



Douglas Shire Biosecurity Plan 2027 - 2031

“All stakeholders working together to implement ongoing, coordination and effective biosecurity management across the Douglas Shire area”

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Acronyms and Glossary

BQ	Biosecurity Queensland coordinates the government's efforts to prevent, respond to, and recover from pests and diseases that threaten the economy and environment. BQ is comprised of research, operations and policy. BQ is part of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF).
DSBWG	Douglas Shire Biosecurity Working Group . Pest Working Group; Local forum established to regularly bring all the relevant stakeholders together to discuss a range of land management priorities
DSC	Douglas Shire Council – Council for Local Government area covered by this plan.
DCBP	Douglas Council Biosecurity Plan
DSLGA	Douglas Shire Local Government Area
DPI	Department of Primary Industry's
DETSI	Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation
NEAEP	National Electric Ant Eradication Program
FNQROC	Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils is made up of membership of Councils from Ingham north to Cooktown and west to Croydon in Far North Queensland. The organisation fosters cooperation and resource sharing between councils and advocates regional positions and priorities.
NAMAC	Natural Asset Management Advisory Committee.
NTWEP	National Tropical Weeds Eradication Program – A national eradication program delivered by Biosecurity Queensland (BQ), targets the eradication of five weeds listed as restricted matter (category 2,3,4 & 5) Mikania vine, Miconia calvescens, Miconia racemosa, Miconia nervosa and Limnocharis flava.
QPWS	Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service.
Terrain NRM	Terrain Natural Resource Management Regional Natural Resource Management organisation working over the Wet Tropics region which takes in the local government areas of Douglas Shire Council, Hinchinbrook Shire Council, Cassowary Coast Regional Council, Tablelands Regional Council and Cairns Regional Council.
GBO	General Biosecurity Obligation. The principal obligation under the Biosecurity Act 2014 that requires a person to take action to reduce biosecurity risks.

Executive Summary

The purpose of the Douglas Shire Biosecurity Plan (DSBP) is to bring together all sectors of the community to collaboratively manage invasive plants and animals across the Douglas Shire local government area. The Plan outlines the key responsibilities, roles and desired outcomes required under the Biosecurity Act 2014, providing a coordinated framework for managing biosecurity risks throughout the region.

The DSBP aims to protect the economy, environment and community wellbeing of Douglas Shire by preventing and reducing the impacts of invasive pests and weeds through:

- Addressing the obligations of all stakeholders under the Biosecurity Act 2014.
- Prioritising invasive species management and preventing the introduction and spread of invasive plants and animals using best-practice approaches.
- Clearly identifying stakeholder roles and responsibilities and providing guidance for effective biosecurity risk management.
- Building partnerships and improving the use of available resources across the community and among land managers.
- Strengthening coordination between stakeholders, including integrated catchment management, alignment with state-wide land protection strategies, and the management of conservation areas.

The Plan identifies the following goal for biosecurity management within the Douglas Shire Council area:

“All stakeholders working together to implement ongoing, coordinated and effective biosecurity management across the Douglas Shire Council area.”



FNQ Regional Organisation of Councils



NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



Introduction

The Douglas Shire Council covers the area from Degarra in the north, west to the Mt Windsor Tableland and south to Ellis Beach. The area is fringed by Wet Tropics Area to the west and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park to the East. These iconic resources combined with a strong agricultural sector make the entire region important both nationally and globally.

Given that biosecurity risks directly threaten biodiversity, agriculture and social amenity on a very large scale, there is a great responsibility to understand and mitigate the impacts of weeds and pest animals in a context that encompasses a wide range of land uses and expectations.

What is biosecurity?

Biosecurity involves implementing measures to reduce the risk of invasive species and diseases being introduced and spread, while minimising the impacts of those already established within the Douglas Shire local government area.

Biosecurity is everyone's responsibility and affects all Queenslanders. The risks posed by invasive species and diseases have the potential to impact our businesses, communities, environment, and health. Effective biosecurity management requires all individuals and organisations to understand their obligations and take proactive steps to manage the biosecurity risks under their control.

While this plan focuses specifically on invasive biosecurity matter (including invasive plants and animals, commonly referred to as weeds and pest animals), the Act also contains important obligations relating to the management of animal and plant diseases and contaminants. For information on other aspects of biosecurity management not related to invasive plants and animals, visit the [Department of Primary Industries website](#).

Protecting values and managing risks

A risk-based approach to biosecurity begins with understanding the values that are important to the community. Identifying what is valued, where those values occur, and why they are important provides the foundation for assessing how invasive plants and animals (biosecurity matter) may impact them.

This approach aligns with the principles outlined in the Biosecurity Queensland Invasive Species Planning Toolkit, which promotes strategic, evidence-based planning focused on protecting community, environmental, cultural, and economic values from invasive species impacts.

Many valued assets are exposed to multiple biosecurity threats simultaneously. While the level of risk posed by each invasive species may differ, their combined or cumulative impacts can still result in significant harm over time. Similarly, a single asset may represent several different community values at once. For example, a waterway on a property may be important for biodiversity conservation as habitat, agricultural production through stock watering, water resource function through maintaining natural flows, and community wellbeing as a local recreational area.

The risk assessment process used to identify priority issues requiring a response within this plan considers both the likelihood and potential consequence of impacts posed by biosecurity matter across four broad categories of values.

Conservation and Biodiversity

Douglas Shire's conservation and biodiversity assets reflect the richness and resilience of the natural environment. These assets include nationally significant parks and reserves, remnant and restored forests, wetlands, waterways, and individual habitat trees that support ecological health across the region. They provide critical habitat for native flora and fauna, including rare and threatened species, while also sustaining essential natural processes such as water filtration, pollination, soil stability, and climate regulation. Protecting and enhancing these natural assets helps preserve the Shire's unique landscapes, cultural values, and biodiversity for future generations.

Agriculture and industry

Agriculture and industry within the Douglas Shire Council region are experiencing significant transition, particularly as sugarcane production declines and uncertainty grows around future land use. This change presents increasing biosecurity challenges, including the spread of invasive weeds and rising feral pig populations, both of which threaten agricultural productivity, environmental values, and regional resilience.

Primary production and associated industries remain vital to the local economy and community livelihoods. These industries encompass a diverse range of production systems, from highly modified and intensive agricultural operations to low-impact, nature-based systems operating across rangelands and native landscapes. Some sectors, such as honey production, rely on a combination of native forests and cultivated agricultural areas, while others operate within peri-urban, industrial, or mixed-use environments. This diversity highlights the complexity of managing sustainable agricultural growth, land use change, and biosecurity risks across the Douglas Shire region.

Water resources and assets

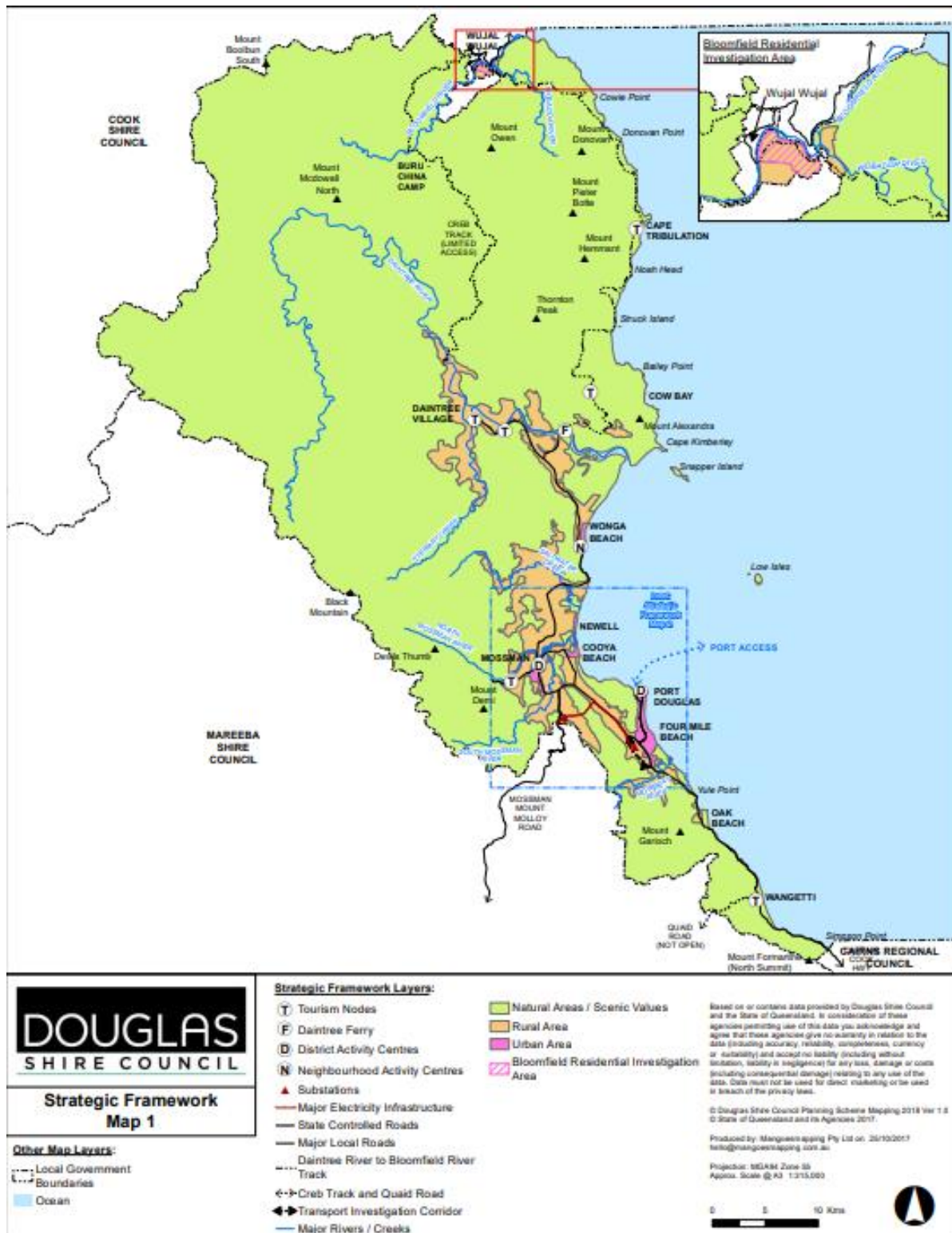
Water resources and assets represent both natural and artificial waterways. These may include modified waterways and storage systems such as lakes, dams and impoundments through to natural waterways and wetlands. Water resources and assets may be valuable as natural environments or they may have value for water supply, recreation or provide economic benefit such as fisheries.

Community and residential

Community and residential assets are places important to people, where they live, work or play on a daily basis. These may include densely settled areas and environments such as urban communities through to the areas around homesteads and houses in rural areas. Most community and residential assets also include areas of natural or semi natural areas and habitats by way of gardens, urban bushland or waterway reserves.

Culture and Country

The Biosecurity Plan Working Group acknowledges the many people and cultures who have helped shape our community over time. We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands across the Shire—the Eastern Kuku Yalanji and Western Yalanji peoples—and recognise their deep and enduring connection to Country. Their stories, knowledge, and custodianship continue to enrich the identity of our region. We also pay tribute to the generations of people from diverse backgrounds and cultures who have made Douglas Shire their home, bringing with them traditions, skills, and values that contribute to our shared way of life. Council is committed to fostering an inclusive, respectful, and resilient community—one that values all those who have helped shape Douglas Shire today and continue to contribute to its future.



More detailed maps of Douglas Shire land use can be found at the following links:

<https://douglas.qld.gov.au/download/planning-scheme/1.-Zoning-Maps-70K-1-to-11.pdf>

<https://douglas.qld.gov.au/download/planning-scheme/2.-Zoning-Maps-15K-12-to-23.pdf>

Managing established pest species requires ensuring that all stakeholders meet their biosecurity obligations. The increasing number of weed infestations, vertebrate pest populations, and tramp ant incursions highlights the region's vulnerability to the introduction and spread of biosecurity matter, as well as the strategic importance of preventing its movement across Australia.

The favourable environmental conditions of the Wet Tropics Bioregion mean that the Douglas Shire faces a wide range of weed and pest animal challenges. The region's climate provides ideal conditions for the establishment and spread of numerous noxious weeds, while also supporting large populations of pest animals through abundant resources, year-round water availability, and extensive habitat cover.

The Douglas Shire Biosecurity Plan (DSBP) has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Biosecurity Act 2014. The Plan is reviewed and renewed every five years, with biannual updates undertaken as required to reflect changes in resources, pest threats, legislation, and policy.

The Douglas Shire Council formally adopted this Biosecurity Plan through a resolution of council on the 24th of November 2026

Biosecurity Planning

A plan to prevent land degradation caused by pest incursions is a significant undertaking that cannot be achieved through annual budget allocations alone. Effective biosecurity management requires clearly defined goals, strategic planning, and measurable actions to ensure outcomes are achieved through sound management rather than chance.

Without clear direction and communication, it becomes difficult to monitor progress toward pest management objectives and for landowners and land managers to understand their responsibilities in meeting their General Biosecurity Obligation. The Douglas Shire Biosecurity Plan (DSBP) serves as both a policy framework and a practical reference document for Douglas Shire Council field and administrative staff, while also applying to all landholders and land managers across the Douglas Shire area.

The DSBP provides guidance for the management of all invasive biosecurity matter and locally declared pests within the Douglas Shire Council area.

To fulfill these responsibilities, Council is expected to:

- Control invasive biosecurity matter on land under its control.
- Inspect private property to determine the presence of invasive biosecurity matter.
- Provide advice to landholders on appropriate pest control options.
- Carry out procedures to ensure control of invasive biosecurity matter on private property.

The State government is responsible for:

- Providing technical and management information and staff training to Council personnel.
- Ensuring that invasive biosecurity matter controlled on land under the control of other Government Departments.

The Douglas Shire Biosecurity Working Group

The Douglas Shire Biosecurity Working Group (DSBWG) was established as an open and inclusive forum for all stakeholders to ensure the Douglas Shire Biosecurity Plan (DSBP) is developed collaboratively by, and for, the entire community.

The DSBWG considered all pest and biosecurity matters in relation to the diverse land use values across the Douglas Shire Council area.

The role of the DSBWG is to:

- ensure all stakeholders understand, accept, and acknowledge their respective roles and responsibilities under the DSBP;
- prioritise biosecurity matters and develop clear obligations to ensure pests are managed to standards accepted by the community;
- provide advice to government agencies, organisations, and individuals on biosecurity management priorities and obligations within the Douglas Shire area;
- identify research priorities and operational needs within the DSLGA, and ensure the DSBWG is represented through NAMAC for the purposes of the co-investment model;
- develop, implement, and review the Biosecurity Plan for invasive biosecurity matter across all land tenures within the DSLGA; and
- ensure key stakeholders are actively involved in the implementation, coordination, and monitoring of the DSBP.

Legal Requirements Regarding Biosecurity

Invasive Biosecurity Matter and Locally Declared Pests

Under section 48(1) of the Biosecurity Act the main function of local government is to ensure both prohibited and restricted, invasive biosecurity matter are managed within the local government area. According to section 48(3) of the Act, local government's local laws (Queensland Local Government Act 1993) may provide for the management of invasive plants and animals whether they are prohibited or restricted matter.

The Biosecurity Act 2014 pertains schedules for prohibited and restricted matter that can be viewed at: [Biosecurity Act 2014](#)

The Douglas Shire Council Subordinate Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environmental Management) lists locally declared species that are not listed under the Biosecurity Act 2014:

[Local laws/Subordinate-Local-Law-No.-3-Community-and-Environmental-Management-2020.pdf](#)

Prohibited Matter

Prohibited matter includes a range of invasive plants and invasive animals that have the potential to have significant impacts and are currently not present or known to be present in Queensland.

It is an offence to deal with prohibited matter and fail to report its presence. If you become aware of prohibited matter or you believe, or ought to reasonably believe, that something is prohibited matter you need to report it immediately to Biosecurity Queensland 132523

Restricted Matter

Restricted matter includes a range of invasive plants and animals that are present in Queensland. These invasive plants and animals are having significant adverse impacts in Queensland and it is desirable to manage them and prevent their spread, thereby protecting un-infested parts of the State.

Categories of restricted matter

There are seven categories for restricted matter, six of which are relevant to this plan each category places restrictions on the dealings with the biosecurity matter or requires actions to be taken to minimise the spread and adverse impact of the biosecurity matter.

Category 1 – must be reported to an inspector	restricted matter requires immediate containment or eradication to minimise the risk of spread. It must be reported to an inspector within 24 hours of an individual becoming aware of its presence (s 42)
Category 2 – must be reported to an authorised officer	restricted matter includes a range of plant and fish species that pose a significant biosecurity risk and require management. Category 2 restricted matter must be reported to an authorised officer (i.e. an inspector or an authorised person) within 24 hours of an individual becoming aware of its presence (s 42)
Category 3 – not to be distributed or disposed	restricted matter includes all invasive animals and plants where deliberate distribution, or disposal is a key source of spread. These species mustn't be given as a gift, sold, traded or released into the environment while still 'alive', unless the distribution or disposal is provided for in a regulation or under a permit (s 43 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> and chapter 2, part 3 of the Biosecurity Regulation 2016). Note: 'alive' includes viable propagules (seeds or spores) or vegetative material from which the plant could grow
Category 4 – not to be moved	restricted matter includes specific invasive plants and animals that, to ensure they aren't spread into other areas of the state, mustn't be moved from their site of origin (s 45 (a)). This includes viable propagules or vegetative material from which the plant could re-grow
Category 5 – not to be kept	restricted matter can't be possessed or kept under a person's control. This restricted matter category includes invasive species that have a high pest potential and capacity to impact heavily on the environment. There are exemptions for seized items, where the restricted matter is being held for identification purposes or under permit (s 45 (b))
Category 6 – not to be fed	restricted matter can't be fed unless held under a restricted matter permit or for the purposes of poison baiting. This includes invasive animals and noxious fish which aren't owned by a person. The intention of this prohibition is to discourage population growth (s 45 (c))

The General Biosecurity Obligation

The general biosecurity obligation (GBO) is one of the core principles of the Biosecurity Act is outcome-based management.

The DSBP defines what community expects of individuals to discharge their **general biosecurity obligation (GBO)** regarding the priority invasive pests at specific locations.

What is a general biosecurity obligation and who does it apply to?

The general biosecurity obligation (GBO) is an overarching obligation that requires all persons who deal with biosecurity matter or a carrier to take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise the risk. However, the obligation only arises when the person *knows or ought reasonably to know* that the biosecurity matter, carrier or activity pose or is likely to pose a biosecurity risk.

How the GBO is used to achieve local pest management outcomes?

The GBO imposes an obligation on all relevant persons – individuals, industry and government – to take an active role in preventing, managing and addressing biosecurity risks that relate to their activities. It provides a capacity for flexibility and ensures that the focus is on the management of biosecurity risk rather than following a prescribed process.

The DSBP provides management outcomes for specific high priority pests. These the management outcomes are outlined in the pest specific strategies and have been developed by the DSBWG based on priority, knowledge of distribution, feasibility, achievability and the existing and potential impacts on the biosecurity considerations (human health, social amenity, the economy or the environment) in the local area.

What Will Happen If Someone Does Not Meet Their General Biosecurity Obligation?

A biosecurity officer can also issue a biosecurity order requiring specific action to be taken within a reasonable time. When necessary, Biosecurity Queensland, or the Douglas Shire Council can take formal compliance action to ensure an individual, business or other organisation improves the way they manage biosecurity risks. Not complying with the GBO or a biosecurity order is an offence. The required works can also be ordered and undertaken by a third party with costs recoverable from the property owner/manager.

Information on Douglas Shire Councils Biosecurity Compliance Response Pathway can be found in [Appendix 3](#)

The DSBP also provides specific actions landholders can take to satisfy general biosecurity obligations that are not pest specific, and these are listed in the table below.

Specific actions landholders can take to satisfy general biosecurity obligations.

