
Overview

This standard covers the control of water levels and water flow through the mechanical maintenance of the water channel.

You must be able to maintain the water channel through the removal of obstructions, bank reforming, desilting and dredging operations. The standard also covers the restoration of the site following maintenance operations.

You must carry out this work in a way which minimises the impact on the natural environment and enhances its nature, conservation and recreational value.

This standard applies to employees or volunteers who are involved in maintaining the channel capacity of rivers or waterways.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 access the site and carry out maintenance operations in accordance with specifications
- P2 assess the risks associated with the site and proposed work
- P3 select and prepare tools and equipment that are appropriate to the work, safely and effectively
- P4 where accidental damage or pollution occurs, take immediate action to minimise the effects and inform the appropriate person
- P5 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements and company policies
- P6 provide accurate and up-to-date information regarding your whereabouts in accordance with organisational requirements
- P7 recognise opportunities to enhance wildlife habitats through modifications to working procedures, and report this to the appropriate person
- P8 recognise circumstances which affect the operations and take the appropriate action
- P9 deal with waste and excess materials safely to minimise the environmental risk in accordance with legal requirements
- P10 restore the site to a safe condition which is consistent with the surrounding environment, clear of unwanted materials and maintains the appropriate access
- P11 complete records as appropriate

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the instructions and specifications on how to carry out your work
- K2 the damage which would occur if the water channel was not maintained in accordance with instructions
- K3 methods and reasons for maintaining the water channel
- K4 how to safely and correctly use and maintain equipment and materials
- K5 accidental damage or pollution which may occur during operations and the action which must be taken
- K6 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation and codes of practice
- K7 the reasons why information on the worker's whereabouts must be accurate and the correct procedures for achieving this
- K8 how to interpret risk assessments
- K9 the circumstances which may impact on operations
- K10 the appropriate action to take in response to changing circumstances (e.g. halt operations, report to appropriate person)
- K11 opportunities which may arise to enhance wildlife habitats and to whom these should be reported
- K12 the correct methods for dealing with waste and debris
- K13 how to deal with waste and excess material generated by your work
- K14 the importance of restoring the site to an appropriate condition

Glossary

Equipment such as, digging buckets, water-borne plant and mechanical plant.

Maintenance operations:

- removal of debris and obstructions
- bank reforming
- desilting
- dredging

Impacting circumstances:

changing ground conditions, wildlife habitat, pollution due to maintenance, damage to services, access, changing water levels and the recreational use of the water environment

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Maintain and improve water levels and water flow by mechanical operations



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