

Natural Resources Conservation Board

Environmental Risk Screening Tool (ERST)

Scott Cunningham
September 26, 2018

Why do we have a risk screening tool?

- Challenge - assess "risk to the environment"
 - Consistently across files
 - Multiple staff
 - Multiple offices
 - Applications and compliance
- Answer – create a tool to consistently assess risk

Companion document

- Companion document includes
 - Background
 - Process description
 - ERST uses
 - Assessor Competencies
 - Guidance on Completing
 - Site Information Form
 - Environmental Risk Screening Tool

ERST Features

- A screening tool only – not a quantitative risk assessment
 - considers source, pathway and receptor
- Separate scores for surface water and groundwater
- Special considerations to allow for some flexibility
- Subsequent information should only lower the score

ERST Features

- Three risk levels (rather than two)
- Numeric score corresponds to Low, Moderate or High Potential Risk (p19)
 - Low: The facility does not pose a risk to the environment
 - Moderate: The facility may pose a risk to the environment
 - High: The facility likely poses a significant risk to the environment
- Actions not prescribed in tool for Low/Mod/High
- Action flowcharts for SW and GW on our website

NRCB Policy – ERST and Actions

- Approval
 - ERST will be used (policy p 3-4)
 - Moderate and high risks require mitigation by permit conditions issued by the approval officer (policy p 36)
- Compliance
 - ERST will be used, actions not specified (policy p 7-8)
- Water Data Management Process (under review)
 - Monitoring Review Team reviews Moderate or High groundwater results with file manager (page 6)