

Application to downgrade OSSM Risk Rating

All on-site sewage management (OSSM) systems are allocated a risk rating which is determined on the potential of the system's impact using the following criteria:

- impact on public health
- impact on water quality
- impact on native bushland
- impact on community amenity
- impact on soils.

The risk rating determines the frequency of inspections which are:

- High – inspected annually
- Medium – inspected every two years
- Low – inspected every five years.

Where an OSSM is well maintained, Council offers the opportunity to apply to have the risk rating downgraded for High Risk and Medium Risk systems so they are inspected less frequently. Property owners who have demonstrated a high level of care and maintenance of their OSSM may apply to Council to have their risk rating downgraded, if they meet the following criteria:

- a) No major defects (excluding desludging) have been identified for the last three inspections (High Risk) or two inspections (Medium Risk).
- b) The property has remained in the same ownership during the above inspections.
- c) The property is owner-occupied (not tenanted or holiday rented).
- d) All inspection fees have been paid in full.
- e) If the system is a pumpout system, there must be a documented history of regular pumpouts consistent with the system's approval to operate.

If conditions are met in regards to 2.4.3.1 of Council's OSSM Code of Practice (2024) a downgrade of risk assessment will occur where:

- High (conditional) - will be inspected every two years instead of annually
- Medium (conditional) - will be inspected every five years instead of every two years.

If the risk rating is downgraded, it may remain at the lower risk level if the above criteria continue to be met. If a subsequent inspection identifies that the above criteria are not being met, the risk rating will revert to the original inspection regime.

Properties can only downgrade by the one level from their original risk assessment.
To apply, please complete the attached declaration and return to Council.

If you have any queries regarding having a system downgraded, please contact Council's Environmental Health Team on 02 4474 1310.

Declaration

I,

wish to apply to have the risk rating on my on-site sewage management system at:

downgraded and declare that it meets the following criteria:

- a) No major defects (excluding desludging) have been identified for the last three inspections (High Risk) or two inspections (Medium Risk).
- b) The property has remained in the same ownership during the above inspections.
- c) The property is owner-occupied (not tenanted or holiday rented).

I will notify Eurobodalla Shire Council within 28 days should any of the above criteria change.

Signature

Date

Office use only:

PIN

Original Risk Rating

New Risk Rating

Date