

EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLANS

WHAT IS THIS?

Erosion and Sediment Control Plans (ESCPs) are specific site plans, drawings, diagrams, text, and sometimes reports based on site specific analysis. These plans guide management to prevent sediment and pollutant loss from your development site. An ESCP includes details of drainage, erosion, and sediment controls on a development site. An ESCP shows the type, location, and design of controls, as well as clearly identifying the people responsible for the installation, and a schedule of maintenance for the controls (Figure 2).

The need for an ESCP is determined by the council (as permit authority) and is dependent on the catchment area and size of the area being disturbed (Table 2, page 20), the duration of exposure, and other site conditions. Site conditions to consider include existing contamination, proximity to a watercourse or waterbody, environmental sensitivity, soil type and water table, average rainfall, slope of the ground, and excavation of a significant depth.

If you are creating ground disturbance of between 250 – 2,500m², provide an ESCP to your council at the planning or building permit stage. For development disturbing more than 2,500m², provide a comprehensive ESCP for each stage of development, with reports prepared by a suitably qualified person. Once approved by the council, all building and construction works need to be conducted in accordance with the ESCP. For development disturbing less than 250m², install erosion and sediment controls as necessary, depending on the characteristics of your site. If there is ANY risk of sediment and pollution leaving your site due to wind or rain, install and maintain controls for the duration of the disturbance. This will assist you in meeting your legal requirements, reducing flood risk, and protecting the environment.



Developing and implementing an effective ESCP on your site will help to protect Tasmania's waterways. Photo credit: Dahlia Westergreen.