Sector	General biosecurity obligations	Actions
Primary producers horticulture	Be aware of the priority risks to your industry and local government area.	- Survey for pest weeds/animals during routine maintenance. - Maintain vehicle/machinery hygiene protocols. - Use appropriate control methods. - Erect property and site-specific signs. - Rotate crops and plant cover crops. - Participate in baiting and trapping programs - Manage weeds on watercourses and roadways.
Primary producers: grazing	- Report new or suspected pests to your industry contact, DSC or Biosecurity Queensland. - Don't move soil or machinery that has biosecurity risks such as weed seeds or dirt.	- Conduct boundary/risk area checks. - Survey for weeds/animals during routine maintenance - Maintain vehicle/machinery hygiene protocols. - Use appropriate control methods. - Participate in baiting and trapping programs - Erect property and site-specific signs. - Conduct chopper rolling, slashing, boom or aerial spraying. - Develop a property pest management plan and/or a farm biosecurity plan. - Install pest-appropriate fencing.
Landholders: fruit production	Prevent the spread of declared weeds on and off your property by controlling, prior to the flowering period, in high risk areas (watercourses/ roadways/ boundaries).	- Conduct crop/risk area checks. - Survey for weeds/animals during routine maintenance. - Ensure equipment leaving or entering properties is clean of contaminants. - Use appropriate control methods - Erect property and site-specific signs. - Provide/maintain access for programs. - Provide groundcover management. - Develop a property pest management plan and/or farm biosecurity plan. - Install pest-appropriate fencing. - Participate in baiting and trapping programs. - Reduce priority weeds.
Nursery industry and plant sellers	- Reduce DSC priority weeds on your property. - Monitor and record the presence of and damage caused by feral animals on your property.	- Research information on new stock lines before introduction. - Report unusual plants and animals. - Prevent sale of state, local and problem pest plants. - Manually remove pest weeds and bag seed heads. - Erect property and site-specific signs.
Landholders: rural residential, lifestyle and urban residential	- Participate in coordinated feral animal control programs. - Provide/maintain access for management programs.	- Report unusual plants and animals. - Responsibly dispose of green waste. - Select suitable garden plants. - Cooperate with and participate in local area pest and weed management programs. - Report recurrence of priority pest and weeds after control efforts. - Participate in baiting and trapping programs - Develop property pest management plan and/or a farm biosecurity plan. - Install pest-appropriate fencing. - Reduce priority weeds. (This could include spot spraying; manual removal, bagging seed heads, and use fire or other control methods to reduce infestations.)

The management outcomes establish the standard for actions and measures considered reasonable and practical by the Douglas Shire community to address the biosecurity risks posed by these pests and achieve the desired local management objectives.

There may be circumstances where a person fails to take reasonable actions to discharge their General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO) in managing a biosecurity risk. The Biosecurity Act provides Authorised Officers with the powers and tools necessary to ensure that responses are proportionate to the level of risk.

Using a risk-based approach, an Authorised Officer may determine that a person has failed to take appropriate actions consistent with the management outcomes outlined in the Douglas Shire Biosecurity Plan (DSBP). Before taking compliance action, the officer must be satisfied that the person responsible for the biosecurity matter understands the risks that require mitigation. This may involve providing education or guidance to support compliance.

If, following this process, the person still fails to take reasonable steps to mitigate the risk, the Authorised Officer may consider issuing a Biosecurity Order. The person must then undertake the actions specified in the Biosecurity Order to address the identified biosecurity risk. For more information see Douglas Shire Council Biosecurity Response Flow chart in [Appendix 3](#)

Biosecurity Orders

A biosecurity order is an enforcement tool that may be given to a person if an authorised officer reasonably believes that a person has failed, or may fail, to discharge their GBO (s373).

A person fails to discharge their GBO if they do not take 'all reasonable and practical measures' to mitigate a biosecurity risk.

A biosecurity order can direct a person to treat, control, eradicate, destroy or dispose of biosecurity matter or a carrier in a particular way, clean or disinfect something, stop using the place or remove something from the place.

A biosecurity order **must** be directed at ensuring the recipient discharges their GBO at the place; and **may** relate to a specific biosecurity matter. In addition, the biosecurity order may propose stated times or intervals for re-entry to the place, a vehicle or another place, to check compliance with the order; or state how the recipient may show that the stated action has been taken.

A template for the Douglas Shire Council Biosecurity order and information notice can be found in [Appendix 4](#).

Biosecurity Programs

Biosecurity programs (surveillance or prevention and control programs) have been implemented by the [Department of Primary Industries, Queensland](#) and Douglas Shire Council [Natural-resource-management-pest-management](#) to enable proactive management of a weeds and pest animals.

The Douglas Shire Council Invasive Plants and Animals Surveillance Program 2027-2031 is an instrument to provided authorised officers additional powers of entry for the purpose of for undertaking proactive surveillance to determine the presence or absence of stated invasive biosecurity matter, monitoring compliance with the Act or the effect of measures taken in response

to a biosecurity risk, or levels of biosecurity matter in a carrier – within Douglas Shire Council local government area. A copy of the surveillance program can be obtained at [natural-resource-management/pest-management-Surveillance program](#) or purchased through council for the price of printing.

Key Projects and Programs

The following key projects and programs from across the Douglas Shire area highlight the partnerships and programs that are currently underway and will be continued over the duration of this plan.

Siam Weed Management Program

Siam weed is recognised as one of the world's most invasive plants, capable of forming dense infestations that outcompete native vegetation, impact agricultural production and increase fire risk.



Goal: Locate, map and control all known infestations of Siam weed (*Chromolaena odorata*) within the Douglas Shire Council area, and implement management actions to prevent its establishment, spread and reproduction.

Performance Indicator:

Completion of annual surveys across the Shire, with all detected Siam weed infestations mapped and subject to appropriate control measures.

Strategic Actions:

- Conduct annual surveillance and monitoring programs to detect, map and assess Siam weed infestations throughout the Douglas Shire;
- Ensure all known infestations are treated using best-practice control methods in accordance with current Queensland Government guidelines;
- Encourage and support private landholders, community groups and relevant agencies to actively manage Siam weed on their properties and managed lands;
- Deliver public awareness and education programs targeting high-risk areas to improve community identification, reporting and management of Siam weed;
- Issue Property Biosecurity Management Plans and/or Biosecurity Orders to non-compliant landholders where required under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*;
- Maintain collaborative partnerships to support coordinated surveillance, control and compliance activities across the Shire;

Project Partners:

- Douglas Shire Council
- Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
- Biosecurity Queensland
- Traditional Owners
- Private landowners and community stakeholders.

Additional identification and control information is available from the Queensland DPI Siam weed fact sheet and invasive plant resources:

[Siam weed \(*Chromolaena odorata*\).pdf](#)

[Invasive plant and animal publications | Department of Primary Industries, Queensland](#)

Hiptage Eradication Program

Hiptage (*Hiptage benghalensis*) is a highly invasive environmental vine that threatens rainforest ecosystems by smothering native vegetation, restricting regeneration and forming dense infestations. It is considered a significant environmental weed in Far North Queensland, particularly within Wet Tropics rainforest areas.



Goal: In partnership with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, identify and map all infestations of Hiptage within the Douglas Shire and implement effective control measures with the long-term aim of eradicating Hiptage from the Douglas Shire Council area.

Performance Indicator

- Annual surveys completed across designated management areas;
- All known Hiptage infestations mapped and treated;
- No reproductive events (flowering or seeding) recorded within managed infestations.

Strategic Actions

- Conduct annual surveys to locate, map and monitor Hiptage infestations throughout the Douglas Shire;
- Ensure all identified infestations are controlled prior to flowering and seed set;
- Support and encourage private landholders, community groups and relevant agencies to undertake Hiptage control on their properties and managed lands;
- Deliver community awareness and education programs targeting landholders and high-risk areas to improve early detection and reporting;
- Facilitate collaboration between stakeholders to coordinate control activities and share best-practice management information;
- Identify and pursue funding opportunities to support survey, treatment, monitoring and community engagement programs.

Project Partners

- Douglas Shire Council

- Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
- Biosecurity Queensland
- Traditional Owners
- Private landowners and community stakeholders.

Further information is available from the Queensland Department of Primary Industries factsheet and invasive species resources: [Hiptage \(hiptage benghalensis\)](#)

Miconia Species (National Tropical Weeds Eradication Program)

Miconia species (*Miconia calvescens*, *M. nervosa* and *M. racemosa*) are highly invasive rainforest weeds capable of forming dense monocultures that displace native vegetation and threaten biodiversity values within the Wet Tropics region.



Goal: In partnership with the [National Tropical Weeds Eradication Program](#), locate, contain and control all Miconia infestations within the Douglas Shire, with the long-term objective of eradication.

Performance Indicator

- Surveys completed across identified management areas and high-risk habitats;
- All known Miconia infestations located, mapped and treated;
- No reproductive events (flowering or seeding) recorded within treated infestations;
- Ongoing monitoring undertaken to detect and treat emergent seedlings and regrowth.

Strategic Actions

- Participate in coordinated survey, monitoring and control programs with partner agencies;
- Ensure all identified infestations are treated prior to flowering and seed set;
- Undertake mapping, data collection and ongoing surveillance within priority areas;
- Assist and facilitate community awareness and education initiatives, including displays at local field days, workshops and engagement with landholders in high-risk areas;
- Promote early detection and reporting of suspected Miconia plants within the Shire.

Project Partners

- [National Tropical Weeds Eradication Program](#)
- Douglas Shire Council
- Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
- Traditional Owners

Further Information

Further information on identification, impacts and management of Miconia is available from the Queensland Department of Primary Industries factsheet:

[Miconia Factsheet – Queensland DPI](#)

Feral Pig Management Program

Feral pigs (*Sus scrofa*) are one of Queensland's most destructive invasive pest animals. They damage agricultural land, waterways, native vegetation and cultural heritage sites through rooting, wallowing

and predation. Feral pigs also spread weeds and diseases, reduce water quality, prey on native fauna and can impact livestock production and community amenity. Effective management requires an integrated approach involving trapping, baiting, monitoring, habitat management and cooperation between landholders and agencies.



Goal: To implement a coordinated, Shire-wide feral pig management program that minimises the environmental, social, cultural and economic impacts of feral pigs across Douglas Shire.

Performance Indicator:

- Reduction in complaints and reports relating to feral pig activity and damage within Douglas Shire.
- Reduction in evidence of feral pig impacts on environmental, agricultural and community assets.
- Increased participation of landholders and stakeholders in coordinated control programs.

Strategic Actions

- Coordinate and implement an effective feral pig trapping and control program across Douglas Shire.
- Support and encourage landholders, Traditional Owners and relevant agencies to undertake coordinated feral pig management on their properties and managed lands.
- Undertake monitoring and mapping of feral pig populations, activity and impacts to inform control priorities and evaluate program effectiveness.
- Provide a 1080 baiting service where appropriate and in accordance with legislative and best practice requirements.
- Provide education, technical advice and community awareness regarding best management practices for feral pig control.
- Build partnerships with Traditional Owners to support co-design and co-management approaches to biosecurity and land management activities.

Project Partners

- Douglas Shire Council
- Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
- Traditional Owners
- Private landholders
- Community groups and local stakeholders

Additional information on feral pig impacts and best practice management is available from the Queensland Government Department of Primary Industries: [Queensland DPI – Feral Pig Information](#)

Desired Outcomes Framework

The desired outcomes proposed for this plan are consistent with those of the [Queensland Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy 2025–2030 - Invasive plants and animals](#), and the [Biosecurity Act 2014](#).

They form a coordinated framework to prevent, reduce, and manage invasive species impacts across the Douglas Shire landscape.

Desired Outcome	Objective	Key Actions
1. Prevention & Preparedness	Prevent introduction, establishment and spread of invasive species	Weed hygiene protocols, surveillance, rapid response
2. Effective Management Approaches	Reduce impacts of invasive plants and animals	Integrated control programs, coordinated treatment, prioritisation mapping
3. Strategic Planning	Risk-based collaborative planning	Risk mapping, priority species listing, cross-agency coordination
4. Communication, Engagement & Training	Build community capability and awareness	Education campaigns, workshops, field days, training programs
5. Commitment, Roles & Responsibilities	Strengthen coordinated landscape-scale action	Partnership agreements, compliance support, coordinated programs
6. Monitoring & Assessment	Standardised monitoring and reporting	Baseline surveys, GIS tracking, annual reporting, audits

Desired Outcome 1 - Prevention and Preparedness*Objective- "Prevent the introduction, establishment and spread of invasive plants and animals".*

Strategic Actions	By Whom	Timeframe	Success Indicator
Enforce legislative provisions and implement compliance strategies for high-priority potentially invasive plants and animals.	DSC & DPI	Ongoing	Annual surveillance and compliance program implemented for priority invasive biosecurity matter across the Shire. Increase in landholder awareness and compliance with General Biosecurity Obligations (GBO). Number of inspections, compliance actions and follow-up activities reported annually.
Encourage industry-driven approaches to improve prevention, eradication and control.	DSC, Industry groups, DPI,	Ongoing	Weed hygiene practices promoted and adopted across high-risk industries. Increased use of weed hygiene declarations for harvesting machinery, construction plant and fodder movement. Biosecurity awareness incorporated into industry operations and procurement processes.
Encourage community-driven approaches to improve early detection, eradication and control methods	DPI, DSC, NRM organisations, industry groups	Ongoing	Community education and awareness activities delivered annually. Increased participation in local invasive species programs and reporting networks. Improved community knowledge of reporting pathways and best practice management techniques
Support and promote best practice prevention of spread of invasive plants and animals.	DSC & DPI	Ongoing	Coordinated cross-tenure management activities supported annually. Increased participation of landholders in local biosecurity coordination meetings and field activities. Best-practice management information distributed through extension activities and partnerships.
Develop and maintain biosecurity emergency preparedness based on quality information, training and administration systems.	DSC & DPI	By 2028	A Douglas Shire Biosecurity Emergency Response Plan developed and endorsed. Relevant staff and stakeholders trained in emergency response procedures. Emergency response protocols reviewed and tested periodically.
Develop and implement risk-based eradication, mitigation and control plans for specific invasive plants and animals.	All Stakeholders	By 2028	Emerging invasive biosecurity risks identified through monitoring and surveillance activities. Risk assessments undertaken for priority invasive species. Prevention, eradication or mitigation measures implemented for identified high-risk species. Progress against priority control programs reported biannually.

Desired Outcome 2 - Effective Management Approaches

Objective – “Use management approaches that effectively reduce the impacts of invasive plants and animals”.

Strategic Action	By Whom	Timeframe	Success Indicator
Develop best practice approaches for the management of invasive plants and animals.	Industry groups, DPI, research providers, DSC	Short–Medium Term (1–3 years)	Best practice management guidelines developed or updated for priority invasive species in Douglas Shire. Number of collaborative projects established with research providers and industry groups. Evidence-based management protocols adopted by Council and partner agencies. Priority species management plans reviewed annually.
Extend (promote) best practice approaches.	DSC, DPI & FNQROC	Ongoing	Number of landholders, community groups and stakeholders engaged through workshops, field days and extension activities. Increase in distribution of educational materials and online resources. Best practice information incorporated into Council communications and regional partnerships.
Adopt best practice approaches.	All Stakeholders	Ongoing	Increased uptake of approved best practice management techniques by landholders and operational staff. Compliance with legislative biosecurity obligations improved. Demonstrated reduction in spread or density of priority invasive species at managed sites. Number of stakeholder properties implementing biosecurity management plans.
Develop control programs that include input from land managers and are consistent with sustainable management practices.	DSC, land managers, Traditional Owners, industry groups, community organisations	Medium Term (2–5 years)	Collaborative control programs established for identified priority species and high-risk areas. Stakeholder participation documented in planning and implementation processes. Control activities incorporate environmental, cultural and economic sustainability considerations. Monitoring demonstrates improved management outcomes across targeted areas.

Strengthen research capacity, including leveraging partnerships and increasing resources.	DPI, research institutions, DSC, universities, industry partners, State Oversight Group, FNQROC	Medium–Long Term (3–5 years)	Increased number of research partnerships and externally funded projects. Additional resources secured for invasive species research and management. Research priorities identified and aligned with regional biosecurity risks. Improved data collection, monitoring and reporting systems established. Direction provided and research needs identified to the State Oversight Group through regional representation. Support Douglas Shires investment in the Land Protection Fund.
Enhance control techniques through continued research, development and extension that informs best practice management.	DPI, research providers, DSC, industry groups	Ongoing	New or improved control techniques trialled and evaluated within Douglas Shire. Research findings translated into operational guidelines and extension materials. Increased effectiveness and efficiency of invasive species management programs. Reduction in treatment costs, reinfestation rates or environmental impacts over time.

Desired Outcome 3- Strategic Planning

Objective- “Develop strategic plans for managing invasive plants and animals in collaboration with stakeholders and using a risk-based approach”

Strategic Action	By Whom	Timeframe	Success Indicator
Develop local government area biosecurity plans in collaboration with the community, state land managers and regional natural resource management organisations (including input from regional natural resource management plans).	DSC, DPI, FNQROC, Terrain NRM, Traditional Owners, community stakeholders	Short–Medium Term (1–3 years)	Douglas Shire Biosecurity Plan reviewed and endorsed by Council and key stakeholders. Evidence of community and stakeholder consultation undertaken. Alignment demonstrated with regional NRM priorities and Queensland Biosecurity Strategy. Annual implementation and review process established. Align Local Laws consideration of locally declared pests with the DSBP. Assess and respond in a timely way to new biosecurity risks which emerge in the DSC area
Determine priorities and develop statewide and regional strategic plans for invasive plants and animals and specific practices.	DSC, DPI, FNQROC, Terrain NRM, QPWS	Medium Term (2–4 years)	Priority invasive species and high-risk pathways identified through risk assessment. Regional priority actions incorporated into Douglas Shire operational planning. Cross-agency coordination framework established. Regional invasive species management priorities reviewed biannually.

Develop biosecurity plans for government-controlled lands that complement local government plans.	State agencies, QPWS, Department of Resources, Transport and adjoining local governments, Traditional Owners, community stakeholders	Medium Term (2–5 years)	Biosecurity management plans completed for key government-controlled lands. Consistent pest management objectives adopted across adjoining tenures. Coordinated treatment programs implemented across tenure boundaries. Monitoring and compliance reporting framework established.
Align and incorporate biosecurity considerations into disaster management, land use planning, operational works and development processes.	DSC, LDMG, FNQROC	Medium Term (2–5 years)	Biosecurity Risk Management Plans in place for relevant areas of council operational works and disaster management operations. Up to date consideration of biosecurity risk management in land use planning and development processes.

Desired Outcome 4 - Communication, Engagement and Training

Objective – “Communicate and engage with stakeholders so they understand their role and have the skills and knowledge to manage invasive plants and animals”

Strategic Action	By Whom	Timeframe	Success Indicator
Publicise and provide information on invasive plants and animals and the general biosecurity obligation to all relevant stakeholders and the wider community.	DSC	Ongoing	Increased community awareness demonstrated through annual community engagement activities, website and social media analytics, distribution of educational materials, and increased reporting of invasive species by residents and landholders

Effective use of citizen science initiatives to enhance management efforts.	DSC, community groups, landholders, schools, research organisations	Medium term (1–3 years) and ongoing	Increased participation in citizen science programs, improved invasive species data collection and mapping, and integration of community-generated data into management and response activities.
Improve communication networks at all levels to encourage best practice and discourage actions that contribute to or maintain invasive plant and animal impacts.	All Stakeholders	Ongoing	Establishment and regular use of coordinated communication channels and partnerships, increased stakeholder collaboration, adoption of best-practice management approaches, and reduction in activities contributing to invasive species spread.
Promote and facilitate high-quality training in the management of invasive plants and animals.	DSC, DPI	Annual and ongoing	Delivery of regular training workshops and field demonstrations, increased number of trained stakeholders and volunteers, improved compliance with biosecurity obligations, and positive participant feedback demonstrating improved knowledge and capability.

