

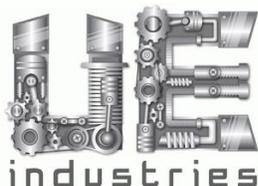


ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

**Site Assessment, Protection of Natural Features,
Areas of Sensitivity, Sustainability Measures,
Waste Management Plan**

Version 1.1

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1. OVERVIEW

1.1 Introduction

The organisers of Yemaya Festival have a great respect and appreciation for natural land and as such accept great responsibility for its preservation.

Great pride is taken in the approach towards minimising adverse environmental impacts and aiming to achieve if not raise best practice industry standards.

The event is aimed at maximising its potential for benefit to all involved, and amongst the many opportunities available is the one to educate on a large scale.

The event organisers are more than happy to invest their own time, energy, and finances into any improvement of access and natural feature protection measures that would be acceptable as part of the application.

1.2 Policy Objective

To ensure that sustainability principles are applied to the planning, management and implementation of all event processes within the scope of this document.

1.3 Policy Commitment

Yemaya Festival is committed to:

- Minimising impacts on the environment by incorporating the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development into planning and policy;
- Excellence in environmental management and sustainability, utilising current best practice standards where possible;
- Applying sustainability principles to the procurement of goods and services;
- Ensuring responsible use of resources including water and energy, and implementing efficiency measures to reduce water and energy consumption;
- Implementing waste avoidance strategies and maximising resource recovery;
- Enhancing the environmental awareness of all crew and patrons;
- Striving for ongoing improvement in environmental performance through monitoring and evaluation of other sustainable events.

1.4 Policy Statement

Sustainability principles have been considered and will be demonstrated during all phases of the event including:

- Pre-Event Planning

Incorporating sustainability into design, planning, organisation, training and contract management prior to the event to ensure all sustainability principles have been considered and incorporated where possible into the planning and management of the event.

- Event Implementation

Putting the planned activities into action, and managing the activities during the event. Monitoring during the event to ensure compliance with the policy.

- Post-Event

Review and evaluation of the event to identify successful outcomes and achievements, and develop processes for continuous improvement.

2. SITE ASSESSMENT

2.1 Zoning

The applicable zoning category of the land has been taken into account, with all planned event activities falling clearly within the scope of approved use in accordance with local planning laws.

- Area to be occupied is located completely within a Farming Zone (FZ).
- As legislated under the Loddon Planning Scheme, Part 35.07-1 Table of uses, Place of assembly is listed under Section 2 as a use requiring a permit.
- None of the planned activities fall within the prohibited category listed under Section 3.
- The event involves minimal development with all structures being completely temporary.
- The proposed use is not in any way contrary to the permissible scope of land use.

2.2 Council Assessment

During the course of the initial application for 2016, considerations were made by the Loddon Shire Planning Department with regards to the planned use of the property, with the following conclusions directly extracted from the final report:

Given the limited duration of the event it is unlikely to have any significant ongoing effect on the ability of the land to sustain agricultural uses or on agricultural production in the area generally.

Given the temporary nature of proposed development on the site, the design and siting issues identified in the Farming Zone are not considered to be significant considerations in the assessment of the proposal.

2.3 External Review

Of the four external government departments consulted previously, specifically Wedderburn Police, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR), & North Central Catchment Management Authority (NCCMA), not a single regulatory body objected to the proposal.

2.4 Risk Assessment

An environmental assessment has been performed to identify any risks potentially caused by event activities, and any sensitive site areas which may be affected.

Thorough site analysis has been carried out prior to any planned works commencing, intended to identify and rank all potential risks that may arise from operational activities.

Control Measures:

- Collect all relevant information needed to conduct a risk assessment of activities.
- Identify, assess and rank risks to all segments of the environment, human beings, nuisance, and loss of amenity from plans of the proposed development.
- Once operations commence, review the risk assessment as risk management strategies are implemented.
- Inspection and monitoring to be undertaken at regular intervals to identify new risks or when there are changes to the project.



2.5 Risk Management

To implement risk management strategies to reduce all significant risks to the environment to acceptable levels.

