

**2.1.3 Code for Assessment and Management of Acid Sulfate Soils**

**PURPOSE**

This code is intended to ensure there is no environmental harm caused to natural systems or significant adverse effects on the built environment or human health by the production or release of acid and metal contaminants from acid sulfate soils.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA	ACCEPTABLE MEASURES
<p><b>P1 Works avoid disturbing acid sulfate soils or are managed to avoid the release of acid or metal contaminants.<sup>11 12</sup></b></p>	<p><b>A1.1</b></p> <p>(a) The disturbance of acid sulfate soils is avoided by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i not excavating or otherwise removing soil or sediment identified as containing acid sulfate soils; and</li> <li>ii not permanently or temporarily extracting groundwater that results in the aeration of previously saturated acid sulfate soils; and</li> <li>iii where Area 1 shown on Regulatory Map 1.4 (being land at or below 5m AHD), not undertaking filling that results in:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. actual acid sulfate soils being moved below the watertable; and</li> <li>2. previously saturated acid sulfate soils being aerated.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>(b) The disturbance of acid sulfate soils avoids the release of acid and metal contaminants by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i neutralising existing acidity and preventing the generation of acid and metal contaminants; and</li> <li>ii preventing the release of surface or groundwater flows containing acid and metal contaminants into the environment.</li> </ul>

<sup>11</sup> In assessing compliance with this performance criteria, Council may request the preparation of a detailed acid sulfate soils investigation to determine whether acid sulfate soils are present and, if present, the location, depth and maximum existing and potential acidity of the soils relevant to the proposed disturbance. Such investigations should be undertaken in accordance with the guideline for State Planning Policy 2/02 – Planning and Management of Development involving Acid Sulfate Soils (sections 6 - 8). If acid sulfate soils are to be disturbed, the applicant may also be requested to provide a comprehensive acid sulfate soils management strategy outlining how the proposed development will achieve A1.1. Such a strategy should be prepared in accordance with the guideline for State Planning Policy 2/02 – Planning and Management of Development involving Acid Sulfate Soils (sections 9 - 10).

<sup>12</sup> Applicants should note that DNRM has produced mapping at 1:25,000 of likely acid sulfate soil areas. These maps may provide guidance on where such soils are most likely to occur. This mapping does not cover the entire area identified on Regulatory Map 1.4 (the Acid Sulfate Soils Special Management Area) in this planning scheme. Outside the areas included in the DNRM mapping, a preliminary investigation of acid sulfate soils to assist the initial planning of a development proposal (i.e. before an application is made) is strongly recommended. Such investigations should be undertaken in accordance with State Planning Policy 2/02.

