

Environmental Risk Management: Principles and Process

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**Chair SA/SNZ Environmental Risk
Management Committee**

Risk Management Handbooks

- **AS/NZS 4360: Risk Management (1999)**
- **Risk Financing (SAA HB141:1999)**
- **A basic introduction to managing risk (SAA HB142-1999)**
- **Guidelines for managing risk in the Australian and New Zealand Public Sector (SAA/NZS HB143:1999)**
- **Local Government (SNZ 2000)**

Handbooks - in press

- **Environmental risk management: principles and processes**
- **Risk management guidelines for emergency management**
- **Risk management for information security**
- **Risk management guidelines for outsourcing**

Handbooks - in preparation

- **Risk management and corporate governance**
- **Business Continuity Management**
- **Occupational Safety and Health**
- **Health risk management.**

Environmental risk management: principles and process

- **Committee established mid 1997**
- **Melbourne Workshop July 1998**
- **Peer review November 1999**
- **Final draft February 2000**
- **Publication July 2000**

Committee Members

Mrs Janet Gough (Chair)	ERMA New Zealand
Mr Ted Anderson	Queensland Cement Limited
Prof Tom Beer	CSIRO
Dr Gary Bickford	Sydney Water
Prof Jean Cross	Univ. of New South Wales
A/Prof Ronnie Harding	Univ. of New South Wales
Mr David Collins	Australian Industry Group
Prof. Emeritus Roger Keey	University of Canterbury
Dr David Moy	techSearch
Ms Michelle Zaunbrecher	BHP
Dr Frank Ziolkowski	Environment Australia

Purpose - to help individuals and organisations to

- **understand environmental risk management, and**
- **implement environmental risk management programs based on the generic process set out in the Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard, AS/NZS 4360, Risk management.**

The guide can be used to

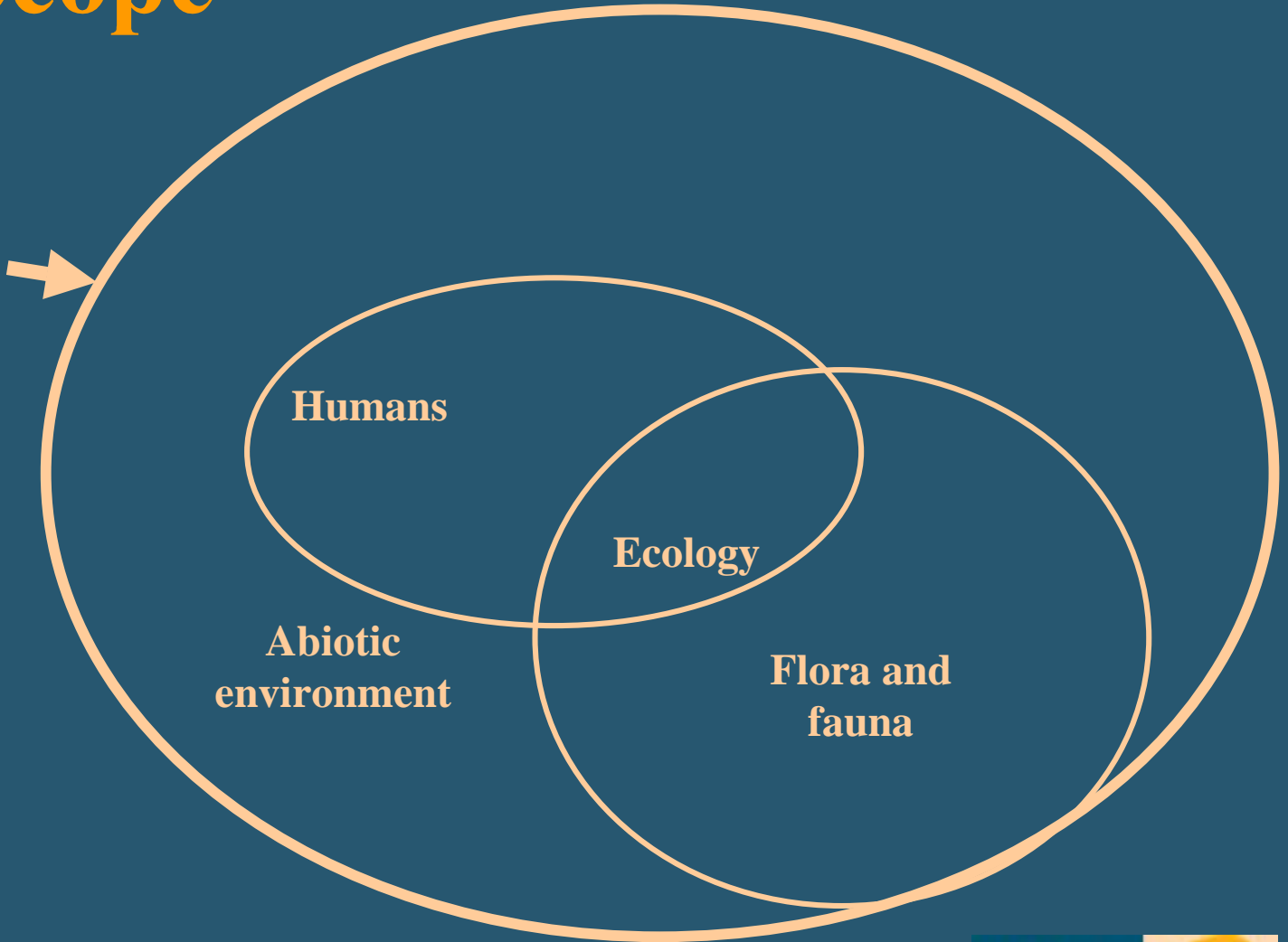
- to inform management and staff about environmental risk management
- as a framework for strategic planning and decision making
- to help implement environmental risk management at operational and strategic levels
- as a tool within an organisation's environmental management system
- to provide guidance for drafting briefs when engaging consultants.