Control Measures:

- Develop an action plan to manage all significant risks to the environment.
- Implement, wherever possible, risk management measures at the planning stage of the construction project.
- Select risk management options, in order of preference, based on avoiding risk, reducing risk, and controlling risk.
- Install controls as close to the source of the problem as possible.

2.6 Site Layout

The general layout and features of the site have been taken into consideration throughout the planning stage, with all internal layout, access, and operational activities designed to reduce any potential impact to the land wherever possible.

Control Measures:

- Site layout has been designed to utilise the open space and minimize any patron access to areas of significant vegetation.
- Security staff will monitor the perimeter of the site throughout the duration of the event to ensure natural vegetation is not impacted by foot traffic outside of designated areas.
- Signage throughout the site encouraging particular consideration for the natural vegetation. This goes without saying for our regular patrons, however we accept great responsibility for educating the wider public of the need for sustainable environmental practices.

3. PROTECTION OF NATURAL FEATURES

3.1 Conservation Measures

The measures outlined below have been developed in response to identified potential risks to natural features as a result of event operations.

3.2 Erosion

To minimise the quantity of soil lost during operational activities.

Control Measures:

- Schedule measures to avoid and reduce erosion by phasing the work program to minimise land disturbance in the planning and design stage.
- Keep vehicles to well-defined access roads.
- Rehabilitate patronage areas promptly as required.

3.3 Dust Control

In order to reduce any potential health risk or loss of amenity due to emission of dust to the environment.



Control Measures:

- Water haulage contractor scheduled to spray down all primary access roads and key patronage areas at regular intervals throughout the event, with additional trips rostered for peak ingress and egress times.
- Agricultural irrigation of the general event area will be undertaken to promote growth in order to create a protective layer of grass groundcover.

3.4 Air Quality

To ensure there is no health risk or loss of amenity due to emission of exhaust gases to the environment.

Control Measures:

- All vehicles and machinery are fitted with appropriate emission control equipment, maintained and serviced to the manufacturers' specifications.
- Smoke from internal combustion engines should not be visible for more than ten seconds.

3.5 Noise And Vibration

To ensure nuisance from noise and vibration is minimised throughout the event.

Control Measures:

- Noise should not be above background levels inside any adjacent residence between 10 pm and 7 am.
- The section of land for the general event area is surrounded by a tree line along the river in slightly lower lying terrain to utilise the natural slope and tree coverage to disperse the sound as much as possible.
- Thorough noise management is undertaken throughout the entire duration of the event to maintain levels within EPA regulations as is practicable, including but not limited to regular perimeter sounds checks and collaboration with presiding authorities.
- Where it is practical and desired by any neighbours within a 5km radius, arrangements will be gladly made to provide substitute accommodation for the duration of the festival.
- More detailed operating procedures are outlined in the Noise Management Plan.

Based on similar history at other known events, the validity of noise complaints can be difficult to determine, thus the crew rely on comprehensive sound testing measures conducted regularly throughout the event, as is clearly stipulated in the Noise Management Plan.

3.6 Waste Minimisation

To minimise and eliminate wherever possible the waste load generated by event activities.

Control Measures:

- Carry out a waste minimisation assessment which examines opportunities for waste avoidance, reduction, reuse, and recycling.
- A 'Create No Waste' policy will be implemented to eliminate as best possible the impact of the event and educate patrons how to regularly reduce their environmental impact.
- More detailed operating procedures are outlined in the Waste Management Plan.



3.7 Litter

To ensure that all litter is disposed of in a responsible manner, and is not released into the environment.

Control Measures:

- A high quality of housekeeping is maintained to ensure that materials are not left where they can be washed or blown away to become litter.
- Bins are provided for patrons, crew, and stallholders at practical locations.
- Regular site cleaning is conducted by volunteer staff with additional rostering scheduled to cater for peak periods.
- Site crew will be conducting a thorough clean at the conclusion of the event to ensure that all trash, particularly cigarette butts, are completely removed from the premises.

3.8 Inspections, Monitoring And Auditing

Regular checks are carried out on significant environmental risks to ensure that they are adequately managed and control systems are operating effectively.