Desired Outcome 5- Commitment, Roles and Responsibilities

Objective- “Foster stakeholder commitment to coordinated, landscape- scale management programs and initiatives”

Strategic Action	By Whom	Timeframe	Success Indicator
Develop the knowledge, capacity and commitment of key stakeholders to enable active and constructive participation in invasive plant and animal management programs.	Stakeholders, DSC, QPWS, DPI	Biannual	Biannual stakeholder meetings, workshops and information sessions delivered. Increased participation of landholders, community groups and industry representatives in biosecurity programs. Regular distribution of biosecurity updates, educational materials and management guidelines. Continued and strengthened working partnerships demonstrated through collaborative projects and joint activities.

Encourage all land managers, including government agencies, to adopt a collaborative landscape-scale approach to invasive plant and animal management.	DSC, DPI, QPWS & FNQROC	Ongoing / As required	Increased number of coordinated cross-tenure and cross-boundary management programs. Regional collaboration agreements, partnerships or joint initiatives established and maintained. Evidence of shared planning, data exchange and coordinated control activities across the region. Improved consistency in invasive species management practices across participating land managers.
Seek alternative investment opportunities (private sector, industry and grant funding) for projects addressing management of invasive plants and animals.	DSC, DPI & FNQROC	Ongoing	Number and value of external funding opportunities identified and pursued annually. Increase in co-funded or externally funded invasive species management projects. Additional resources secured to support priority biosecurity actions.

Desired Outcome 6 - Monitoring and Assessment

Objective – “Develop and use standardised methods to monitor, report on and assess the status and effectiveness of invasive plant and animal management actions undertaken”

Strategic Action	By Whom	Timeframe	Success Indicator
Develop and promote standardised protocols for data collection and reporting to support integration of invasive plant and animal monitoring systems across agencies, jurisdictions and citizen science programs.	DSC	Short term (1–2 years)	Draft protocols developed and published on the DSC website for stakeholder consultation. Submissions received and reviewed. Improved collaboration between Council, regional partners, industry, Traditional Owners and community groups.
Implement standardised monitoring protocols to ensure collected data is consistent, comparable and suitable	DSC, FNQROC, Stakeholders	Ongoing	Monitoring protocols adopted and applied across DSC programs. Annual review completed and amendments incorporated where required.

for regional and state data sharing systems.			
Develop and establish coordinated monitoring and reporting programs for priority invasive plant and animal species within the Douglas Shire.	DSC	Medium term (2–4 years)	Monitoring and reporting program established for priority species. Adopted Douglas Shire Biosecurity Plan and associated action plans published on the DSC website with links to FNQROC resources and DAF fact sheets.
Quantify and improve understanding of the environmental, social and economic impacts of significant invasive plants and animals through research, surveillance and collaborative projects to determine acceptable risk levels and identify mitigation strategies.	All Stakeholders	Ongoing	Research findings and extension materials developed and distributed through stakeholder networks, workshops and online platforms. Evidence used to inform management priorities and investment decisions.
Undertake regular risk assessments and reviews to update priority invasive species and management responses based on emerging threats, monitoring data and regional trends.	DSC, DPI	Ongoing	Priority species list reviewed at least every two years. Risk assessment outcomes documented and incorporated into updated action plans and operational programs.
Monitor implementation of the Douglas Shire Biosecurity Plan and evaluate progress against strategic objectives.	DSC	Every 2 years	Formal implementation review completed and reported to Council and stakeholders. Progress against actions and success indicators documented. Adaptive management improvements identified and incorporated into future revisions.

Prioritisation of Biosecurity Matter in the Douglas Shire Area

The Douglas Shire supports a diverse range of plant and animal pest species that thrive in its tropical environment. To ensure these pests are managed in a structured and systematic manner, species are prioritised through a formal assessment process. This process is undertaken by subject matter experts and members of the Douglas Shire Council Biosecurity Working Group (DSCBWG), and considers factors including pest abundance and distribution, potential for spread, and associated economic, social, and environmental impacts. This assessment was conducted on 30th September 2026 at the Douglas Shire Biosecurity Working Group meeting. Following this process, 18 plant species and 4 animal species were identified as priorities for ongoing control and management strategies for the duration of this Plan.

(Table 1) Invasive Plants with Biosecurity Action Plans

Common name	Scientific name	Biosecurity act category	Other programs
Miconia	<i>Miconia spp.</i>	2,3,4,5	NTWEP
Hiptage	<i>Hiptage benghalensis</i>	3	
Pond Apple	<i>Annona glabra</i>	3	
Siam weed	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>	3	
Gamba grass	<i>Andropogon gayanus</i>	3	
Amazon frogbit	<i>Hydrocharis laevigata</i> , (syn. <i>Limnobium laevigatum</i>)	3,5	
Mexican bean tree	<i>Cecropia spp.</i>	2,3,4,5	DPI
Maderia vine	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	3	
Limnocharis	<i>Limnocharis flava</i>	2,3,4,5	NTWEP
Ivy Gourd	<i>Coccinia grandis</i>	3,5	
Water Hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	3	
Kudzu Vine	<i>Pueraria montana, var lobata</i>	3	
Turbina	<i>Turbina corymbosa</i>	Locally Declared	
Leucaena	<i>Leucaena leucocephala and</i> <i>Leucaena hybrids varieties</i>	Locally Declared	
Cat's claw creeper	<i>Macfadyena unguis-cati</i>	3	
Salvinia / Water fern	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	3	
Water Lettuce	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	3	
Thunbergia	<i>Thunbergia grandiflora</i>	3	

(Table 2) Invasive Pest Animals with Biosecurity Action Plans

Common name	Scientific name	Biosecurity act category	Other programs
Electric Ants	<i>Wasmannia auropunctata</i>	1,3	NEAEP/DPI
Feral pigs	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	3,4,6	
Wild Dog (other than a domestic dog)	<i>Canis familiaris</i>	3,4,6	
Dingo	<i>Canis familiaris</i>	3,4,5,6	

The 4 identified priority pest species are not exhaustive of all biosecurity risks within the region, and additional pest species may also require control or management actions as circumstances necessitate. A comprehensive list of pest species declared under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* known to occur within the Douglas Shire Council (DSC) Local Government Area, together with Alert species (being species not currently present within the area but known to occur in nearby regions where suitable habitat exists), is provided in [Appendix 2](#). This Appendix may include, but is not limited to, the priority pest species identified above.

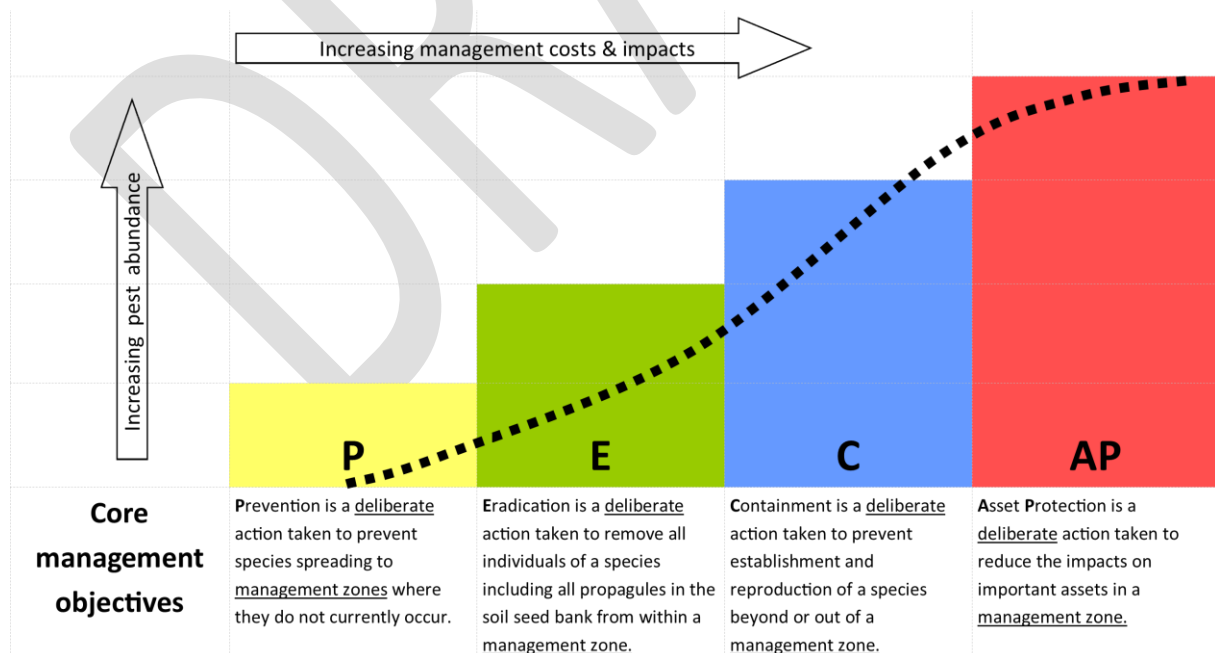
Invasive plant and animal fact sheets for the species list can be found at:

[Invasive plant and animal fact sheets | Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Queensland \(daf.qld.gov.au\)](#) [Other invasive plants | Business Queensland](#)

Management objectives

The action plans use catchment-based management zones to identify the location-specific management actions required for each priority pest plant and animal. The management zones are based on the pest management concept of the 'invasion curve'. The invasion curve describes how as a biosecurity issue becomes more abundant over time the management options and strategies available to manage it or its impacts also change. At each stage of the curve, as the area occupied by the pest or weed increases, the implied impact and required resources to respond also increase.

The key message is that prevention and early intervention are the most cost-effective (proactive) actions we can take. When these actions are not successful, we need to carefully consider the most strategic (reactive) management approaches to ensure local impacts and potential spread to new areas is reduced.



The invasion curve concept describes the management objectives in each of the management zones in the biosecurity action plan.

Action Plans for Control of Priority Plant Pest and Animal Species

Action plans have been developed for priority weeds and pest animals which occur in the Douglas Shire Council region. The action plans detail specific requirements and strategies for management in addition to what is required of all people under the general biosecurity obligation. The action plans outline management objectives based on established principles of pest management and are designed to assist all stakeholders to:

- Understand the biology and distribution of priority pest plant and animals.
- Understand biosecurity obligations and legal requirements.
- Plan and coordinate pest management activities with neighbouring properties by targeting common management objectives and goals within relevant geographic areas.

There are often a variety of methods to control pests and ways by which each pest species can be spread. These are summarised in icons on each action plan and are detailed below

Details: a brief description of the pest, its distribution, impacts and key projects underway.

Management calendar
Control methods and methods of spread : recommended methods of control and primary methods of spread. See plan for icon descriptions. peak flowering and fruiting times and when types of control activities are recommended.

Legislated requirements
under the *Biosecurity Act* or *Local laws*.

Biosecurity obligations:
what do you need to do to meet your obligations within each zone.

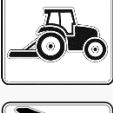
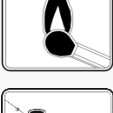
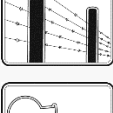
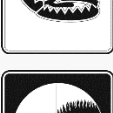
Management objectives and actions: designated management zones and distribution map.

Outline of the material contained within biosecurity action plans for priority species

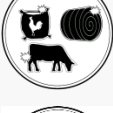
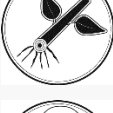
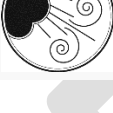
Methods of Controlling Biosecurity Matter

There are numerous methods to control pests and ways by which each pest species can be spread.

Key to control methods	
	Frill or stem injection Herbicide can be applied to woody weeds and trees via cuts or frills made close to the ground around the trunk or stem. This approach is best used when it is ok to leave the dead plant standing.
	Basal bark Herbicide can be applied to woody weeds or vines with a low-pressure spray (which usually includes diesel or synthetic oil) to the lower stem. This method is not suited to use near or in water ways.
	Cut stump Many vines, trees and woody weeds can be controlled by applying herbicide to the freshly cut stem. The application is made quickly with a dabber or spray before the plants vascular tissue closes over.
	Chop or grub Many weeds can be selectively managed manually by grubbing or chopping. This approach is useful for reducing the competition from weeds while native vegetation or desirable plants re-establish.

	Drill/stem injection	Herbicide can be applied as a measured dose into evenly spaced, downward-facing holes drilled near the base of each stem. Cordless or petrol- powered drills are usually used due to their portability.
	Best practice grazing	Carefully managing stocking rates will keep healthy groundcover which provides competition for many weeds. Grazing can also be used in some situations to knock weeds down prior to control.
	Hand removal	Many weeds can be removed manually, particularly when they are at a seedling stage. Hand weeding is very selective and can be used where as little as possible disturbance is required.
	Foliar spray	Most weeds can be controlled at various life stages by applying herbicide via a spray. Sprays applicators can be low or high pressure and are suited to covering larger areas or dense infestations.
	Biocontrol	The release of carefully selected natural pests or diseases of plants and animals can control them, or to interrupt their reproduction. Biocontrol is most effective when integrated with other control tools.
	Slashing	Slashing can often be used to reduce the growth or reproduction of many weeds and is particularly useful before other control actions. Timing is critical in order to prevent the spread of seeds or fragments.
	Mechanical removal	Large scale infestations may require mechanical removal or control. Machinery can also be used to clean up after control activities but will usually require follow-up to control and prevention work.
	Fire	A well planned and timed fire can be a very effective management tool which can reduce or stimulate dormant seeds or control living plants. It is most suited to fire adapted vegetation types.
	Exclusion fencing	There are a wide range of fencing materials and designs to protect domestic and agricultural assets. Fencing can also be used manage grazing pressure or access to reduce weed or disease spread.
	Pesticide	Pesticides are used in certain situations to control anything from ants to wild dogs. There are strict usage and permitting requirements for many pesticides. They can be an effective tool over large areas.
	Trapping	Trapping is widely used for feral pigs but can also be used to control wild dogs, feral cats and feral deer. Trapping is labour intensive but can very target specific when conducted using best practice tools.
	Shooting	Shooting or hunting is sometimes used to control individual animals. It is less usually less effective and even disruptive to other control strategies, but is a useful tool to supplement trapping and baiting.

Modes of Spread for Biosecurity Matter

Key to modes spread		
	Droppings	Many plants have evolved to use animals to spread seeds by producing a tasty fruit. Seeds are eaten along with the flesh of the fruit and can be dispersed in droppings up to kilometres away.
	Illegal dumping	Deliberate or accidental spread of many plants can occur when green waste is not disposed of responsibly. Areas of bushland, creeks and farmland often suffer impacts from dumped garden plants.
	Machinery and vehicles	Slashers and earthworks equipment are most commonly blamed, for moving pests, but cars, 4wds, motorcycles, boats and caravans are all capable of moving pest plants and animals great distances.
	People and animals	Some plants have seeds adapted to stick to and hitch a ride on passing animals and can move long distances attached to animals fur or peoples clothing.
	Stock, raw materials & produce	Raw materials and produce including hay, animal feed, seed mixes and even livestock can contain or carry weed seed or other biosecurity risks like invasive ants, pathogens or diseases.
	Vegetative	Many plants can spread from cuttings, stem or root fragments. For some species this is their primary means of reproduction but for others it is in addition to producing seeds or spores.
	Water	Many aquatic plants rely entirely on water to spread their seeds. Others have seeds or fragments which can float for long distances and move during regular flows or on flood events.
	Wind	Many plants have seeds which are lightweight with attachments to help them glide or float on the air or in the wind. The lightweight seeds can also get caught on vehicles and clothing.

Biosecurity Action Plans

The following Biosecurity Action Plans provide species-specific guidance for the management of priority invasive plants and animals within the Douglas Shire. Each Action Plan identifies the species' distribution and impacts, management recommendations, relevant biosecurity requirements and legal obligations, and reasonable and practical measures that landholders and land managers can undertake to meet their General Biosecurity Obligation.

ACTION PLAN: *Miconia* (*Miconia calvenscens*, *M. nervosa*)

Details

Description: Small tree (up to 15 m) with large leaves up to 70 cm long. The underside of the leaves is a distinct, deep iridescent purple. Produces clusters of small white flowers followed by red/purple berries. *M. nervosa* has distinctive pointed leaves with prominent veins with a red/maroon hue.

Distribution: Current incursions occur in Whyanbeel Valley and Mossman.

Impacts: *Miconia* produces hundreds of small berries every year which are attractive to birds and are spread long distances. It forms dense thickets in rainforest understoreys, potentially replacing native plants and affecting wildlife populations.

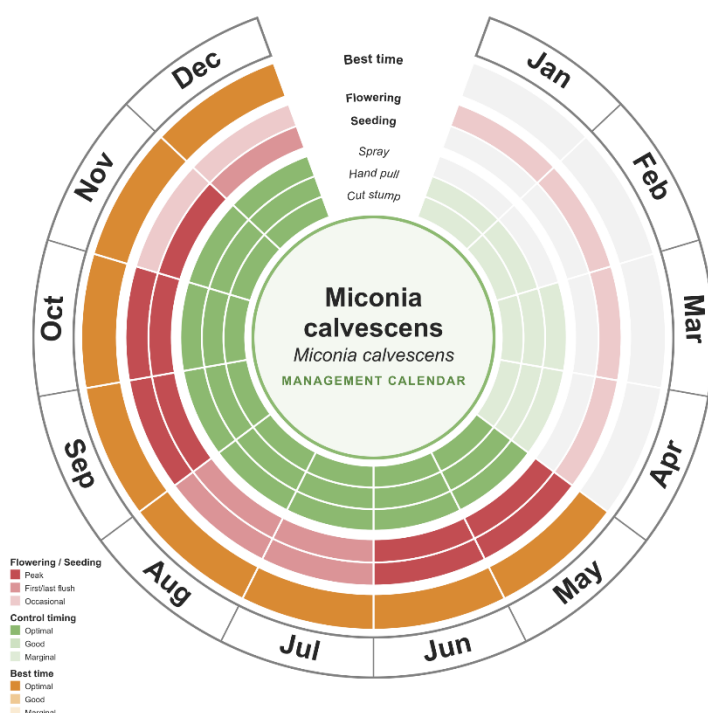


Management recommendations

Key projects: A National eradication program is underway on all known infestations. Annual surveys are conducted to monitor all known infestations and to ensure no new outbreaks have gone undetected. All *Miconia* species must be reported within 24 hours to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23

Control

Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Miconia (*Miconia calvescens*, *M. nervosa*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 2, 3, 4, 5 – MUST BE REPORTED, DO NOT DISTRIBUTE, DO NOT MOVE, DO NOT KEEP

Under the Act Miconia must not be kept, moved or given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply. Miconia must be reported within 24 hours to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.

Do not disturb or remove soil and plant material from a known infestation location, even if no plants are visible, until Biosecurity Queensland are consulted on 13 25 23.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with Miconia under their control.

In the prevention zone:

All persons are required to report plants they think may be Miconia within 24 hours to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.