The intended audience

- **Young or inexperienced environmental managers, and**
- **Non-environmental specialist professionals who are required to manage environmental issues, but who have little or no environmental training**
- **The general public**

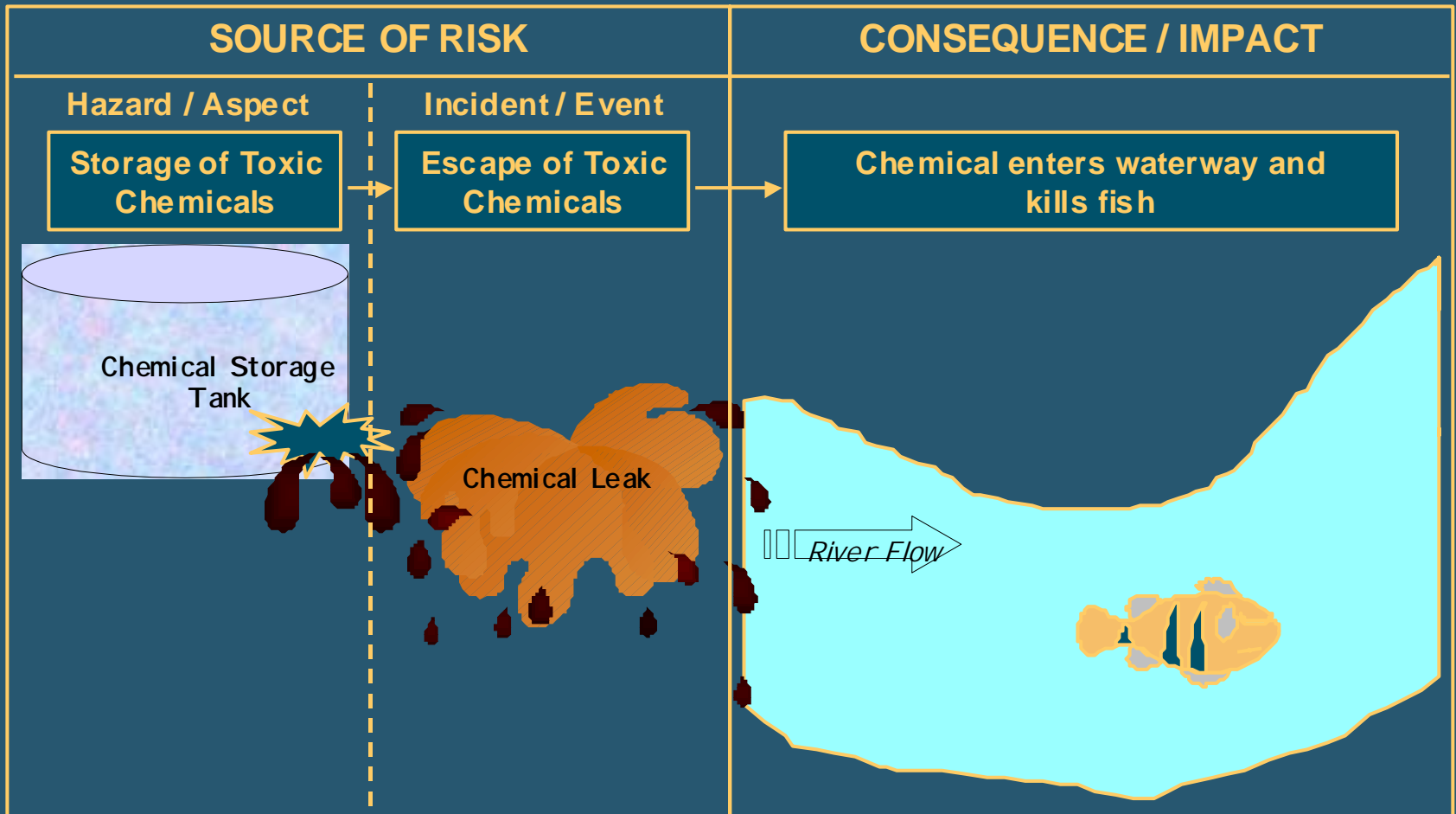
Scope

Human
Influences



Environmental risks include

- **Risks to the environment**
 - activities causing environmental change
- **Risk to the organisation from environmental related issues e.g.**
 - risk of not complying with existing (and proposed) legislation
 - business losses to an organisation



Hazard/environmental aspect

A hazard is a source of potential harm, or a situation with the intrinsic potential to cause loss or adverse impacts

Environmental aspects are those elements of an organisation's activities, products or services that can interact with the environment

Incident/event

An incident (or event) is any occurrence that can have an adverse impact (or impacts) on the environment.

It releases the intrinsic potential of the hazard and may be a short, one-off occurrence or ongoing

An on-going incident may also be considered as an 'event'.

Environmental Impact / Consequence

- Impact is used to include, where possible, effect(s) and consequence(s)
- A consequence is the outcome of an event
- An environmental impact is any change to the environment arising from an organisation's activities, products or services

The impact results from an incident that releases the potential of the source of risk - impact also includes impacts to the organisation's business arising from environmental related issues

Risk Communication

- **Communication and consultation are important aspects of all steps within the risk management framework, and particularly relevant to environmental risk management**
- **Essential element is to develop a communication plan and to decide how, when, what and to whom**

Expectation that the guide will

- **Help to promote good practise in environmental risk management**
- **Provide environmental managers and risk managers with an additional tool for making decisions**
- **Be recognised as a step towards a goal, not the goal itself**

Environmental Risk Management: principles and process

Standards Australia and Standards New
Zealand HB

Web addresses

- <http://www.riskmanagement.com.au/>
- <http://www.standards.co.nz/>