Control Measures:

- Independent audits are conducted to regularly assess environmental performance and the environmental management system.
- Remedial action is taken promptly if monitoring inspections or audit results reveal a problem in the environmental management plan.

4. AREAS OF SENSITIVITY

4.1 Features Identified

The primary feature on the property identified as being at any potential risk is the adjoining Loddon River, which is classified as an Area of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sensitivity.

4.2 Areas Not At Risk

- The site has minimal vegetation across the majority of space intended for use, with the primary areas of significant growth being alongside the river boundary.
- The vast majority of tree growth on the property is well established, thus being negligibly susceptible to any significant impact.
- No endangered or protected species of flora or fauna have been identified.

4.3 Existing Risks

The property intended for the event, along with most neighbouring properties, is used mainly for the containment of livestock, with broad excretion cover across the majority of the paddocks. Any rainfall on the property inevitably washes quantities of such matter into the river, creating a moderate amount of contamination as a base standard.

The risk of any human defecation polluting the river is minimal given the extensive number of toilet facilities which will be available onsite. Taking into account the general agricultural use of the land adjoining most parts of the river, it is considered highly unlikely that any impact from the event would equate to that created by the traditional use.



4.4 Control Measures

The natural ecology of the Loddon River is highly unlikely to be affected as the placement of stalls in the main event area will block off all general access. In order to ensure that this feature is protected, the following control measures are in place:

- There will be no camping or event activities anywhere near the river area.
- The tree line of the river along the east boundary of the site will be enclosed by a line of markets stalls and creative spaces which will prevent all access to the river completely from the general event area.
- All waste water will be collected in 1,000L tanks and removed from site by contracted service providers at regular intervals throughout the event.
- Although the area is largely cleared of native vegetation, every measure has been taken in the planning of the event layout to avoid any access to and potential damage to native flora and fauna.
- Toilet facilities are located at numerous locations across the event site.

4.5 Previous Experience

The Loddon River had been accessed during the last event by patrons who had crossed the fenced event boundary and wandered along the tree line. There were unfortunately small amounts of rubbish left as a result which were cleaned as part of the standard post-event process. There were no reports or indications of any patrons defecating in the river.

5. SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES

5.1 Waste Avoidance and Minimisation

- A “Create No Waste” policy is in effect for the duration of the festival and has been clearly communicated to all patrons as a condition of entry.
- Patrons are encouraged to prepare their supplies thoughtfully to reduce the amount of packaging and potential waste brought onsite.
- Distinct signage will be in place throughout the general areas encouraging patrons to help maintain the cleanliness of the site.
- Two large plastic bags are provided to each car on entry, one to be for general waste and the other for recyclables.

5.2 Resource Recovery (reuse, recycling)

- All food stalls provide compostable or biodegradable containers.
- Recycling has been arranged with separate skips prepared for aluminium and plastic containers.
- Signage onsite emphasising availability of recycling facilities.

5.3 Energy Conservation

- State-of-the-Art CREE LED technology used in most event lighting to provide maximum efficiency of output.
- Solar charged batteries utilised across area lighting to reduce power use.



5.4 Sustainable Transport

- Car-pooling is heavily encouraged to reduce the overall carbon footprint as much as possible.
- Detailed logistical planning of equipment transport to minimise fuel consumption.
- A shuttle bus service will operate to provide transportation to patrons from all across Melbourne directly to the festival site. Beyond the convenience of the amenity, it is expected to reduce overall vehicles onsite and reduce potential associated risks. The service is provided by Loddon-based *Whitmores Buslines* and coordinated by *Banana Bus*.

5.5 Sustainable Practices

- All event printing is done on recycled paper using vegetable based inks, courtesy of our partners at *Print Together*.

6. WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

6.1 Service Provision

All onsite waste infrastructure (skips and bins) and collection/transport will be provided by Terraform Productions, offering a highly comprehensive scope of service and impressive levels of commitment to the job.

6.2 Activity Wastes

ACTIVITY	WASTE TYPES
Creative & Healing Spaces	Crafting materials & packaging - Recycling & General Waste
Camping & General Areas	Patron Rubbish - Recycling, Organics & General Waste
Stages	Patron Rubbish - Recycling, Organics & General Waste
Operations	Recycling & General Waste

6.3 Waste Generation and Quantities

Based on 4,500 patron attendance, approximately 300 cubic metres of rubbish is estimated.