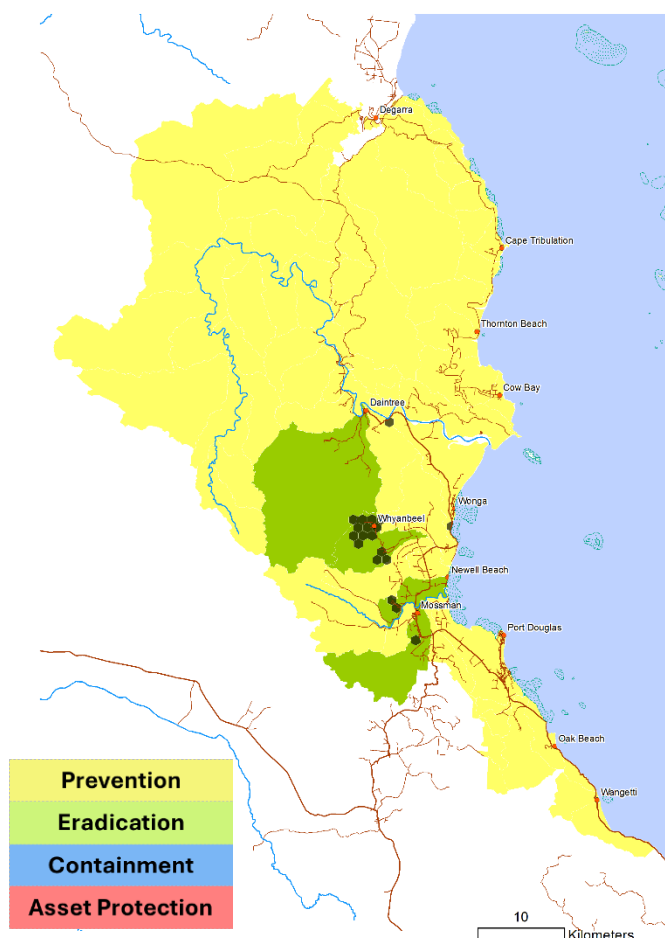
In the eradication zone:

All persons are required to report plants they think may be Miconia within 24 hours to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.

If you have a known infestation on your property, you can assist the survey and control team by maintaining property access points and tracks.

Do not disturb or remove soil and plant material from a known infestation location, even if no plants are visible, until Biosecurity Queensland are consulted on 13 25 23.

You are responsible to ensure materials or products leaving your property are free from Miconia seed or plant material if your property has a known infestation location.



ACTION PLAN: Hiptage (*Hiptage benghalensis*)

Details

Description: A perennial vine growing to the canopy often more than 15m tall. One to three seeds are contained in a helicopter like ('samara') which has 3 papery wings 2-5cm long that float on wind. Flowers are scented and cream coloured generally forming outside of the wet season.

Distribution: Only known to occur in the Mossman River catchment within Far North Queensland. The core infestation is located on Butchers Hill in Tara Hills. Outlier infestations occur in the Mossman Gorge and South Mossman River areas.

Impacts: Hiptage forms dense vine towers which smother native vegetation along banks of creeks and rivers. It invades rainforests and seasonally dry, lowland closed forests. Hiptage poses a significant threat to Mossman Gorge and the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.



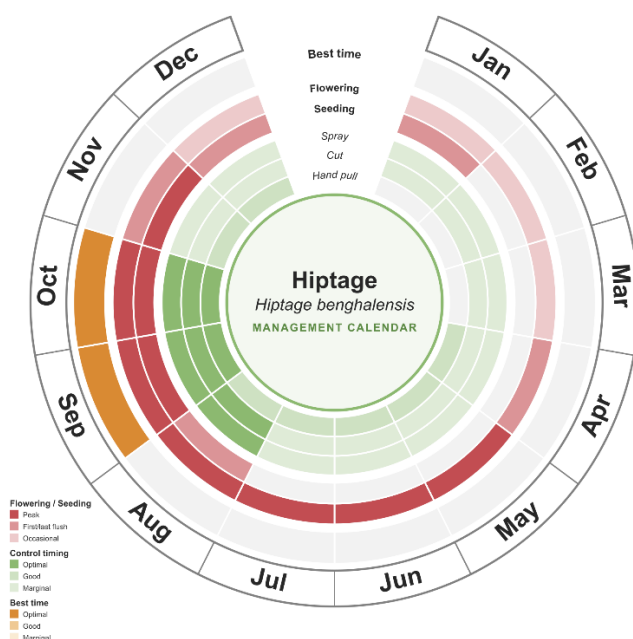
Management recommendations

Key projects: Target of a coordinated eradication program across all known sites. Annual surveys are conducted to monitor all known infestations to ensure no new outbreaks have gone undetected. Aerial surveys are conducted annually to detect flowering plants in the rainforest canopy. Each site is then visited on foot to treat, and the proximity of detected plants is then surveyed for additional plants.

Control



Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Hiptage (*Hiptage benghalensis*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3 – DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Under the Act Hiptage must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.

Under the Biosecurity Regulation 2016 Hiptage may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely. Contact DSC on 07 4099 9444.
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with Hiptage under their control.

In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

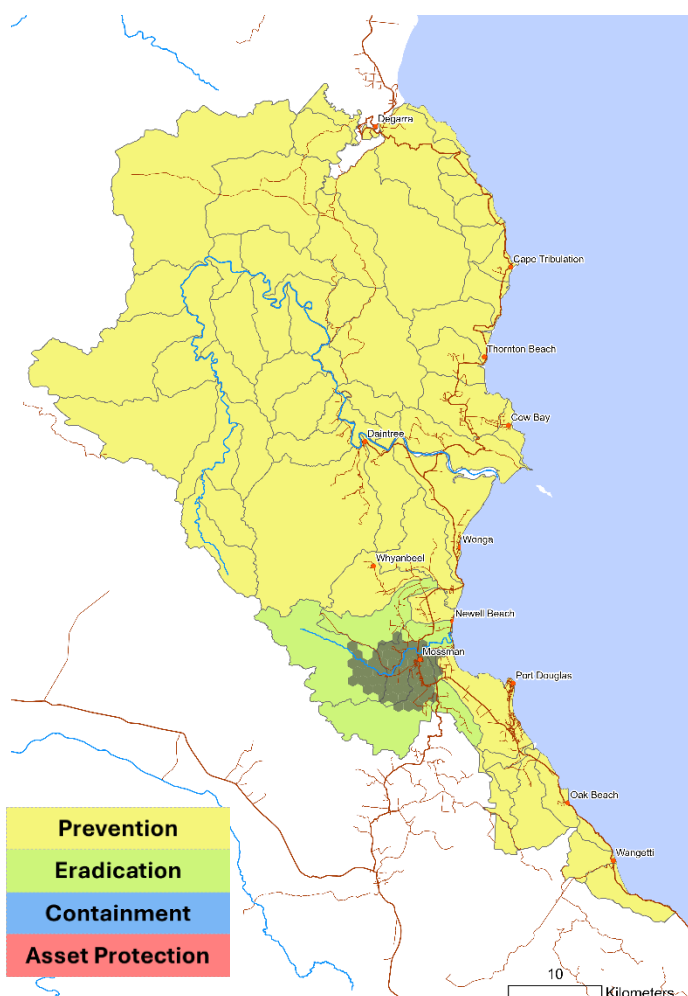
To prevent spread to new locations or introduction from known infestations ensure machinery, vehicles and raw materials are free from soil which may contain seed.

In the eradication zone:

Landowner's or occupiers can the program by maintaining easy access to infestations and by assisting with control activities.

You are required to control all identified Hiptage plants on your property where practical to do so.

You are responsible to ensure materials or products leaving your property are free from Hiptage seed or plant material. Contact DSC to discuss disposal and weed hygiene requirements for your situation on 07 4099 9444.



ACTION PLAN: Pond apple (*Annona glabra*)

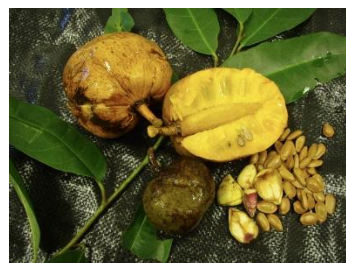
Details

Description: Pond apple is a tall semi-deciduous shrub or tree reaching around 15m but usually 3-6 m. Pond apple is most likely to occur in wetlands and along waterways, but it may occur along beaches as well. Leaves are lighter below than above and have a green apple scent when crushed. The Large fruit is like a custard apple and are filled with floating seeds similar in size and shape to a pumpkin seed.



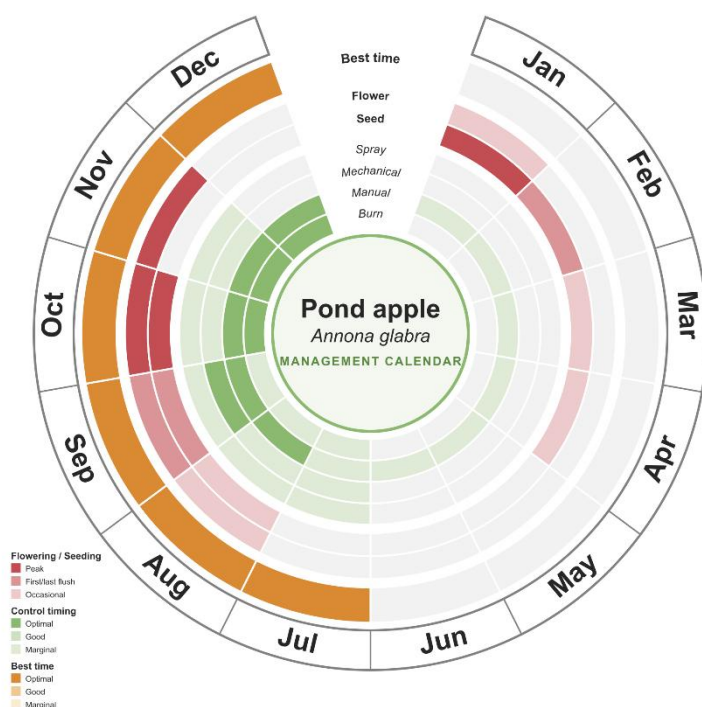
Distribution: Core infestations occur in the Daintree River and Baileys Creek areas. Outlier infestations occur in the Mossman River, Port Douglas and have been detected as far north as Cowie Beach. Seeds can float on river and ocean currents.

Impacts: Pond apple is a highly invasive tree/shrub that can colonise and take over a wide range of wetland habitats. It forms dense thickets that exclude most native ground and shrub layer plants and prevents regeneration of trees.



Management recommendations

Key projects: The upper Daintree River and Mossman River are the target of top-down management to remove upstream sources above tidal areas. Occasional plants occur in the Port Douglas and Four Mile Beach and are removed when detected.



Control



Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Pond apple (*Annona glabra*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3 – DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Under the Act pond apple must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.

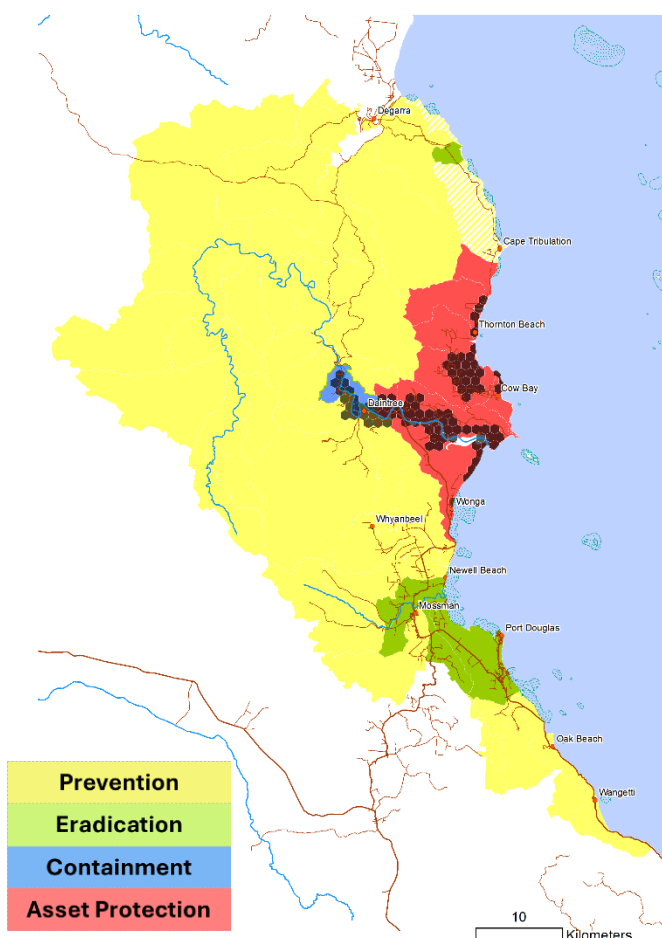
Under the Biosecurity Regulation 2016 pond apple may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely. Contact DSC on 07 4099 9444.
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with pond apple under their control.



In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

In the eradication zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

Landowner's or occupiers can assist DSC by maintaining easy access to infestations and by assisting with control activities.

You are required to control all identified pond apple plants on your property where practical to do so.

In the asset protection zone:

Landowner's or occupiers can assist DSC by maintaining easy access to infestations and by assisting with control activities.

Manage risk of spread from your property and protect priority assets using best practice methods to control infestations where practical to do so.

You are responsible to ensure materials or products leaving your property are free from pond apple seed or plant material.

ACTION PLAN: Siam weed (*Chromolaena odorata*)

Details

Description: A scrambling woody shrub to 3 metres (sometimes higher as a scrambling climber) with distinctive forked leaf venation and purple flush on new leaves. Siam produces clusters of mauve-white flowers in May-June and October.

Distribution: Siam weed is primarily localised around Killaloe and Mossman, with occasional occurrences in the Mowbray Valley and McCallister Range to the south. Small incursions have also been identified in the Upper Daintree River area. Continued surveillance and targeted control are important to limit further spread from these established and emerging locations.

Impacts: Siam weed can form dense thickets and outcompete native species and pasture in both disturbed and undisturbed sites. It forms dense infestations which smother vegetation and actively invades pastures and crops.



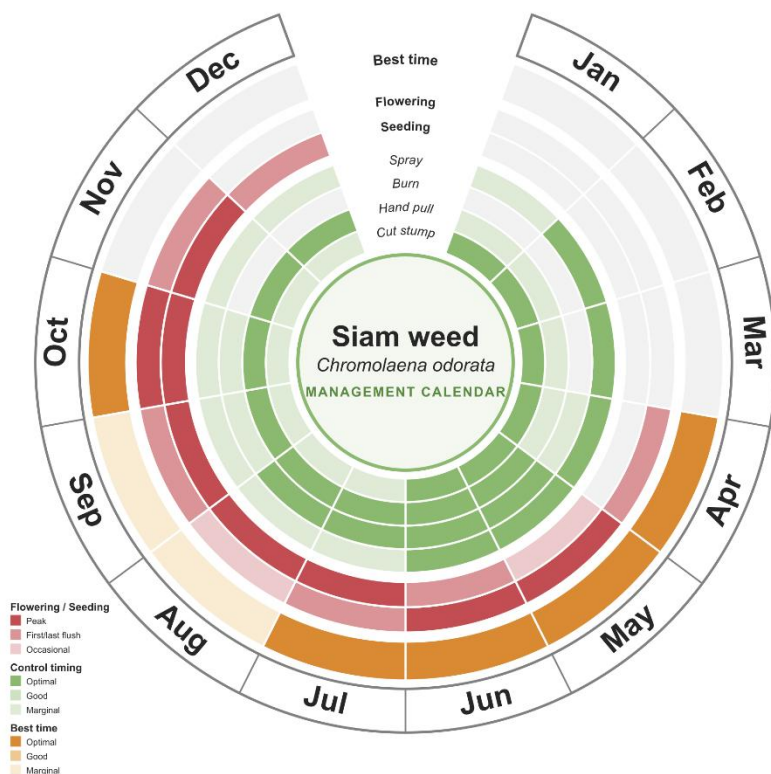
Management recommendations

Key projects: Siam weed remains a long-term management target in the Douglas Shire area. For larger infestations Douglas Shire Council will work with landholders to develop a property biosecurity plan.

Control



Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Siam weed (*Chromolaena odorata*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Under the Act Siam weed must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.

Under the Regulation Siam weed may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely (contact DSC 40999444),
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with Siam weed under their control.

In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

When practical ensure agricultural and raw materials are sourced from a reliable supplier and from a Siam weed free area.

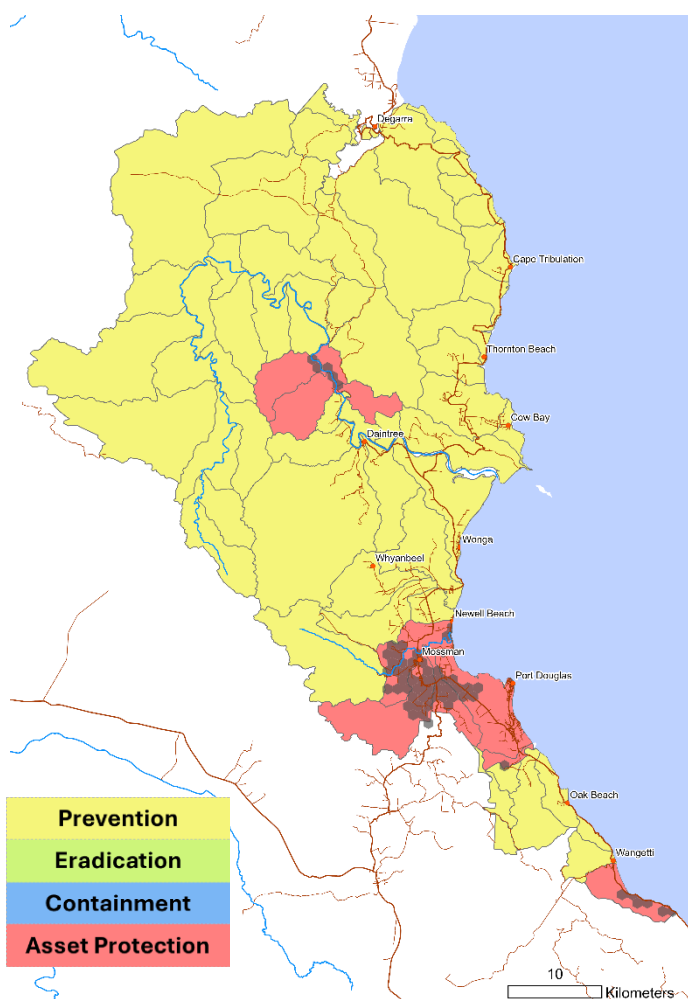
In the asset protection zone:

Undertake control works on known infestations in April prior to peak flowering period in May-June.

Follow up control works during September to ensure any missed plants are controlled before they can produce seed.

Do not disturb or remove soil and plant material from a known infestation location, even if no plants are visible.

You are responsible for ensuring machinery and vehicles avoid known infestation areas or are appropriately washed down prior to leaving your property.



ACTION PLAN: Gamba grass (*Andropogon gayanus*)

Details

Description: A robust, upright perennial grass that grows to 4m with distinctive plumed seed heads. Gamba grass forms thick and strong tussocks that remain upright even when fully cured in the dry season.

Distribution: Gamba grass is currently restricted to isolated occurrences in the Finlayvale, Santacatterina and Killaloe area. Gamba grass is occurring in dense infestations in the greater Mareeba area.

Impacts: Gamba grass was planted as tropical pasture but has escaped from intensively managed grazing systems. It outcompetes native pastures and fuels intense fires. Late season gamba grass fires are very difficult to manage and pose a significant threat to life and property.

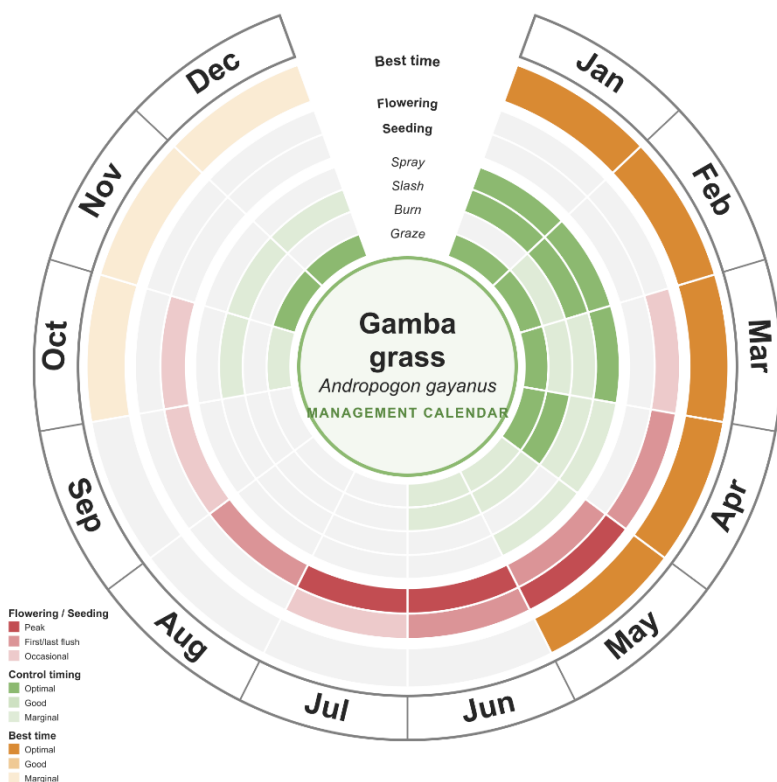
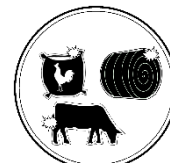


Management recommendations

Key projects: A monitoring and control program is in place on to eradicate gamba grass from all known sites within the Douglas Shire.

