

PROCEDURE 6

Earthquake, tsunami and landslide

Purpose: Protect people during sudden ground movement and move away from secondary hazards using local official directions.



SITE CUSTOMISATION REQUIRED. This national baseline must be adapted through a site risk assessment, worker consultation and advice from the relevant state or territory regulator, emergency services, council, insurer and veterinarian. Human life takes priority.

Business and site details

Business legal name		Trading name	
Site / branch		ABN	
Physical address		Emergency entry / cross street	
Site manager		Incident Controller	
Maximum dogs		Maximum people	
Operating hours		Main phone	

Document control

Issue date		Next review date	
Approved by		Position	

Activate this procedure when

- Ground shaking, local tsunami warning or natural signs, slope movement, rockfall, cracking, structural shift or emergency-services direction.

P Protect people	A Alert and activate	W Welfare and secure dogs	S Sign off accountability
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Step-by-step emergency response

- 1** **During shaking.** People should drop, cover and hold on away from glass and falling objects. Do not attempt to move dogs while objects are falling unless needed to prevent immediate human harm.
- 2** **When shaking stops.** Check people, fire, gas, electricity, structural damage and escape routes. Attach leads or use crates before opening external doors.
- 3** **Evacuate damaged structures.** Move to the open assembly area, avoiding walls, powerlines, trees, unstable slopes and debris.
- 4** **For tsunami threat.** Follow the local evacuation map and move immediately to higher ground or inland as directed. Do not go to the coast to observe.
- 5** **For landslide threat.** Move away from the path and edges of moving ground. Call 000 for immediate danger and do not cross unstable debris.
- 6** **Prepare for aftershocks.** Keep dogs secured, maintain counts and do not re-enter until competent authorities confirm safety.

Do not

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|-------------|--|
| STOP | Go to the coast to observe a tsunami or enter an evacuation zone against official direction. |
| STOP | Re-enter a damaged structure or cross unstable slopes, debris or fallen powerlines. |
| STOP | Open external dog areas until fences, gates and surrounding hazards have been checked. |

After the immediate danger

- Arrange structural, electrical, gas, water and fence inspection.
- Relocate if the site cannot contain dogs or provide safe shelter and sanitation.

Assigned emergency roles

Incident Controller	Selects the safe action, liaises with emergency services and authorises recovery.	
People / Area Warden	Protects people, sweeps assigned areas if safe and reports status.	
Dog Movement / Canine FA	Secures, identifies, separates, triages and moves dogs within training.	
Communications / Recorder	Calls services and owners, maintains the time log and preserves records.	

Procedure readiness checklist

- ☐ Identify earthquake, tsunami and landslide exposure in the site's local emergency risk assessment.
- ☐ Secure tall storage, chemicals, cylinders and heavy equipment that could fall or block exits.
- ☐ Post a tsunami route to higher ground where relevant and keep transport controls accessible.
- ☐ Nominate an open assembly area clear of walls, powerlines, trees and unstable slopes.
- ☐ Maintain leads, crates and a census for controlled movement after shaking stops.
- ☐ Arrange competent structural, electrical, gas, water and fence inspection before re-entry.

Site-specific arrangements

Safe assembly area	
Tsunami / higher-ground route	
Known slope or landslide hazards	
Structural inspection contact	

Emergency contacts and notifications

Triple Zero for immediate danger		Local emergency service / council	
Owners, veterinarian and insurer		Primary / emergency vet	

Recommended drill: Practise drop-cover-hold for people, then controlled dog movement to the open assembly area.

Drill, review and authorisation record

Last drill date		Participants	
Corrective action owner		Action due date	
Procedure authorised by		Authorisation date	
Gaps identified / corrective actions			

Sources and further guidance

[6] [Australian Warning System](#)
[18] [Secure NT - Animals in emergencies](#)
[19] [Safe Work Australia - Incident notification](#)

Review date: source links and national emergency numbers were checked for the master manual on 31 August 2026. Confirm local numbers, warnings, laws, codes, licences and veterinary arrangements before issue and at every review.

