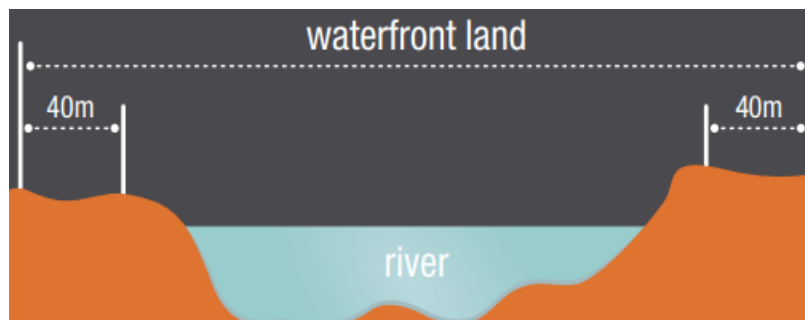


Environmental Guidance Note – Working near Watercourses

HSE DOCUMENT

Working in/near watercourses that are on waterfront land or on Protected Riparian Land (PRL), may require site specific practices/controls to mitigate potential impacts and comply with legislation.

Any earthworks on waterfront land must be assessed by an Environmental Business Partner to determine if Fisheries or Department of Primary Industry (DPI) permits are required. Transgrid has a state-wide Fisheries permit for minor works in waterways, and may be applicable



The following controls are mandatory for all work near watercourses:

EARTHWORKS

- Earthworks on or in the bed or banks of a watercourse may require a Permit or Controlled Activity Approval. Contact the Transgrid Environment Business Partner before proceeding
- Erosion control and sediment controls must be implemented in a manner consistent with currently accepted Best Management Practice ([Blue Books](#))
- All controls must be maintained in good working order during the works and maintained until the site has been stabilised
- Undertake instream works during low or nil flow where possible
- Do not remove, realign, or relocate rocks, snags/large woody debris without first consulting environmental staff
- Minimise impacts in the vegetated riparian zone (VRZ) i.e. leave understory vegetation where electrical clearance allows
- All work must be done in accordance with [DPI](#) and [NSW Fisheries Guidelines](#)

Watercourse type	VRZ width (each side of watercourse)	Total RC width
1 st order	10 metres	20 m + channel width
2 nd order	20 metres	40 m + channel width
3 rd order	30 metres	60 m + channel width
4 th order and greater (includes estuaries, wetlands and any parts of rivers influenced by tidal waters)	40 metres	80 m + channel width

The diagram shows a cross-section of a riparian corridor. A central channel is shown in light blue. On either side of the channel, there is a brown-colored area representing land with trees and vegetation. The area is labeled 'vegetated riparian zone'. A double-headed arrow at the bottom indicates the 'Riparian corridor'.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

- Do not use machinery to clear vegetation below top of bank.
- Where safe to do so, leave stumps of trees $\geq 500\text{mm}$ high when clearing below the top of the bank.
- Do not poison or remove trees/stumps below the top of the bank as root systems are critical for bank stability.



PROTECTED RIPARIAN LAND (PRA)

- Contact the Transgrid Environment Business Partner for guidance if vegetation management is required on Protected Riparian Land (refer to Regulated Land Guidance Note)
- Clearing limits of 15m applies from the outside conductor (measured from blow-out)
Where PRA is flagged refer to and work in accordance with the Regulated Land Guidance Note

PESTICIDE USE – ALWAYS READ THE LABEL

If applying within 20m of waterways a field risk assessment must be done (add details to Pesticide Application Record)

- Ensure wind direction (and spray application) is away from waterways. DO NOT SPRAY across waterbodies
- Refer to product label rain-fast times if rainfall is predicted
- DO NOT store or mix pesticides in proximity to waterways or stormwater
- DO NOT saturate soil with herbicide over-spray.
- Unless specified or permitted by the product label:
 - Use RoundUp Biactive within 5m of waterways,
 - DO NOT apply foliar sprays onto vegetation in or over water or drainage channels, and
 - Avoid adding detergent based wetting agents/surfactants.