Control

Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Gamba grass (*Andropogon gayanus*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Under the Act gamba grass must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.

Under the Regulation gamba grass may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely (contact DSC 40999444),
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with gamba grass under their control.



In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

Wherever practical ensure agricultural and raw materials are sourced from a reliable supplier and are from a gamba free area.

If introducing new stock spell in a holding paddock for at least 7 days before releasing into property.

In the eradication zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

You are required to control all identified gamba grass plants on your property.

Do not disturb or remove soil and plant material from a known infestation location, even if no plants are visible.

You are responsible for ensuring machinery and vehicles avoid known infestation areas or undertake appropriate wash down prior to leaving site.

Do not sell, cart, introduce or transport contaminated hay, silage or livestock.
If introducing new stock spell in a holding paddock for at least 7 days before releasing into property.

ACTION PLAN: Amazon frogbit (*Hydrocharis laevigata* syn. *Limnobium laevigatum*)

Details

Description: Frogbit are a floating, mat-forming aquatic plant with dangling roots and glossy semi-circular leaves which are spongy underneath. As the leaves mature, they are held more upright on swollen stems. Mature plants may reach up to 50cm tall. Flowers are small, white and form a fleshy berry-like capsule which is usually held under the water or in the mud. The regulation also includes the closely related frogbit (*Hydrocharis dubia*), all other *Hydrocharis* species in Queensland are prohibited.



Distribution: Amazon frogbit was initially detected in Granite Creek and has subsequently entered the Barron River due to spread on flood waters. It is not currently known to occur in the gulf watersheds but may be in use in home aquariums or traded on social media.

Impacts: Amazon frogbit is a floating aquatic weed that can smother and choke waterways. It grows in still or slow-moving water and can rapidly expand to cover the entire water surface with a thick mat of vegetation. The dense mat shades out any submerged plant life and impedes oxygen exchange impacting fish and aquatic organisms.



Management recommendations

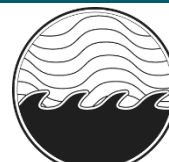
Key projects: Surveillance and monitoring of water features and aquariums in addition to monitoring of online marketplaces is in place to detect sale and distribution of frogbit species.



Control



Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Amazon frogbit (*Hydrocharis laevigata* syn. *Limnobium laevigatum*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3, 5 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE, DO NOT KEEP

Under the Act Amazon frogbit and frogbit cannot be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.

Under the Regulation Amazon frogbit and frogbit may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely (contact DSC 40999444),
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with Amazon frogbit and frogbit under their control.

In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

You are responsible to know what you are buying online or at local markets to ensure you don't unintentionally introduce Amazon frogbit and frogbit from a contaminated source.

Be responsible and do not dump garden pond or fish tank contents into waterways.

In the eradication zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

Remove and bag specimens from water features and dispose of accordance with the regulation.

If you have Amazon frogbit in your possession do not share contaminated material including aquatic plants and do not dump garden pond or fish tank contents into waterways.

You are responsible to know what you are selling online or at local markets to ensure you don't unintentionally spread Amazon frogbit and frogbit.



ACTION PLAN: Mexican bean tree (*Cecropia spp.*)

Details

Description: A rapidly growing tree to 20m with hollow stems and large deeply lobed leaves with flocked white undersides. There are distinctive leaf scars on the trunk. The female plant produces long finger-like flower spikes.

Distribution: Mexican bean tree is restricted to an isolated outbreak in the Whyanbeel Valley where it was introduced as a garden specimen.

Impacts: A rapid growing rainforest pioneer which can invade and dominate rainforests and urban gardens. Mexican bean tree is spread by birds and bats and so can be moved long distances into adjoining landscapes and forests.



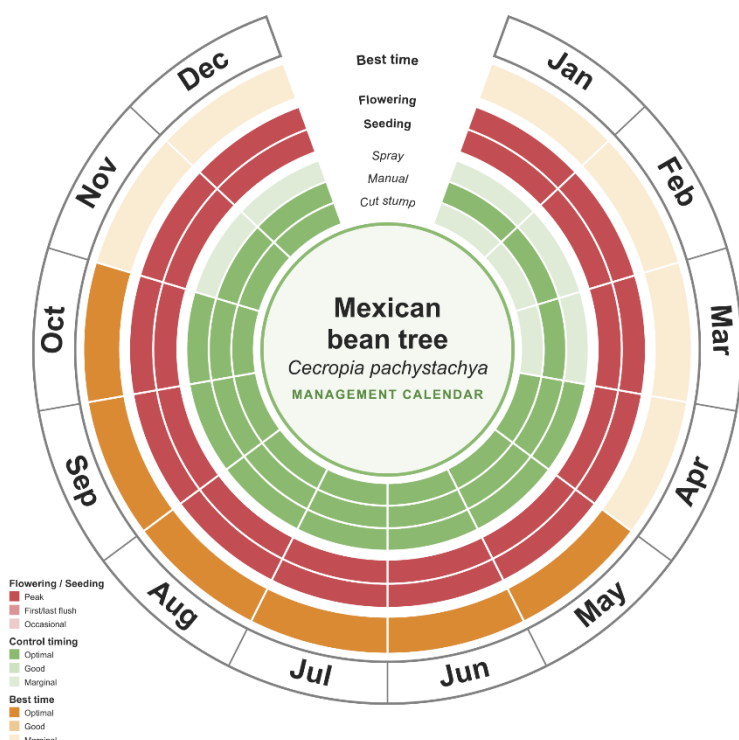
Management recommendations

Key projects: All known locations are the target of a regional eradication program led by Biosecurity Queensland. All suspected sightings of this plant should be reported to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.

Control



Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Mexican bean tree (*Cecropia spp.*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 2, 3, 4, 5 – MUST BE REPORTED, DO NOT DISTRIBUTE, DO NOT MOVE, DO NOT KEEP

Under the Act Mexican bean tree must not be kept, moved, given away, sold, or released into the environment. All sightings of Mexican bean tree must be reported.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with Mexican bean tree under their control.

In the prevention zone:

All suspected sightings of this plant should be reported to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.

You are responsible to know what you are buying online or at local markets to ensure you don't unintentionally introduce Mexican bean tree from a contaminated source.

In the eradication zone:

All suspected sightings of this plant should be reported to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.

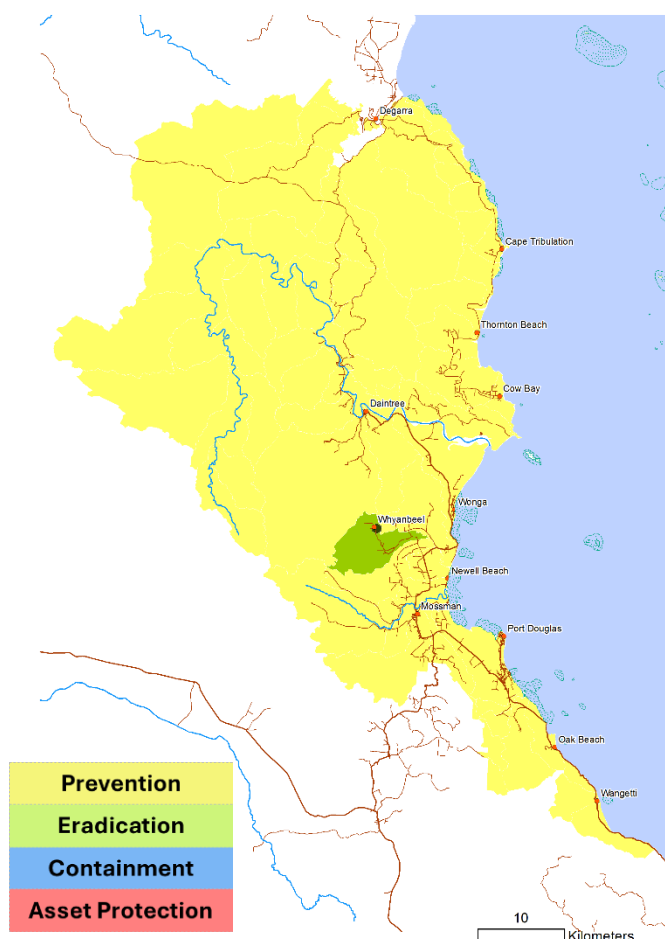
Landowner's or occupiers can assist BQ & DSC by maintaining easy access to infestations and by assisting with control activities.

Undertake regular checks for recruitment along rainforest margins.

You are required to control all identified *Cecropia* plants on your property.

You are responsible to ensure materials or products leaving your property are free from *Cecropia* seed or plant material.

You are responsible for ensuring machinery and vehicles avoid known infestation areas or undertake appropriate wash down prior to leaving site.



ACTION PLAN: Madeira vine (*Anredera cordifolia*)

Details

Description: Madeira Vine has fleshy, waxy, green, heart-shaped leaves about 4–5cm in length. Clusters of warty, light brown, aerial tubers are produced along the length of the stem and underground tubers up to 20cm diameter can grow and at depths of up to 1m. Creamy flower spikes are produced from December to April.

Distribution: Madeira Vine is currently known from only one site in the Douglas Shire, in the Mowbray Valley. The known infestation has been treated and is subject to ongoing monitoring to detect any regrowth or new occurrences. Continued surveillance is important to confirm eradication and prevent establishment or spread to other areas.

Impacts: Madeira vine produces large numbers of subterranean and aerial reproductive tubers that persist and make effective management difficult. This is demonstrated by tubers still sprouting after 10 years of intensive spraying.



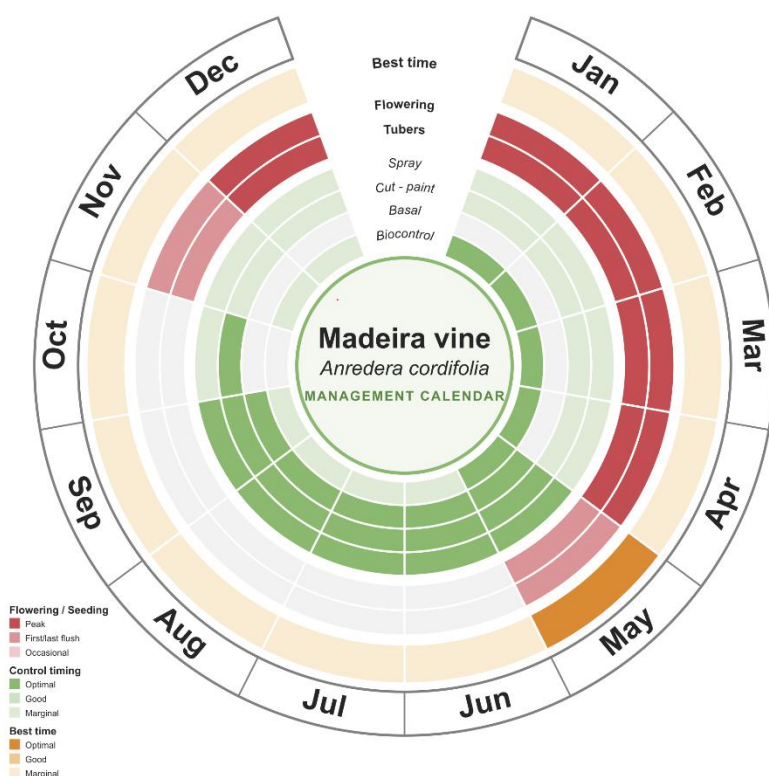
Management recommendations

Key projects: All Madeira vine in Douglas Shire is the subject to an eradication program. Report DSC to report any suspect plants on 4099 9444.

Control



Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Madeira vine (*Anredera cordifolia*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Under the Act Madeira vine must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.

Under the Regulation Madeira vine may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely (contact DSC 40999444),
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with Madeira vine under their control.



In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

When practical ensure agricultural and raw materials are sourced from a reliable supplier and from a Madeira vine free area.

In the eradication zone:

Undertake control works on known infestations in the dry season.

Do not disturb or remove soil and plant material from a known infestation location, even if no plants are visible.

You are responsible for ensuring machinery and vehicles avoid known infestation areas or are appropriately washed down prior to leaving your property.

ACTION PLAN: *Limnocharis (Limnocharis flava)*

Details

Description: *Limnocharis* is a perennial aquatic weed which can grow to a height of 1 metre. It has pale green leaves and small yellow cup-shaped flowers. Stems of leaves are triangular in cross-section



Distribution: *Limnocharis* is currently known from only one site in the Douglas Shire, at Cape Tribulation. The known infestation has been treated and is subject to ongoing monitoring to detect any regrowth or new occurrences. Continued surveillance is important to confirm eradication and prevent establishment or spread to other areas.

Impacts: A major weed in many countries. This perennial aquatic plant will colonise shallow wetlands and margins of deeper waterways. It competes with native plants, blocks drains, and displaces native flora and fauna.



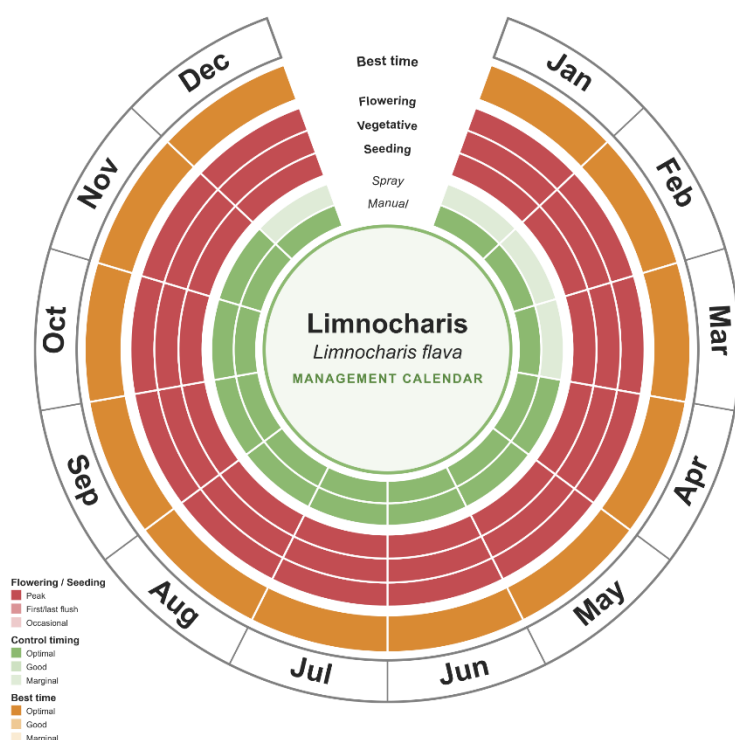
Management recommendations

Key projects: All known infestations within the Douglas Shire are currently the target of the National cost-shared Four Tropical Weeds Eradication Program. Landholders are required to report suspected infestations immediately to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.

Control



Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: *Limnocharis (Limnocharis flava)*

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 2, 3, 4, 5 – MUST BE REPORTED, DO NOT DISTRIBUTE, DO NOT MOVE, DO NOT KEEP

Under the Act *Limnocharis* must be reported and must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment, moved or kept. Penalties apply.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with *Limnocharis* under their control.

In the prevention zone:

All persons are required to report plants they think may be *Limnocharis* within 24 hours to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.

In the eradication zone:

All persons are required to report plants they think may be *Limnocharis* within 24 hours to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.

Do not disturb or remove soil and plant material from a known infestation location, even if no plants are visible.

You are responsible for ensuring machinery and vehicles avoid known infestation areas or are appropriately washed down prior to leaving your property.



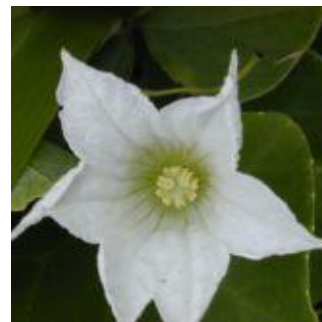
ACTION PLAN: Ivy gourd (*Coccinia grandis*)

Details

Description: A perennial and fast-growing vine up to and over 10 metres tall. Heart to pentagon shaped leaves grow on slender stems which become thicker and succulent with age. White star shaped flowers in August/September. Produces red fruits to 6 cm long. Ivy gourd has a tuberous root system which can make control efforts difficult.

Distribution: Current incursions occur in isolated occurrences in the Mossman catchment and Newell Beach.

Impacts: Ivy gourd is a smothering vine which covers other vegetation forming a dense canopy. Ivy gourd was most likely introduced as culinary or medical plant and so is likely to have established in forest margins, creek lines and other areas adjoining towns and gardens. Seeds are spread by pigs and birds.

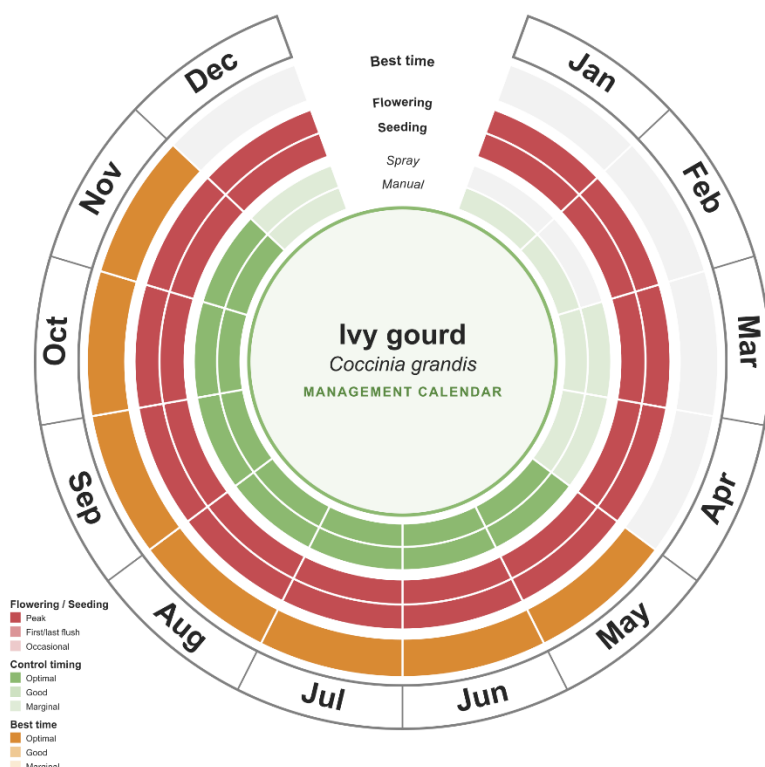
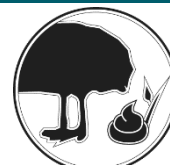


Management recommendations

Key projects: All known infestations are surveyed and treated annually. Bi-annual surveys are conducted to monitor known locations and to treat any regrowth or germination of seed.

Control

Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Ivy gourd (*Coccinia grandis*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3, 5 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE, DO NOT KEEP

Under the Act ivy gourd must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment or kept. Penalties apply.

Under the Regulation ivy gourd may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely (contact DSC 40999444),
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with ivy gourd under their control.

In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

Wherever practical ensure raw materials are sourced from a reliable supplier and are from an ivy gourd free area.

In the eradication zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

Manage risk of spread from your property and protect priority assets using best practice methods to control infestations where practical to do so.

You are responsible to ensure materials or products leaving your property are free from ivy gourd seed or plant material.