- Approx. 40m³ allocated for aluminium cans
- Approx. 100m³ allocated for all other recyclables
- Approx. 160m³ allocated for general waste and organics

Full skips will be intermittently exchanged for empty ones during the operation of the festival with a regular delivery schedule arranged with the contractor.

Compactors will be in place to reduce the loads to be transported and to reduce impact from undue travel.



6.4 Waste Stations

There will be four (4) skips of 31m³ capacity used at the Waste Consolidation Management Station (WCMS).

- Skip 1 – Aluminium
- Skip 2 – Other Recyclables
- Skip 3 – General Waste
- Skip 4 – Overflow

There will be a total of 60 wheel bins available for dispersion across the general patron areas, toilet areas, markets, and crew areas.

There will be six (6) main 'Patron Waste Stations' for disposal of their waste. Each location will have four (4) 240L wheel bins separately labelled as; 'Cans', 'Other Recyclables', 'Food Waste', and 'General Waste'.

6.5 Waste Station Locations

The WCMS will be located in an easily accessible spot near the main operations centre.

This area is accessible via a rear entry to the site, providing clear access for trucks to all skips while avoiding completely all public access areas.

All patron waste stations will be located strategically at key patronage areas.

Gate bins will be strategically placed for easy access by crew.

Additional bins will be dispersed across all main crew areas and function spaces.

Spare bins will be located at the WCMS.

6.6 General System Overview

The aim is to have all areas with wheel bins to be systematically removed and replaced with new bins, while the old/full bins are taken to the WCMS for on-site waste transfer (emptying), so that throughout the event and past the gates closing, all waste can be sorted and removed with ease.

All skips and bins will be monitored and sorted to ensure system is being used properly, with the entire waste system under direct control of the Waste Management team.

6.7 Promotion of Waste system/handling

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Arrange for signage upon entry for patrons	Waste Management
Arrange for signage for all bin types on site	Waste Management
Educate stall holders on waste system	Waste Management
Educate crew on waste system	Waste Management



6.8 Before the Event

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Coordinate with bin provider	Operations Manager
Install waste stations into locations	Site Manager
Ensure WCMS is properly organised	Site Manager
Empty existing bins before event	Waste Management
Check on bin signage	Site Manager
Educate crew and caterers	Operations Manager
Check on signage for entrance	Site Manager

6.9 During the Event

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Monitor waste system performance	Maintenance Manager
Educate/remind stallholders as necessary	Maintenance Manager
Monitor waste & recycling bin content quantities	Maintenance Manager
Monitor and enforce waste consolidation	Maintenance Manager
Have more bins delivered if needed	Operations Manager

6.10 After the Event

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Clear all areas of all waste	Site Manager
Sort through waste to ensure correct use of system	Maintenance Manager
Arrange final skip collection at conclusion of pack-down	Operations Manager

6.11 Catering

All food caterers adhere to environmentally friendly serving techniques by using recyclable and/or bio-degradable utensils and containers. All food caterers are registered with Streatrader prior to the event, with current certificate food safety certificates, business registration, and insurance documents supplied to the event organiser. All documents will be forwarded to the Council Health Department for review.

Core caterers are:

PsyBus SpaceLounge
 Jerry's Vegiburgers
 Gypsy Feast
 Mexican Feast
 The Dosa Deli

Yaman - Yemen Food
 AYA Superfoods
 Hare Krishna
 Holy Cow Chai Tent
 Community-run Food Stall

*An additional one or two food stalls may be added from the applications closer to the date.

7. CONCLUSION

Overall, the inhabitation of the property will have limited if any long-term impact on the land, most of which can be all but completely mitigated by standard irrigation methods implemented as dust control measures. The event organisers will gladly enact and maintain responsibility for any additional measures recommended by council or external authorities to reduce the impact, both prior to and after the event, ranging from but not limited to: revegetation, permaculture, soil erosion prevention, irrigation, composting, and mulching.