

Environment and Heritage Expertise

Technical Guideline

TG 0875.12 – Non-Aboriginal heritage

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**Government of
South Australia**

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Significant/major changes incorporated in this edition

Not applicable - this is the first edition of the Technical Guideline.


Document controls

Version history

Version	Date	Author	Comments
1.0	28 August 2025	Various	Issued for Use

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Approvers

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Reviewers

Name	Role	Version	Review Date
Environment and Heritage Expertise Team	Team review of guidelines.	1.0	28-08-2025

1 Introduction

This guideline relates to the assessment and management of non-Aboriginal heritage (including federal, state or local heritage) which may be encountered during a project's planning, construction, operations or maintenance activities.

It forms part of the TG 0875 Environment and Heritage Technical Guidelines and is designed to provide insight into regulatory obligations associated with non-Aboriginal heritage, as well as suggested approaches to manage risk.

Note the guideline is not exhaustive, and additional requirements may be necessary based on project- or site-specific activities, geographical location, or approval conditions.

1.1 Environment and Heritage Technical Guidelines Suite

The SAWG-ENV-0875 Environment and Heritage Technical Guidelines suite includes:

- TG 0875.00: General requirements
- TG 0875.11: Aboriginal heritage and Native Title
- **TG 0875.12: Non-Aboriginal heritage (this guideline)**
- TG 0875.21: Vegetation
- TG 0875.22: Fauna
- TG 0875.23: Weed hygiene
- TG 0875.24: Phytophthora
- TG 0875.31: Surface water
- TG 0875.32: Groundwater
- TG 0875.33: Recycled water
- TG 0875.34: Sediment, erosion and stormwater
- TG 0875.35: Dewatering, dredging and earthworks drainage
- TG 0875.41: Site contamination
- TG 0875.42: Acid sulfate soils
- TG 0875.43: Hazardous substances
- TG 0875.51: Dust
- TG 0875.52: Odour
- TG 0875.53: Noise and vibration
- TG 0875.61: Spoil management
- TG 0875.62: Recycling
- TG 0875.63: Waste management

This guideline must be read in conjunction with TG 0875.00: General requirements

1.2 General requirements

TG 0875.00: General requirements apply to all aspects of the work:

1. Purpose
2. Application
3. Scope
4. Statutory obligations
5. Strategic alignment
6. Terms and abbreviations

2 Non-Aboriginal heritage

2.1 Overview

MANAGEMENT	
Commitment	Heritage items and locations are those aspects of the past that help to define our culture and should be preserved for future generations. Federal and state legislation protects local, state and Commonwealth heritage places.
Strategic objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environment Corporate Strategy Our culture creates empowerment, increased accountability for environmental decisions and demonstrates proactive leadership. Asset Management Corporate Strategy An integrated approach enables the sustainability outcomes our customers, community and owner expect.
Key Performance Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KPI 1: Design and construction methodology to minimise and, where practicable, avoid impacts on non-Aboriginal heritage. KPI 2: No damage to heritage sites or items as a result of proposed works.
Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 (SA) Heritage Places Act 1993 (SA) Underwater Cultural Heritage Act 2018 (Cth) Historic Shipwrecks Act 1981 (SA) National Trust of South Australia Act 1955 (SA)
Regulatory approvals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)</i>, Part 3: Requirements for environmental approvals relating to Matter of National Environmental Significance (MNES): A person must not take an action that will or is likely to have a significant impact on a MNES without approval from the Commonwealth Minister. <i>Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 (SA)</i>: Development approval under the PDI Act is required to impact State Heritage Places, State Heritage Areas, Local Heritage Places, Historic Areas and Character Areas. <i>Heritage Places Act 1993 (SA)</i>, Sections 25 to 28: A person must not, without a permit from the SA Heritage Council and development approval, impact a State Heritage Place or associated items/places or objects. <i>Underwater Cultural Heritage Act 2018 (Cth)</i>, Part 1: A person must not impact or enter the protection zones of underwater cultural heritage articles without a permit from the Minister. <i>Historic Shipwrecks Act 1981 (SA)</i>, Part 2: A person must not damage, destroy, interfere with, remove or enter a historic shipwreck or historic shipwreck protection zone without a permit from the Minister.
Statutory obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department for Environment and Water (SA): Managing Marine Heritage.