Landowner's or occupiers can assist DSC by maintaining easy access to infestations and by assisting with control activities.

If your property has an active infestation, make sure your green waste does not contain ivy gourd and is disposed of responsibly.



ACTION PLAN: Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*)

Details

Description: A free-floating aquatic herb with glossy, spoon shaped leaves and distinctive purple/lilac flowers. Water hyacinth forms dense blankets over waterways and wetlands. A similar native species occurs but can be distinguished by its yellow flowers and spear-shaped leaves.

Distribution: Water hyacinth currently occurs as isolated occurrences within drainage lines around Port Douglas. Previous infestations have occurred at Wonga Beach, with known infestations also present in water dams at Cape Kimberley. Ongoing surveillance is important to detect new occurrences and prevent further spread.



Impacts: Water hyacinth floats on still or slow-moving water and can grow rapidly to cover the entire water surface with a thick mat of vegetation. Water hyacinth shades out any submerged plant life and limits oxygen exchange, making the water unsuitable for fish and other animals.



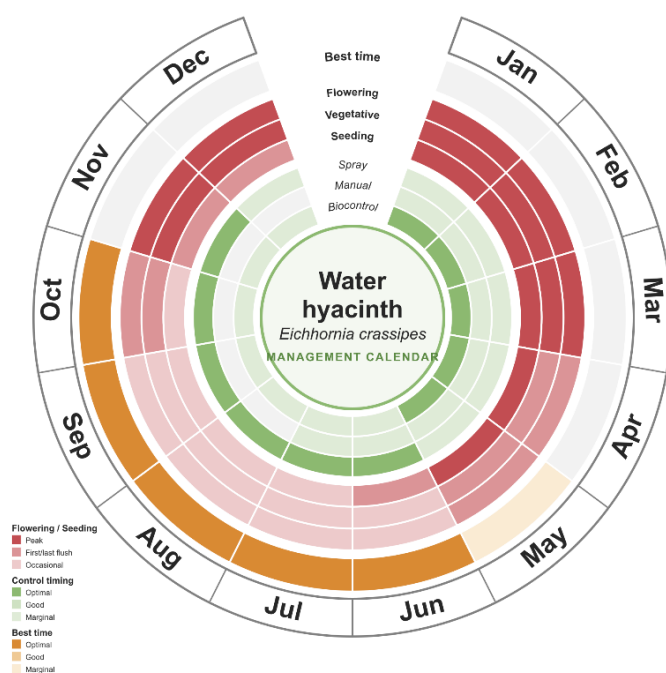
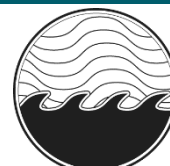
Management recommendations

Key projects: All known infestations are subject to eradication actions. Douglas Shire is the northern most distribution of water hyacinth in the Wet Tropics and actions here will help protect wetlands and waterways to the north. An eradication program is underway on the known infestations in the Port Douglas and Wonga Beach areas. Bi-annual surveys are conducted to monitor all known infestations and to ensure no new outbreaks have gone undetected.

Control



Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Water hyacinth (*Eichhorinia crassipes*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Under the Act water hyacinth cannot be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.

Under the Regulation water hyacinth may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely (contact DSC 40999444),
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with water hyacinth under their control.

In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

You are responsible to know what you are buying online or at local markets to ensure you don't unintentionally introduce water hyacinth from a contaminated source.

Be responsible and do not dump garden pond or fish tank contents into waterways.

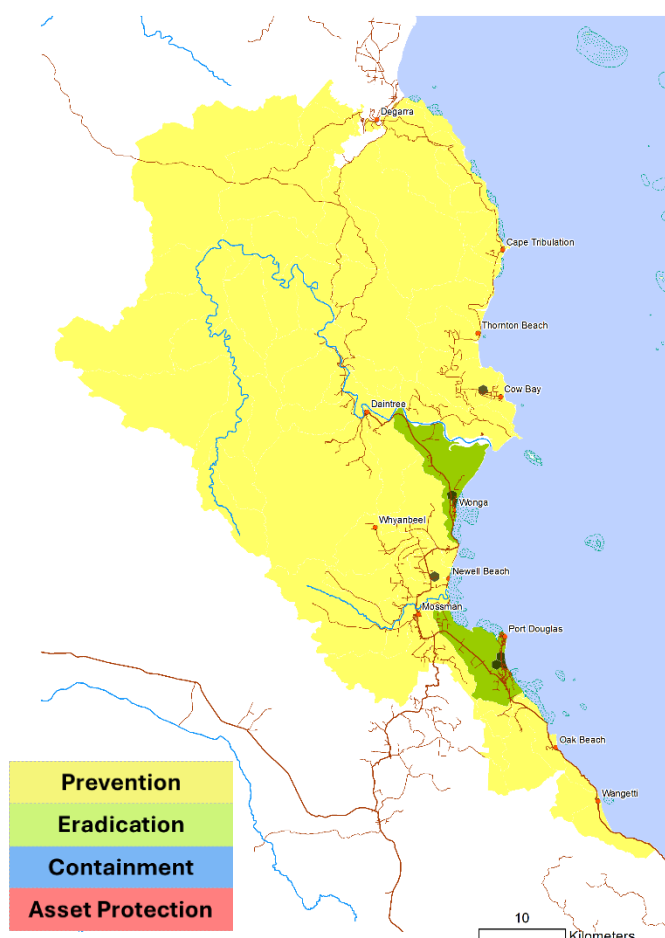
In the eradication zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

Remove and bag specimens from water features and dispose of accordance with the regulation.

If you have water hyacinth in your possession do not share contaminated material including aquatic plants and do not dump garden pond or fish tank contents into waterways.

You are responsible to know what you are selling online or at local markets to ensure you don't unintentionally spread water hyacinth.



ACTION PLAN: Kudzu (*Peuraria lobata*)

Details

Description: A fast growing and perennial scrambling vine with alternate leaves. The large lobed leaves form in groups of three (like a dinosaur footprint). It produces purple pea like flowers and spreads rapidly when vines come in contact with the ground.

Distribution: All currently known infestations occur in the Mossman River catchment. Seed pods can be spread by sticking to clothing and the fur of animals.

Impacts: A fast-growing vine which has the potential to encroach into thick rainforest and riparian zones smothering native vegetation. It poses a significant threat to agriculture and infrastructure. Can grow to over 30 metres in height smothering vegetation and infrastructure.



Management recommendations

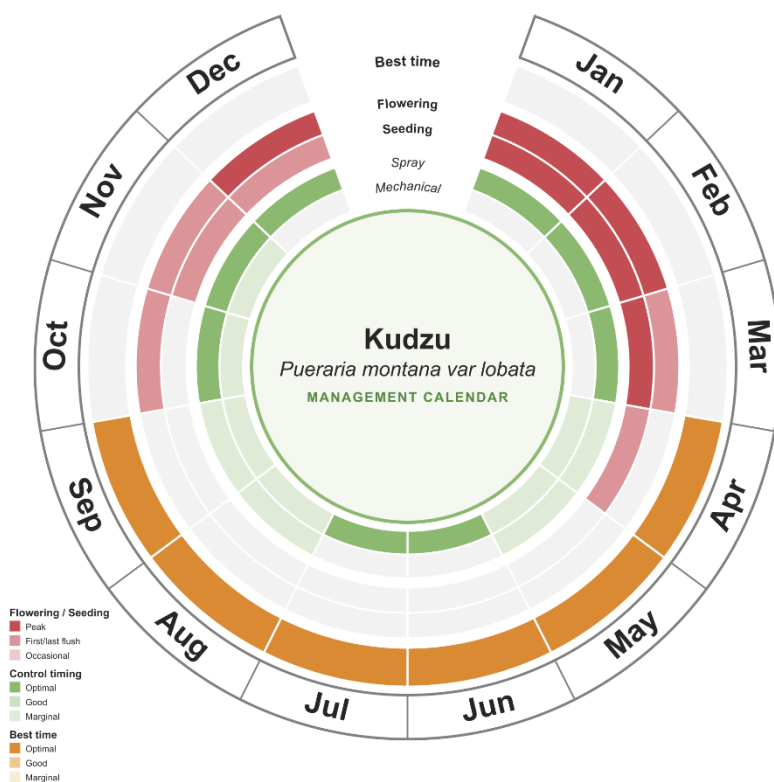
Key projects: A delimitation survey is in operation which aims to determine the full extent of Kudzu across Douglas Shire.

Control

Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Kudzu (*Peuraria lobata*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Under the Act kudzu must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.

Under the Regulation kudzu may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely (contact DSC 40999444),
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with kudzu under their control.

In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

When practical ensure agricultural and raw materials are sourced from a reliable supplier and from a kudzu free area.

In the containment zone:

Undertake control works on known infestations in the dry season.

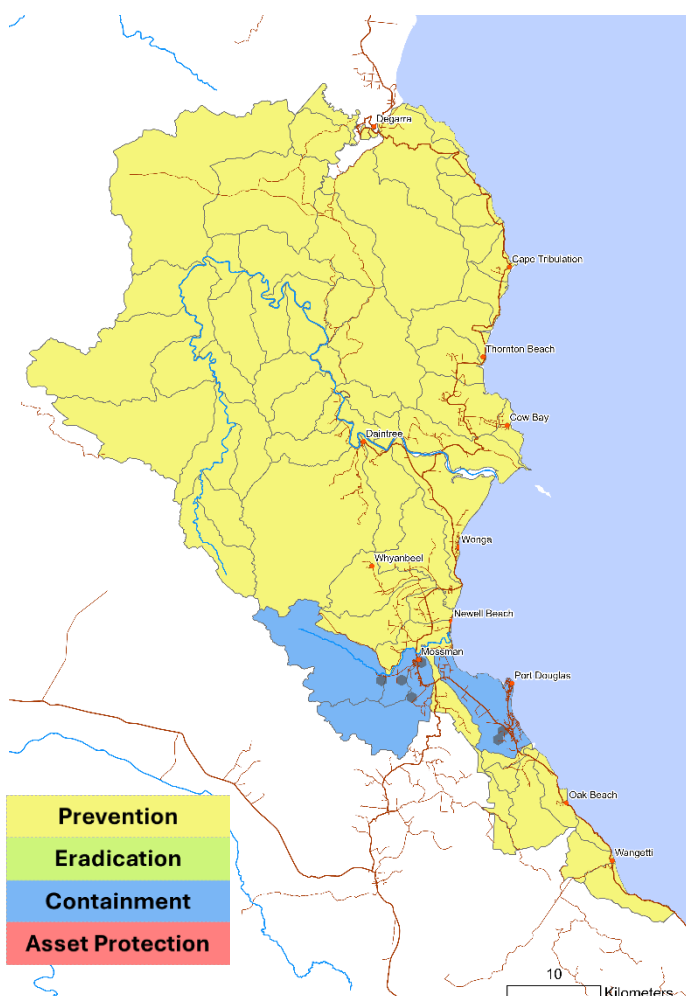
Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

You are responsible to ensure materials or products leaving your property are free from kudzu seed or plant material.

Landowner's or occupiers can assist DSC by maintaining easy access to infestations and by assisting with control activities.

Do not disturb or remove soil and plant material from a known infestation location, even if no plants are visible.

You are responsible for ensuring machinery and vehicles avoid known infestation areas or undertake appropriate wash down procedures prior to leaving site.



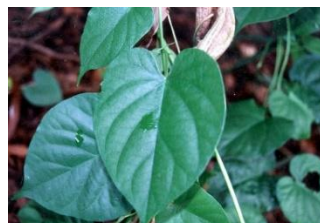
ACTION PLAN: Turbina (*Turbina corymbosa*)

Details

Description: Turbina Vine can form vine towers (20m+) over native vegetation with thick (30cm), rope-like stems. Stems of new growth are smooth, green, cylindrical and hairless while older stems are thicker, pale grey and roughly cylindrical. Leaves are oval and heart-shaped at the base with a pointed tip, 3–10cm long. Turbina Vine has sprays of fragrant, white, bell-shaped flowers. The fruit is a papery beaked capsule 80mm–1cm long and full of brown, hairy seeds.

Distribution: Turbina occurs predominantly within the Mowbray Valley, with isolated infestations also occurring around the Mossman township and in the North Mossman and Newell Beach areas.

Impacts: Turbina readily invades rainforest areas and riparian vegetation, displacing native vines and shrubs. Dried fruits and seeds float readily in water and have a high level of dormancy.

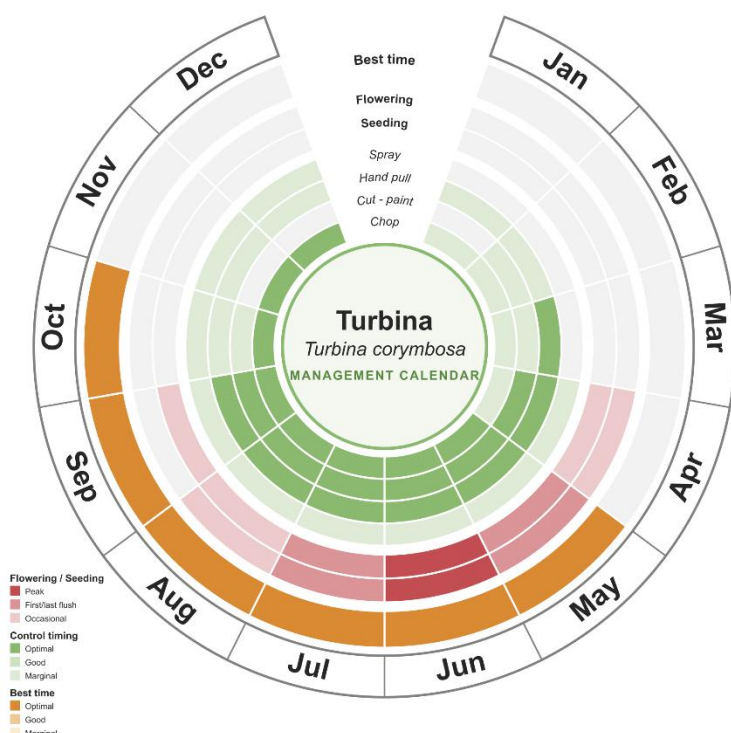


Management recommendations

Key projects: Annual ongoing surveillance and targeted control are undertaken to manage these isolated infestations and limit further spread.

Control

Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: *Turbina (Turbina corymbosa)*

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Declared Local Pest

DO NOT SELL OR SUPPLY

DO NOT OFFER OR DISPLAY FOR SALE OR SUPPLY

DO NOT INTRODUCE, PROPAGATE OR BREED

Turbina is a locally declared plant under Douglas Shire Council Local Laws. It is an offence under Local Law to distribute or propagate. Penalties apply.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with Turbina under their control.

In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

When practical ensure agricultural and raw materials are sourced from a reliable supplier and from a Turbina free area.

In the containment zone:

Undertake control works on known infestations in the dry season.

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

You are responsible to ensure materials or products leaving your property are free from Turbina seed or plant material.

Landowner's or occupiers can assist DSC by maintaining easy access to infestations and by assisting with control activities.

Do not disturb or remove soil and plant material from a known infestation location, even if no plants are visible.

You are responsible for ensuring machinery and vehicles avoid known infestation areas or undertake appropriate wash down procedures prior to leaving site.



ACTION PLAN: *Leucaena* (*Leucaena* spp.)

Details

Description: *Leucaena* is a fast-growing short statured tree or large shrub which form dense thickets. *Leucaena* has been planted widely as fodder crop in Queensland but also occurs in industrial, urban and bushland settings. Leaves are bipinnate with dull green leaflets. Spherical cream-coloured flowers form into flattened seeds pods containing around 20 dark glossy seeds. *Leucaena* spp. includes *Leucaena leucocephala* and *Leucaena* hybrids.



Distribution: *Leucaena* is widely dispersed throughout the Douglas Shire, occurring across a broad range of locations and land uses. Its widespread distribution means that management needs to focus on both existing infestations and preventing further spread into areas where it is not currently established.

Impacts: *Leucaena* forms dense thickets which smother native vegetation and hinder access. It spreads along roadsides and waterways where it can suppress the growth of native species.



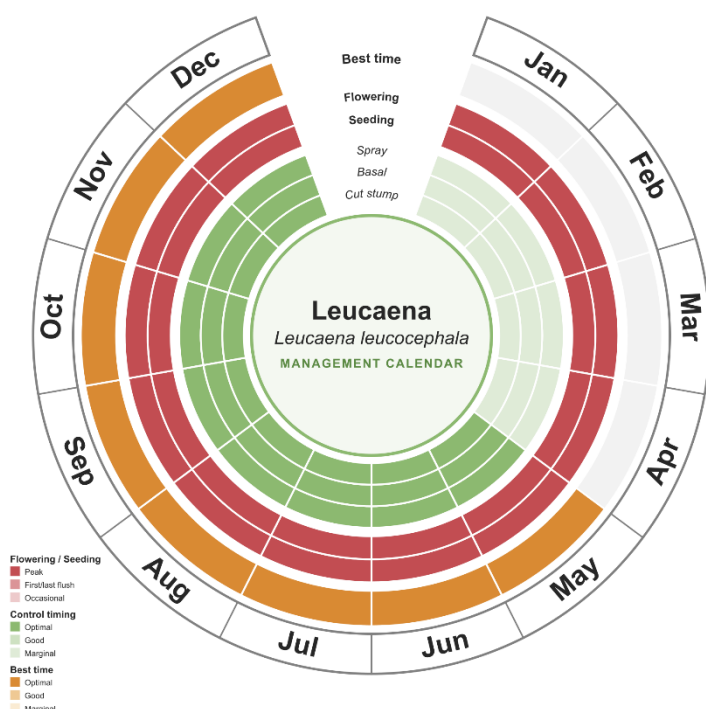
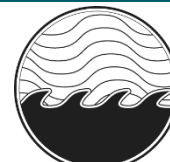
Management recommendations

Key projects: *Leucaena* is a priority environmental weed in the Douglas shire and is managed in situations where it has naturalised and impacts on the environment and public amenity.

Control



Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: *Leucaena* (*Leucaena spp.*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Declared Local Pest

DO NOT SELL OR SUPPLY
DO NOT OFFER OR DISPLAY FOR SALE OR SUPPLY
DO NOT INTRODUCE, PROPAGATE OR BREED

Leucaena is a locally declared plant under Douglas Shire Council Local Laws. It is an offence under Local Law to distribute or propagate. Penalties apply.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with *Leucaena* under their control.

In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

When practical ensure agricultural and raw materials are sourced from a reliable supplier and from a *Leucaena* free area.

In the asset protection zone:

Undertake control works on known infestations in the dry season.

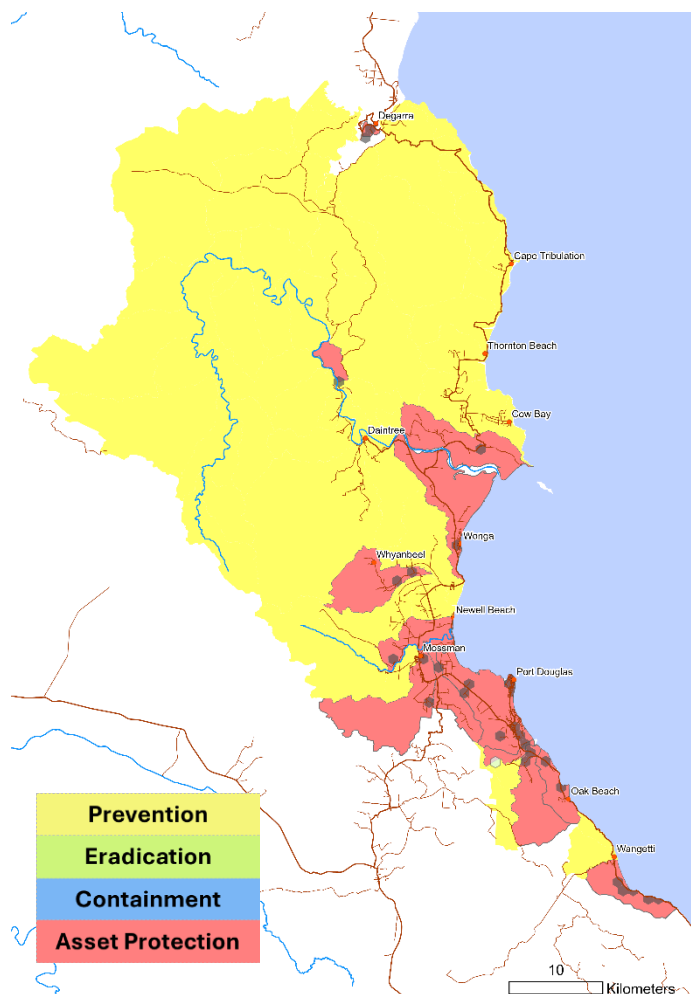
Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

You are responsible to ensure materials or products leaving your property are free from *Leucaena* seed or plant material.

Landowner's or occupiers can assist DSC by maintaining easy access to infestations and by assisting with control activities.

Do not disturb or remove soil and plant material from a known infestation location, even if no plants are visible.

You are responsible for ensuring machinery and vehicles avoid known infestation areas or undertake appropriate wash down procedures prior to leaving site.

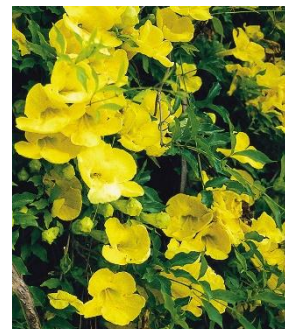


ACTION PLAN: Cats claw creeper (*Dolichandra unguis-cati*)

Details

Description: Cats claw creeper is a vigorous smothering vine with distinctive paired leaves and three 'cats claw' shaped tendrils at the leaf base. The stems become woody with age. The vine produces masses of yellow bell-shaped in the warmer months. Long narrow flat pods follow on from flowering containing numerous papery seeds which spread when the pod dries and splits. Plants can reproduce from seeds or fragments of stems or underground tubers.

Distribution: Cats claw creeper is associated with gardens and adjoining native vegetation and creek lines.

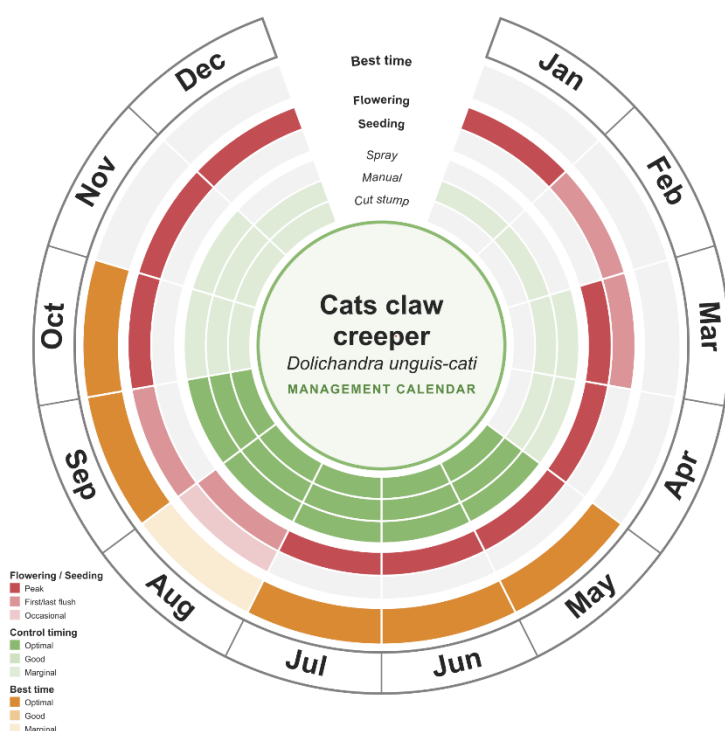


Impacts: Cats claw creeper is a serious environmental weed which can smother native vegetation and trees. The vine also produces extensive roots and tubers making control more complex. The vine can spread from papery seeds on the wind or by vegetative spread of stems and tubers in garden was or floods.



Management recommendations

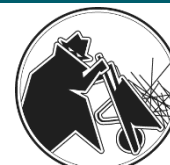
Key projects: Douglas Shire is systematically targeting all known occurrences of cats claw vine in the shire.



Control



Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Cats claw creeper (*Dolichandra unguis-cati*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Under the Act cats claw creeper must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.

Under the Regulation cats claw creeper may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely (contact DSC 40999444),
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with cats claw creeper under their control.

In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

When practical ensure agricultural and raw materials are sourced from a reliable supplier and from a cats claw creeper free area.

In the eradication zone:

Undertake control works on known infestations in the dry season.

Do not disturb or remove soil and plant material from a known infestation location, even if no plants are visible.

You are responsible for ensuring machinery and vehicles avoid known infestation areas or are appropriately washed down prior to leaving your property.



ACTION PLAN: *Salvinia* (*Salvinia molesta*)

Details

Description: A floating fern with small, coarsely hairy oval leaves which repel water. As the plant matures it turns from bright green to brown and bunches up into tight rafts. *Salvinia* reproduces by rapidly dividing into smaller plants.

Distribution: *Salvinia* is widespread and occasional in disturbed creek systems in Port Douglas and Wonga Beach. It is commonly detected in water features, garden ponds, and aquariums.



Impacts: *Salvinia* floats on still or slow-moving water and can grow rapidly to cover the entire water surface with a thick mat of vegetation. The thick mat of vegetation shades out any submerged plant life and limits oxygen exchange, making the water unsuitable for fish and other animals.



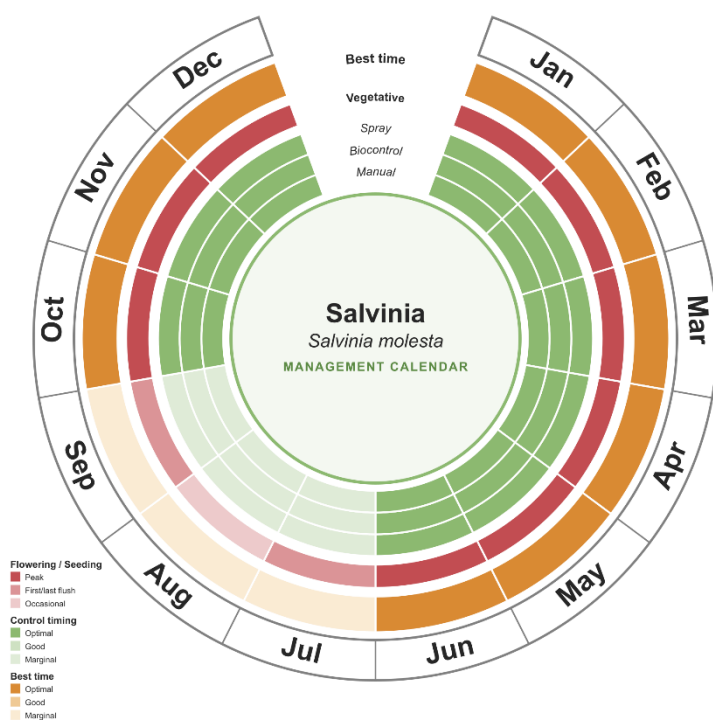
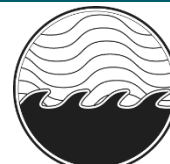
Management recommendations

Key projects: Long-term management projects are taking place in Wonga Beach and Ferndale Wetlands reserve. A top of catchment down approach is being used to systematically remove *Salvinia* from water features and artificial waterways where it occurs in Douglas Shire. *Salvinia* can spread on flood water so operations will focus on areas at risk following major weather events.

Control



Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: *Salvinia* (*Salvinia molesta*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Under the Act *Salvinia* not be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.

Under the Regulation *Salvinia* may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely (contact DSC 40999444),
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with *Salvinia* under their control.

In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

You are responsible to know what you are buying online or at local markets to ensure you don't unintentionally introduce *Salvinia* from a contaminated source.

Be responsible and do not dump garden pond or fish tank contents into waterways.

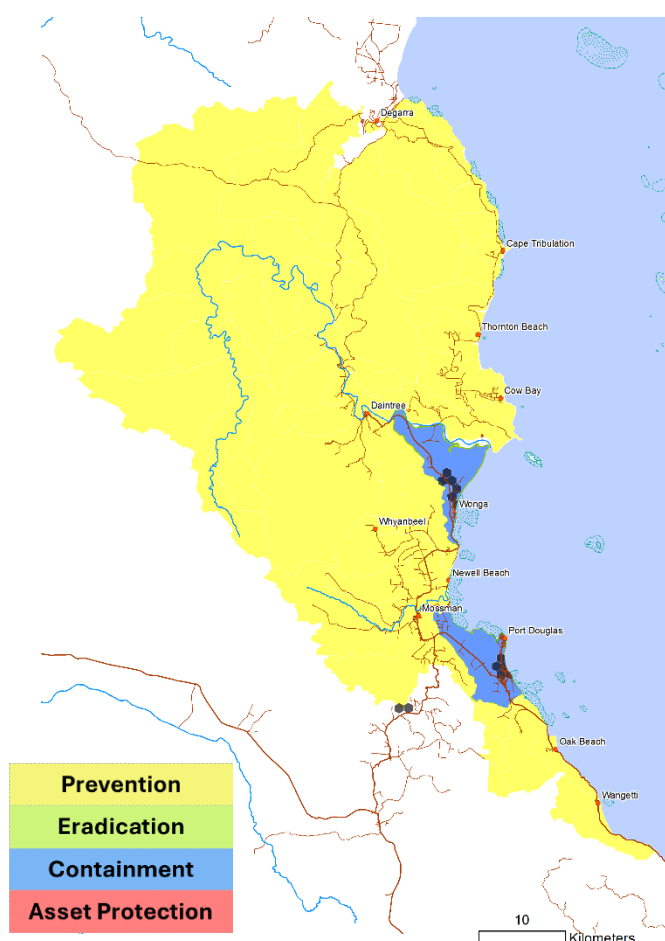
In the containment zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

Remove and bag specimens from water features and dispose of accordance with the regulation.

If you have *Salvinia* in your possession do not share contaminated material including aquatic plants and do not dump garden pond or fish tank contents into waterways.

You are responsible to know what you are selling online or at local markets to ensure you don't unintentionally spread *Salvinia*.



ACTION PLAN: Water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*)

Details

Description: A free-floating aquatic weed which resembles an open head of lettuce. The leaves are spongy, light green and repel water. Water lettuce develops small green flowers and reproduces from seeds or division.

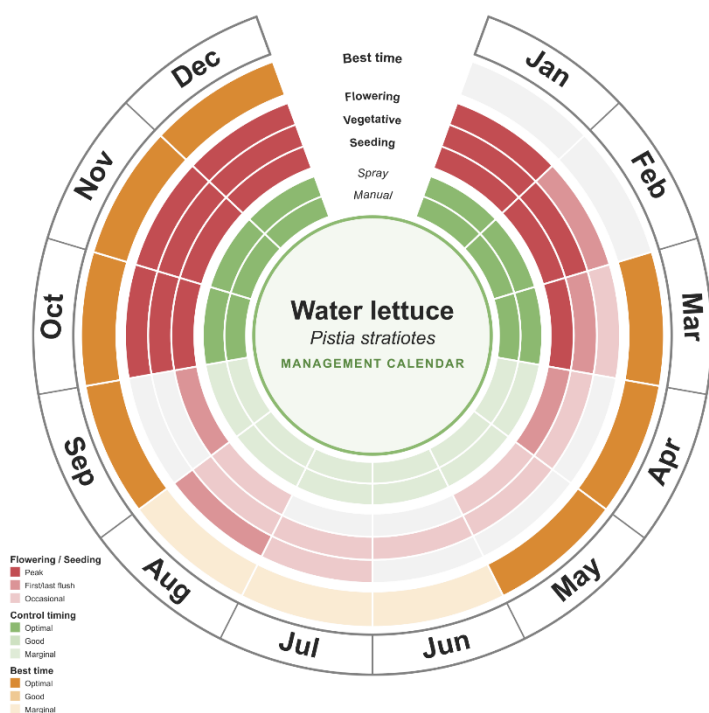
Distribution: Isolated to water features and artificial water ways particularly in Wonga Beach area. It prefers slow moving water bodies with high nutrient levels.

Impacts: Water lettuce floats on still or slow-moving water and can grow rapidly to cover the entire water surface. The thick mat of vegetation shades out any submerged plant life and limits oxygen exchange, making the water unsuitable for fish and other animals. It can provide breeding opportunities for mosquitoes.



Management recommendations

Key projects: A top of catchment down approach is being used to systematically remove water lettuce from the water features and artificial waterways where it occurs in Douglas Shire. Water lettuce can spread on flood water so operations will focus on areas at risk following major weather events.



Control



Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Under the Act water lettuce cannot be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.

Under the Regulation water lettuce may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely (contact DSC 40999444),
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with water lettuce under their control.

In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

You are responsible to know what you are buying online or at local markets to ensure you don't unintentionally introduce water lettuce from a contaminated source.

Be responsible and do not dump garden pond or fish tank contents into waterways.

In the eradication zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

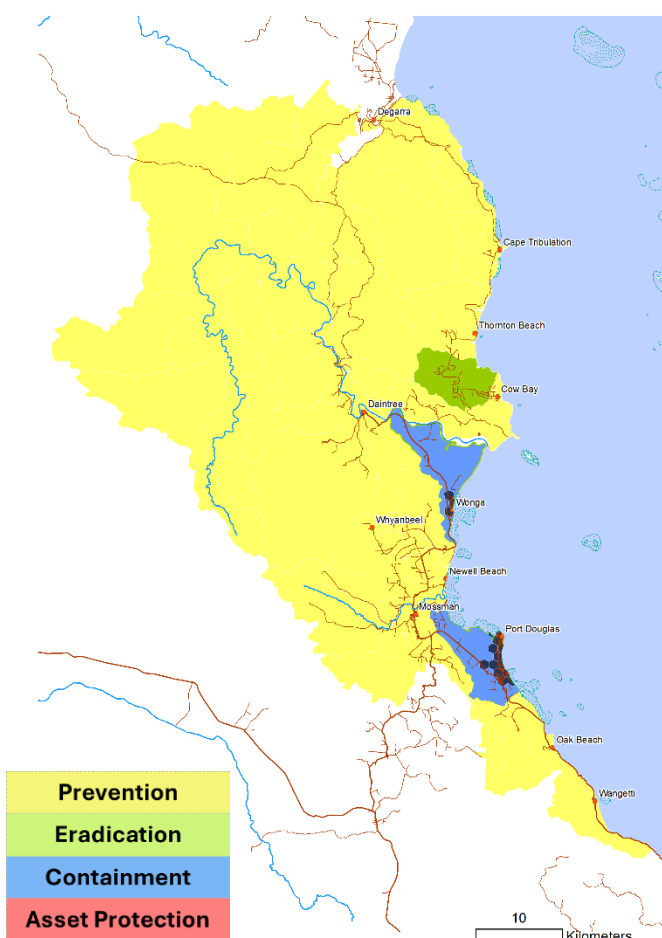
If you have water lettuce in your possession do not share contaminated material including aquatic plants and do not dump garden pond or fish tank contents into waterways.

In the containment zone:

If you have water lettuce in your possession do not share contaminated material including aquatic plants and do not dump garden pond or fish tank contents into waterways.

Remove and bag specimens from water features and dispose of accordance with the regulation.

You are responsible to know what you are selling online or at local markets to ensure you don't unintentionally spread water lettuce.



ACTION PLAN: Blue Thunbergia (*Thunbergia grandiflora*)

Details

Description: A rapidly growing vine which forms large underground tubers. Thunbergia climbs and smothers native vegetation. Thunbergia has lavender-blue trumpet shaped flowers. The leaves may vary from a choko-like shape to an oval with a narrow-pointed tip.

Distribution: Several isolated outbreaks occur across the Douglas Shire. Many sites are in monitoring towards eradication. The main method of spread for Thunbergia vine has been through the sharing plants between gardeners so most infestations are associated with house gardens or garden waste.

Impacts: Thunbergia vine climbs and smothers native vegetation, killing and often pulling own mature trees with the weight of the vine. The dense mat of vine can prevent the germination and growth of native vegetation and destabilise of riverbanks.

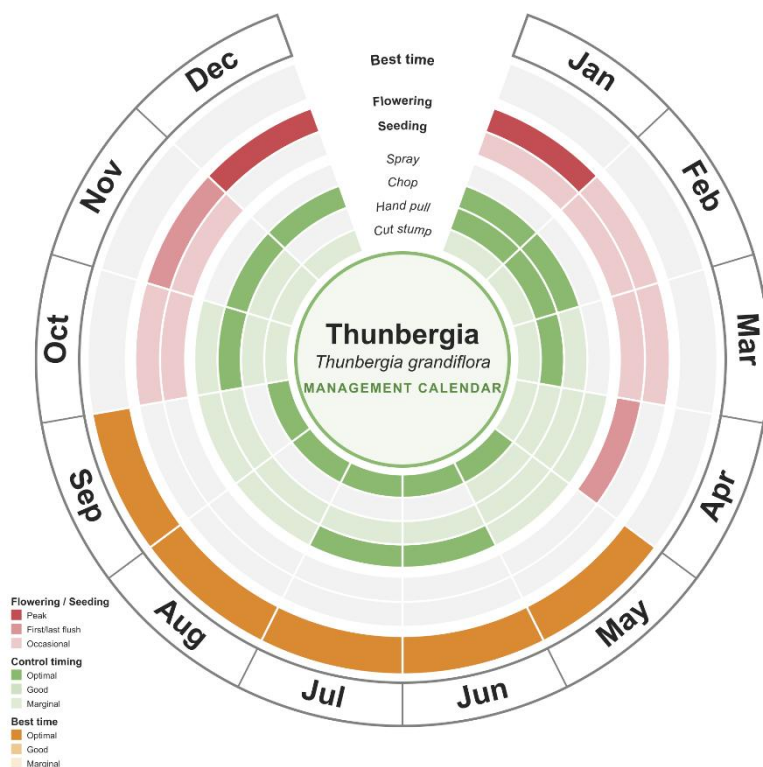


Management recommendations

Key projects: All known infestations are under active management toward eradication. For larger infestations Douglas Shire Council will work with landholders to develop a property biosecurity plan.

Control

Spread



More information



ACTION PLAN: Blue Thunbergia (*Thunbergia grandiflora*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Under the Act Thunbergia must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.

Under the Regulation Thunbergia may be disposed of by:

- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely (contact DSC 40999444),
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with Thunbergia under their control.

In the prevention zone:

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

When practical ensure agricultural and raw materials are sourced from a reliable supplier and from a Thunbergia free area.

In the asset protection zone:

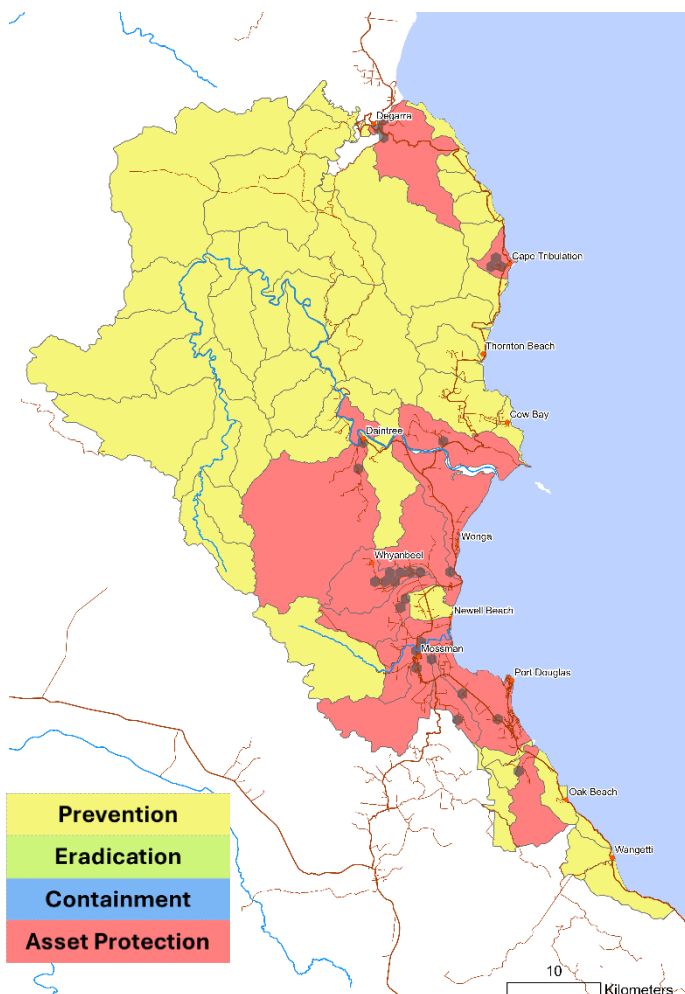
Undertake control works on known infestations in the dry season.

