

Theme of the Month (August 2025) – Env Focus Week 3 - RAMS Review

There have been several incidents and significant near misses regarding Ecology. Root causes include effective method statements not being in place.

Following recent incidents and near misses, all teams are reminded of the importance of identifying, assessing and controlling environmental risks as part of the RAMS (Risk Assessment & Method Statement) process.

Purpose of Review:

- ✓ To ensure Environmental risks are fully integrated into all RAMS
- ✓ To reassess preventative controls and emergency response measures
- ✓ To avoid recurrence of incidents

Do your RAMS include and manage:

- **Wildlife and Habitat Disturbance** – Are you working in or near an ecologically sensitive area?
- **Hibernating Animals** – Is there any potential habitat in or around your location (such as setts, piles of wood, rubble, long grass or brush)?
- **Pollution Risks** – Does any equipment have the potential to spill or leak harmful substances?
- **Buffer Zones** – Does the work area contain trees, watercourses or ditches?
- **Water Management** – Are there any pumping activities? Is the required permit in place?

Subcontractor Pre-Commencement and RAMS Review

Ensure Subcontractor Pre-Commencement Meeting includes site-specific environmental risks and control measures. Use the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) summary section 1.1 for info. Record what was covered on CDFR16-02.

When reviewing Subcontractor RAMS, if not covered in their RAMS, state the site environmental requirements in CDFR11-03 Contractor SSOW Review Checklist. Ensure the Subcontractor is briefed on the additional content / control measures.

What do we need you to do?

A review of **ALL** active RAMS (including subcontractor RAMS) to ensure they include **site specific** environmental control measures.

**STOP
PAUSE
CHECK THE EMP**

1. **Pre-Commencement:** Briefing Sub-contractors on environmental risks and control measures
2. **Check the EMP:** Do the RAMS meet environmental requirements outlined, permits and planning requirements?
3. **Reassess environmental risks:** Reflect any newly identified hazards or changes in site conditions.
4. **Strengthen control measures:** Are they effective and in place?
5. **Communicate changes:** Re-brief all personnel and contractors of changes, ensuring they are aware of any change in procedure.
6. **Document Changes:** Record all changes made to RAMS, training delivered and update control measures.
7. **Monitor and follow up:** Check in regularly to confirm that new measures are in place and effective. Adjust if further improvements are needed.

