIPMENT
- READING AND FULLY UNDERSTANDING THE OPERATOR'S MANUAL WHERE RELEVANT
- READING THE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
- UNDERGOING THOROUGH PRACTICAL TRAINING WHILE PROPERLY SUPERVISED
- SUPERVISOR TO ENSURE SOP'S SIGNED OFF

All completed SOPs are to be recorded in TRIM Container A17/2181 utilising a TRIM license in your School/Business Unit. Completed SOPs are to be published on Safety Hub for ongoing utilisation.

Employee Name: _____

Employee Signature: _____ Date: _____

Supervisor Name: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

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