MANAGEMENT	
Reference material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Cth): Managing National Heritage Places Department for Environment and Water (SA): Heritage Permits Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (SA): Heritage Impact Statement Guidelines for State Heritage Places Department for Trade and Investment (SA): State Planning Commission: Protecting Heritage and Character - Policies in the Planning and Design Code Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS): The Burra Charter
Related guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TG 0857.11: Aboriginal heritage and Native Title TG 0857.53: Noise and vibration

2.2 Planning and design

MITIGATION MEASURES	STAKEHOLDERS
<p>Undertake a Preliminary Assessment (desktop) to determine the likelihood of the proposed works encountering federal, state or local heritage features.</p> <p>Land use history should also be investigated to identify the potential of encountering undiscovered non-Aboriginal heritage features.</p> <p>The following databases should be used, where relevant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPBC Protected Matters search tool Australian Heritage Places Inventory Australian National Shipwreck Database Australian Heritage Database SA Heritage Places Database Council Development Plans NatureMaps South Australian Property and Planning Atlas 	<p>Environmental Officer Asset Planner</p>
Options to avoid or minimise direct and indirect (i.e. vibration) impacts on non-Aboriginal heritage features must be identified through options selection and decision making.	<p>Environmental Officer Asset Planner Design Manager</p>
<p>If the proposed works potentially impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Heritage or Commonwealth Heritage Places, review Managing National Heritage Places guidance. State Heritage Areas or Places, review the Heritage Impact Statement Guidelines as well as initiate a planning assessment to determine whether a development application is required. Local Heritage Place, recommend stakeholder engagement commence notably with local government. 	<p>Environmental Officer Project Manager</p>

MITIGATION MEASURES	STAKEHOLDERS
If the proposed works are complex, and likely to significantly impact a federal or state heritage place or site, undertake a Heritage Impact Assessment by a suitably qualified consultant.	Environmental Officer Project Manager Consultants
Where a Heritage Impact Assessment has been undertaken, prepare a Conservation Management Plan to ensure that the recommendations from the assessment are incorporated into construction documentation.	Environmental Officer Project Manager Consultant
Where vibration presents a risk to existing heritage structures, conduct a dilapidation survey and asset condition assessment prior to undertaking works.	Environmental Officer Project Manager Consultant
Determine any required permits or approvals, which must be obtained prior to the related works occurring.	Environmental Officer Project Manager

2.3 Construction

MITIGATION MEASURES	STAKEHOLDERS
Select appropriate plant or equipment, and fitted controls, for each task to minimise vibration impacts, where required.	Contractor
Implement trigger response action plan should vibration levels exceed targets appropriate for protecting heritage places.	Contractor
Inspect and maintain plant and equipment to ensure optimum operation to minimise the generation of noise and vibration.	Contractor
Consider less vibration-intensive methods where practicable and use appropriately sized and powered equipment to minimise vibration.	Contractor
Ensure management plans include appropriate detail on the type and location of all control measures to be implemented to manage vibration risk.	Contractor
Construction is to occur as per the agreed conditions of any approvals obtained or management plans.	Contractor
Exclusion zones to be established where required, with clearly defined boundaries to avoid accidental impacts to identified non-Aboriginal heritage features.	Contractor
Identification of areas where sensitive construction methods should be implemented so that sub-surface heritage features may be recognised before they are impacted.	Contractor
If unexpected heritage items/places are discovered or suspected during construction activities, initiate stop work protocols, protect the area, and notify SA immediately.	Contractor

2.4 Monitoring requirements

DESCRIPTION	METRIC	FREQUENCY	ACCOUNTABILITY
Vibration monitoring devices where required and practicable	Velocity (mm per second)	Continuous or at intervals	Contractor