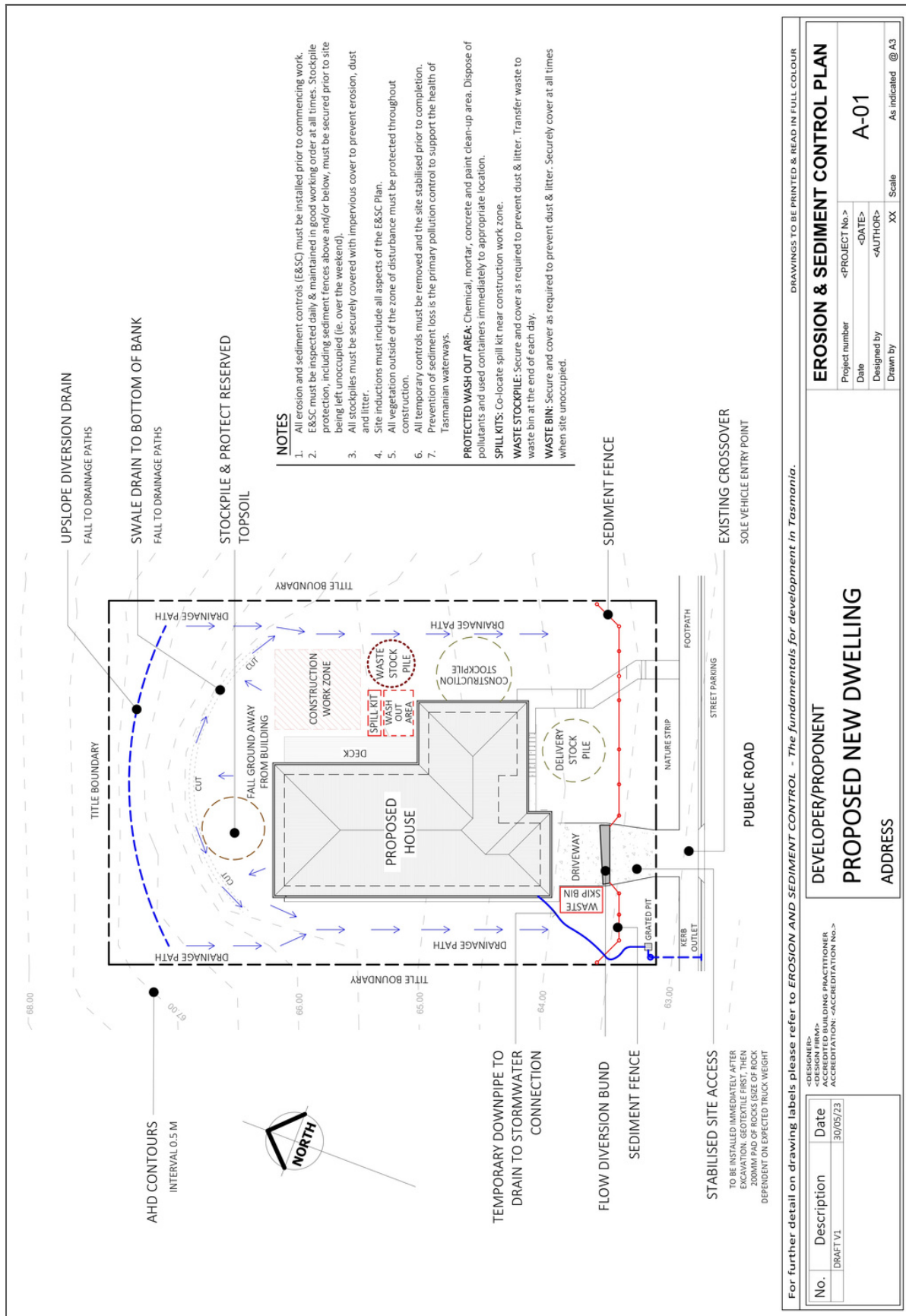


Figure 2: An example Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for a single lot development. The elements contained in this template (e.g. AHD contours, drainage lines, labelled controls) and the type of controls (e.g. diversion drains, protected stockpiles, sediment fences) also apply to larger subdivisions and construction sites. A3 sized version available for download from the TEER Program and Derwent Estuary Program websites.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

Prepare an ESCP

Your ESCP should contain the following things:

- site plan, plan name, document version, date and author, and stage, if part of a series of staged ESCPs;
- north point, scale, all property boundaries, and contours (for staged ESCPs, the initial, intermediate, and final contours);
- general soil description, particularly noting dispersive soil if present (see page 36), and water table level if relevant;
- construction details (e.g. building footings, roadways, or subdivision layout), including location and volume of ground disturbance, and where material is to be stockpiled and managed;
- location of watercourses and existing surface drainage pathways including overland flow paths for flood events if relevant;
- existing stormwater infrastructure (public and private);
- stormwater connection (existing and proposed);
- location and details (dimensions, lining, and/or velocity control) of all proposed temporary **drainage controls** (including 'clean' upslope runoff diversion and internal drains directing 'clean' runoff to a level spreader (see page 26) or approved stormwater connection);
- location and details of all proposed **erosion controls**, including location of vegetation to be retained, with 'No-Go-Area's' clearly marked (see page 38);
- location of **sediment controls** (including the location and design of stabilised site access (see page 56);
- location of wash-out area and associated controls for potentially polluting activities and machinery cleaning (see page 64);
- a statement of who is responsible for establishing and maintaining all controls (including contact details);
- the installation sequence for different controls;
- the maintenance program for controls; and
- the revegetation and rehabilitation program.

The above is a suggested list of elements to include in a standard ESCP. Read and comply with the development planning permit conditions for your site. Seek advice relating to ESCPs and/or contact your council for details of any additional information you are required to submit. You may need to seek more tailored advice from a suitably qualified person, depending on the size and complexity of your site.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR LARGE DEVELOPMENT AND SUBDIVISION WORKS

Large development sites – classified as greater than 2,500m² disturbed area – typically pose a high erosion risk because of the greater area of disturbed ground, creation of runoff from large impervious surface areas (roofs and driveways), and long project timeframes. In addition, significant excavation work is often required to modify levels or install services. Because of these increased risks, staged ESCPs and Type 1 controls (e.g. a sediment basin, see page 74) may be required for large developments (Table 2). Staged ESCPs are typically prepared by a suitably qualified person and detail the drainage, erosion, and sediment controls within each stage of development, including the location, layout, and type of controls on **separate drawings for each stage**. As a minimum, this should include controls associated with 1) initial clearing based on existing levels, 2) bulk earthworks transitioning from existing to design levels, and 3) final levels, including final drainage and stabilisation of the site or lots.

For large developments and subdivision works, installing a Type 1 control to achieve water quality targets during the construction phase may be necessary. These controls may be designed to be integrated into the post-construction phase water treatment strategy as a water sensitive urban design (WSUD) element. A sediment basin must be designed and constructed by a suitably qualified person and included in the early planning and budgeting for the project.

Table 2: Requirements for an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) based on disturbed area sizes, as recommended in IECA Appendix B, 2018.

Disturbed area (m ²)	ESCP required?
<= 250	Consult council
250 > 1000	Yes
1000 > 2500	Yes
> 2500	Yes (staged)

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The information in this book provides the fundamentals of how to manage soil and water on your development site. If you require more information on what to include in your ESCP, contact the council or a suitably qualified specialist. If you require more comprehensive information about drainage, erosion, and sediment controls, or technical specifications, go to the IECA website (Australasia Chapter) at www.austieca.com.au, or engage a suitably qualified person, such as a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC).

If you are using proprietary products, read the product installation manual and/or check with the manufacturer regarding appropriate application prior to use or installation.

