

Planning scheme policy – Acid sulfate soils

1. Purpose of the planning scheme policy

- (1) The purpose of this planning scheme policy is to support the planning scheme by ensuring that development takes account of the presence of acid sulfate soils and manages their disturbance by identifying information Council may request.

2. Interpretation

- (1) Terms used within this planning scheme policy are defined within Schedule 1 of the CairnsPlan 2016 planning scheme. Where a term is not defined in Schedule 1, section 1.3 Interpretation of the CairnsPlan 2016 planning scheme applies.

3. Information Council may request

3.1. Acid sulfate soils investigation report

- (1) Development is supported by a site specific acid sulfate soils investigation detailing:
 - (a) The elevation of the site in metres AHD;
 - (b) The lowest point in metres AHD of any proposed excavation, together with the maximum volume of excavation below 5 metres AHD;
 - (c) The height in metres AHD of any land to be filled, together with the volume and thickness of the fill to be placed on land below 5 metres AHD;
 - (d) Whether acid sulfate soils are present in the area that is to be disturbed by the development;
 - (e) If present, the location, depth and maximum existing and potential acidity of acid sulfate soils relative to the proposed disturbance;
 - (f) Implications for design, construction and operation of the proposed development.
- (2) An Acid sulfate soils investigation report is to be prepared in accordance with the State Planning Policy – state interest guidance material - Emissions and hazardous activities and the respective chapters of the Queensland Acid Sulfate Soils Technical Manual. Figure 2.1.a demonstrates when the State Planning Policy applies to the excavation of acid sulfate soils.

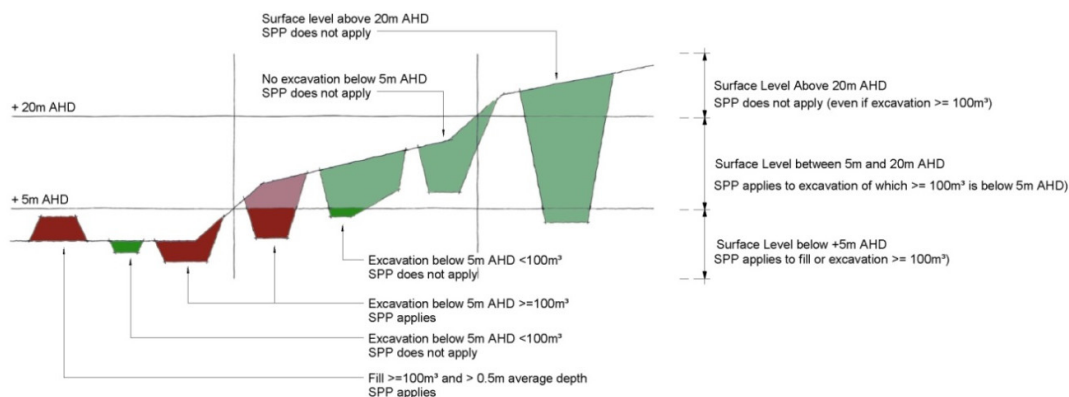


Figure 3.1.a – Applicability of the State Planning Policy for excavation of acid sulfate soils

3.2. Acid sulfate soils management plan

- (1) If acid sulfate soils are to be disturbed by the proposed development, a comprehensive Acid sulfate soils management plan is to be prepared and submitted to Council. The management plan is to outline how the proposed development will ensure that the release of acid and

associated metal contaminants into the environment is avoided to prevent harm to the environment or to constructed assets.

- (2) An Acid sulfate soils management plan is to be prepared in accordance with the State Planning Policy – state interest guidance material - Emissions and hazardous activities and the Queensland Acid Sulfate Soils Technical Manual and must be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced person.

4. Guidance on meeting planning scheme outcomes

4.1. Related materials

- (1) Other documents which provide guidance on meeting the purpose of the planning scheme outcomes, but are not subject to a development assessment processes under the planning scheme include:
- (a) State Planning Policy – state interest guidance material - Emissions and hazardous activities;
 - (b) Queensland Acid Sulfate Soils Technical Manual.

5. Schedule of amendments

Table 5.a – Schedule of amendments

Amendment title	Version number	Description	Dates
CairnsPlan 2016 Amendment 1 of 2017 - Administrative	1.1	The amendment integrates the Cairns Local Government Infrastructure Plan and corrects formatting, numbering, outdated terms and factual matters incorrectly stated in the planning scheme.	Adopted 28 June 2017 Commenced 1 July 2017
Planning Scheme Policy – Acid Sulfate Soils Amendment 1 of 2017 - Administrative	1.2	The amendment corrects formatting and numbering to remove the Planning Scheme Policy from Schedule 6 of the CairnsPlan 2016 and includes a schedule of amendments.	Adopted 6 December 2017 Commenced 11 December 2017
Planning Scheme Policy – Acid sulfate soils – Amendment 1 of 2021 - Administrative	1.3	The amendment corrects and updates references in the planning scheme policy. This amendment introduces a cross-reference to the planning scheme definitions in Schedule 1 of CairnsPlan 2016.	Adopted 13 October 2021 Commenced 26 October 2021