
Topic 7

Mitigation and impact management

The purpose of mitigation is to:

- find better ways of doing things**
- enhance environmental and social benefits**
- avoid, minimise or remedy adverse impacts**
- ensure that residual impacts are within acceptable levels**

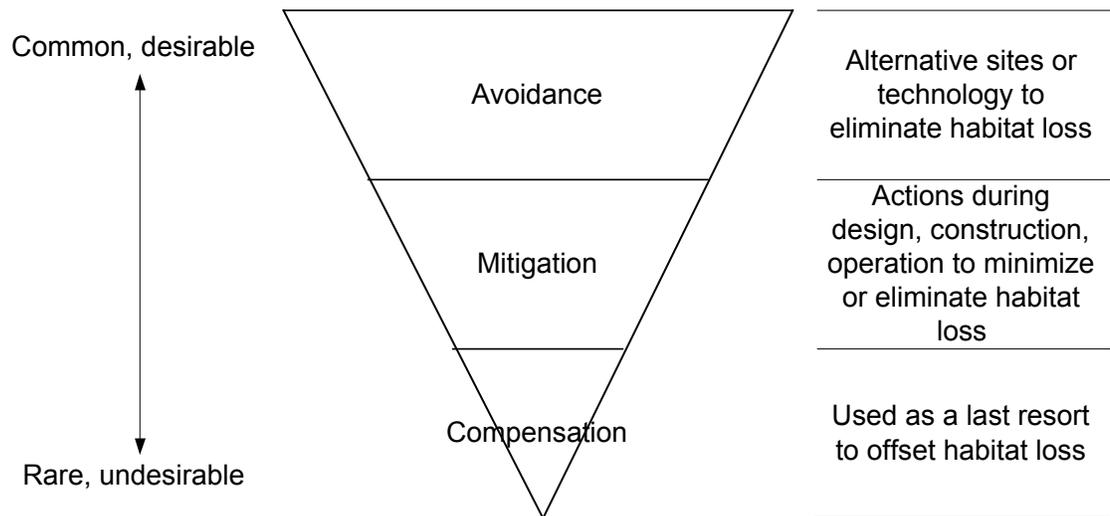
The purpose of impact management is to:

- ensure mitigation measures are implemented**
- establish systems and procedures for this purpose**
- monitor the effectiveness of mitigation measures**
- take action when unforeseen impacts occur**

Proponents have a responsibility to:

- avoid, minimise and remedy adverse impacts**
- internalise the environmental and social costs of the proposal**
- prepare plans for managing impacts**
- repair or make restitution for environmental damages**

A framework for impact mitigation



Principles of mitigation

- ◆ **give preference to avoidance and prevention measures**
- ◆ **consider feasible alternatives to the proposal**
- ◆ **identify customised measures to minimise each major impact**
- ◆ **ensure they are appropriate and cost-effective**
- ◆ **use compensation as a last resort**

Impact avoidance can be achieved by:

- ◆ not undertaking certain projects or elements**
- ◆ avoiding environmentally sensitive areas**
- ◆ use of measures to prevent impacts from occurring:**
 - site remediation bonds**
 - resettlement plans**
 - in kind measures and offsets**

Impact minimisation can be achieved by:

- **scaling down or relocating the proposal**
- **redesigning elements of the project**
- **measures to manage the impacts**

Impact compensation can be achieved by:

- ◆ rehabilitation of resource or environmental components**
- ◆ restoration of the site to its previous state**
- ◆ replacement of the environmental values lost at another location**

Mitigation options

- **develop alternatives that are better environmentally**
- **make changes in planning and design**
- **carry out impact monitoring and management**
- **compensate for**
 - **residual impacts**
 - **monetary payment**
 - **site remediation bonds**
 - **resettlement plans**
 - **in kind measures and offsets**

Environmental management plans should include:

- **summary of impacts**
- **recommended mitigation measures**
- **statement of compliance with standards**
- **allocation of resources and responsibilities**
- **schedule of required actions**
- **surveillance, monitoring and auditing programmes**
- **contingency measures for greater than expected impacts**
- **State policy and standards**