Do not disturb or remove soil and plant material from a known infestation location, even if no plants are visible.

If your property has an active infestation, make sure your green waste does not contain thunbergia and is disposed of in accordance with the regulation.

Manage risk of spread from your property and protect priority assets using best practice methods to control infestations where practical to do so.

You are responsible for ensuring machinery and vehicles avoid known infestation areas or are appropriately washed down prior to leaving your property.



ACTION PLAN: Feral pig (*Sus scrofa*)

Details

Description: Feral pigs include all pigs ranging from typical black wild pigs to buff or spotted black or white which may resemble a typical farmed pig. By definition a feral pig is any pig which is not domesticated and is living in a wild state. They are generally nocturnal, and camp in thick cover during the day. Feral pigs are omnivorous and can range from 5 to 50 square kilometres. Feral pigs breed throughout the year often producing two weaned litters per year.

Distribution: Common and widespread within the Douglas Shire, particularly in the lowlands.

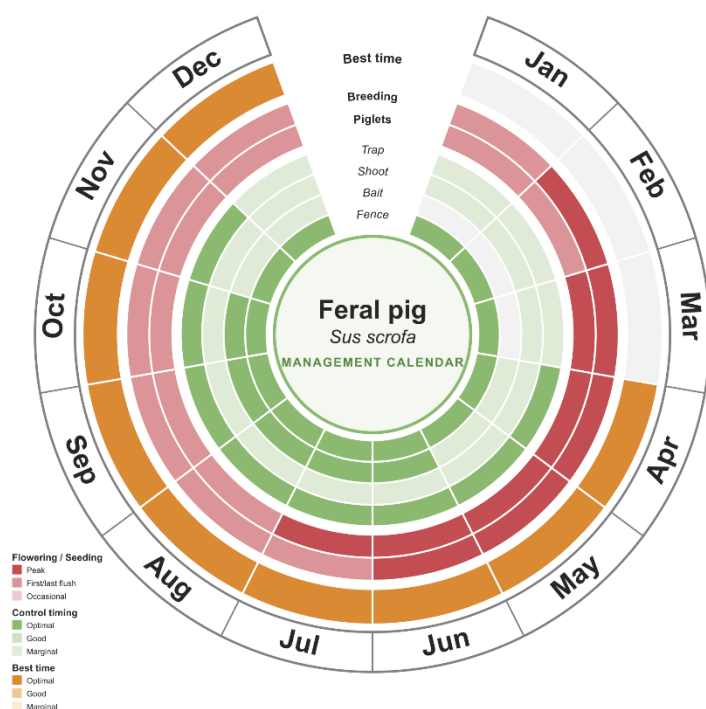


Impacts: Feral pigs damage crops, stock, property and the natural environment. They transmit disease and could spread exotic diseases such as foot and mouth if this was introduced to the country.

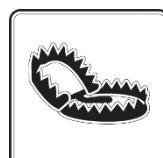
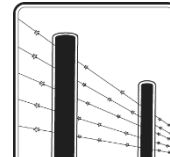


Management recommendations

Key projects: A long-term shire wide program has been set up to assist the community to minimise the environmental, social and economic impacts of feral pigs. The program protects agricultural, environmental and community assets.



Control



More information



ACTION PLAN: Feral pig (*Sus scrofa*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3, 4, 8 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE, DO NOT MOVE, DO NOT FEED

Under the Act feral pigs cannot be given away, sold, or released into the environment. They also cannot be moved, or fed. Penalties apply.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with feral pigs under their control.

In asset protection zone:

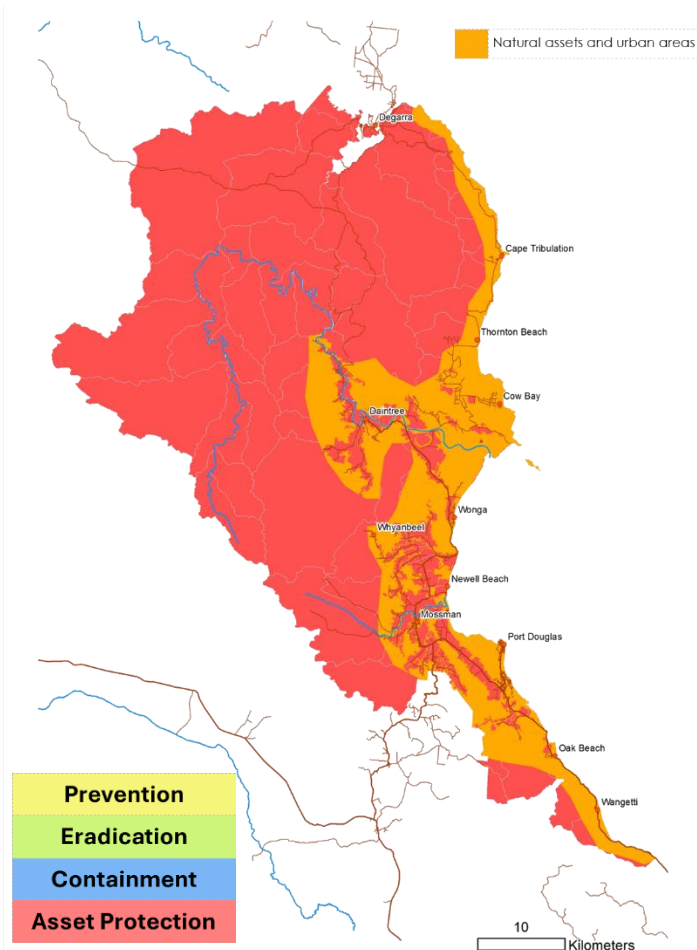
Pig proof fencing is by far the most effective measure of reducing the impacts of feral pigs on domestic gardens and small crops.

Property managers should coordinate control activities with neighbours.

A range of control options from shooting, to trapping and baiting are used to control feral pigs when required.

Douglas Shire Council operates a series of traps along the coastal lowlands and in the Daintree to reduce the number of feral pigs.

Landholders wishing to participate in the program should contact Douglas Shire Council on 07 4099 9444.



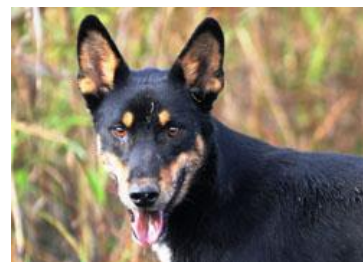
ACTION PLAN: Wild dog/dingo (*Canis familiaris*)

Details

Description: Wild dogs, dingoes, wild domestic dogs and hybrids are all classified as a single species.

Distribution: Wild dogs are widespread in both the agricultural and natural landscape. They also frequently exist on the outskirts of towns and even within urban areas.

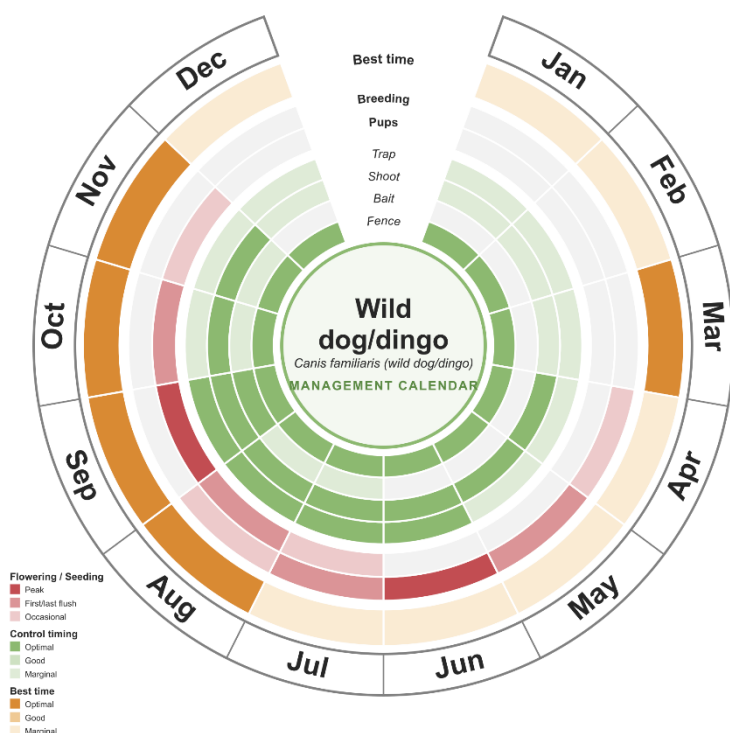
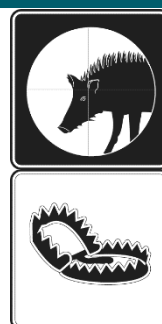
Impacts: Wild dogs and dingo can cause stock losses in calving season. They also often carry parasites and pathogens. Near towns they can cause nuisance and impact on domestic animals.



Management recommendations

Key projects: In urban and settled areas, Douglas Shire Council's biosecurity officers respond to individual dingo and wild dog issues on a case-by-case basis. Officers will respond where reported behaviour presents a risk to public safety, including threatening behaviour, attacks on domestic pets, scavenging or stalking, or where dingoes are preying on domestic animals or livestock.

Control



More information



ACTION PLAN: Wild dog/dingo (*Canis familiaris*)

Biosecurity requirements and legal obligations

Regulated Biosecurity Matter

Category 3, 4, 8 - DO NOT DISTRIBUTE, DO NOT MOVE, DO NOT FEED (Dingo is also Category 5 Restricted Biosecurity Matter – DO NOT KEEP

The legal status of dingoes varies depending on where they occur. In Queensland National Parks and protected areas, dingoes are protected as a native species, and the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service has a legal responsibility to conserve these populations. Outside of protected areas, dingoes are categorised as restricted invasive animals under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. It is illegal to feed, move, keep, sell or release dingoes into the environment. Douglas Shire Council and landholders have responsibilities to minimise biosecurity risks associated with invasive animals, including dingoes, under their control.

Reasonable and practical measures

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with wild dogs and dingo under their control.

In asset protection zone:

If you have grazing animals, then targeting control activities to reduce wild dog numbers prior to calving is the best way to reduce impacts. Property managers should coordinate control activities with neighbours.

Dingoes in the Douglas Shire

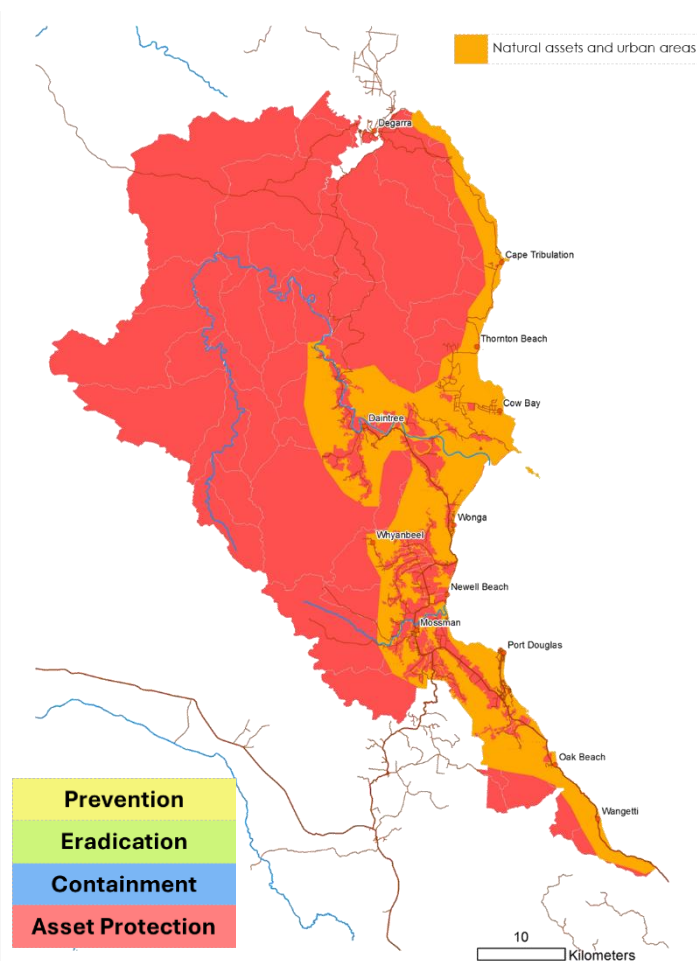
Where required, Council officers may seek advice from biosecurity officers within the Queensland Department of Primary Industry or wildlife officers from the Department of Environment and Science and Indigenous Rangers from Jabalbina Yalanji aboriginal corporation and Indigenous Rangers from Yirrganydji aboriginal corporation.

Dingoes are generally not aggressive towards people, but they can display threatening behaviour in urban areas.

Residents can help reduce interactions by securing food and waste, not approaching, or encouraging dingoes, and ensuring domestic animals are properly contained. Domestic pets and poultry are best protected by suitable dog-mesh fencing. Fencing also restrains domestic animals and may help prevent other animals, such as wallabies and pigs, from entering properties.

Do Not Feed Dingoes

Feeding dingoes, even unintentionally, can have dangerous consequences. When dingoes become accustomed to human food, they can lose their natural wariness of people and may begin seeking food from humans. This can increase the likelihood of unwanted or threatening interactions and create risks for residents, visitors and the animals themselves.



Appendix 1

The current Douglas Shire Council Biosecurity Working Group consists of representatives from the following groups:

NAME	ORGANISATION
Peter Logan	Douglas Shire Council
Bradley Everett	Douglas Shire Council
Travis Sydes	Far North Queensland Region of Councils
Michael Graham	Department of Primary Industries
Kim Erbacher	Department of Primary Industries
Tracy Hales	Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
Mark Haines	Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
Natalie Friday	Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation
Gavin Singleton	Yirrganydji Aboriginal Corporation
Nikki Hoffmann	AgForce Townville
Nicky Swan	Mossman Botanical Gardens
Evizel Seymour	Terrain NRM
Evelyn Matthews	Mossman Growers Limited

Appendix 2

Pests declared under the Biosecurity Act 2014 that are known to occur within the Douglas Shire Council local government area, or alert species not currently present but occurring nearby with suitable habitat within the area.

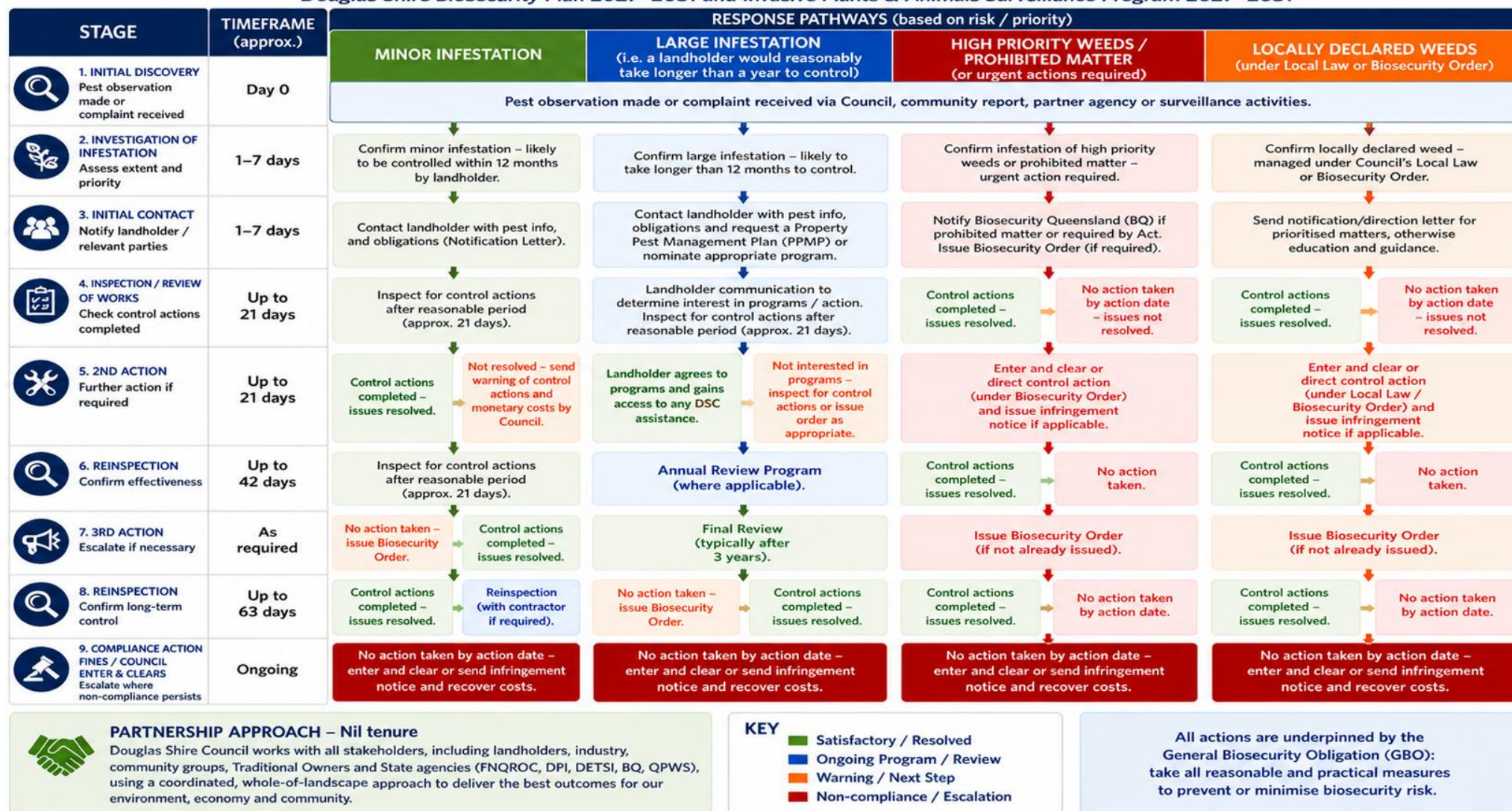
RESTRICTED MATTER CATEGORY(PRESENT) 2,3,4,5	Black scar oyster (<i>Magallana bilineata</i>) Limnocharis (<i>Limnocharis flava</i>) Mexican bean tree (<i>Cecropia</i> spp.) Miconia (<i>Miconia calvenscens</i>), (<i>Miconia nervosa</i>), and (<i>Miconia racemosa</i>)
ALERT SPECIES (NOT PRESENT) RESTRICTED/PROHIBITED MATTER	Alligator weed (<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>) Bog moss (<i>Mayaca fluviatilis</i>) Bunny ears cacti (<i>Opuntia microdasys</i>) Cabomba (<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>) Cabomba (<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>) Candyleaf (<i>Stevia ovata</i>) Cha-om (<i>Senegalia insuavis</i>) Fire weed (<i>Senecio madagascariensis</i>) Harungana (<i>Harungana madagascariensis</i>) Hygrophila (<i>Hygrophila costata</i>) Madras thorn (<i>Pithecellobium dulce</i>) