



# SEAGRASS-WATCH

## risk assessment

**Let someone else know where and for how long you will be sampling**

**Assess the risks before monitoring**

**Use your instincts - if you do not feel safe then abandon sampling**

**Do not put yourself or others at risk.**

**Adult supervision is required if children are involved**

Hazard	Risk	Control
<b>Sun</b>	Sunburn  Eye strain Dehydration Exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• wear hat with good cover</li> <li>• use sunscreen (preferably 40+).</li> <li>• sunglasses (preferably polarised lenses)</li> <li>• take a drink (water)</li> <li>• wear proper clothing and footwear depending on the weather</li> </ul>
<b>Beware of holes, oysters, broken glass, etc.</b>	Cuts & twisted ankles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• use common sense when walking to and from a site</li> <li>• wear proper footwear e.g., diving booties or old shoes with tough sole and good grip.</li> <li>• have a first aid kit on site or nearby and re-acquaint yourself with the treatment of marine stings (e.g., jellyfish, stonefish)</li> </ul>
<b>Be aware of dangerous marine animals.</b>	Marine stings  Bites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• wear proper footwear depending e.g., diving booties or old shoes with tough sole and good grip.</li> <li>• have a first aid kit on site or nearby and re-acquaint yourself with the treatment of marine stings (e.g., jellyfish, stonefish)</li> <li>• if crocodiles occur in your area, check with QPWS before conducting sampling (preferably the day prior)</li> <li>• if sampling at night, and crocodiles may be in the area, have a dedicated observer with a spot light to check for crocodiles</li> </ul>
<b>Deep mud</b>	Stranded/stuck Exhaustion Bacterial infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• communication device (i.e. mobile phone working in area or marine radio)</li> <li>• do not over exert yourself - move at your own pace</li> <li>• wash hands and feet carefully upon return</li> </ul>
<b>Tide &amp; Weather</b>	Stranded/stuck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• check weather, tides, time of day, etc. and avoid extreme weather conditions</li> <li>• ensure appropriate time is available to conduct sampling</li> <li>• ensure suitable tides</li> <li>• communication device (i.e. mobile phone working in area or marine radio)</li> </ul>
<b>Other beach/water users</b>	Verbal or physical abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• do not approach if other users acting suspiciously</li> <li>• be courteous to other users</li> <li>• act professionally so as not to arouse suspicion</li> <li>• ensure monitoring sign clearly displayed</li> <li>• if you feel uncomfortable or in any way unsafe, abandon sampling and leave the area.</li> </ul>
<b>General Health</b>	special needs (heart condition, diabetes, etc)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensure fitness via verbal enquiry</li> </ul>

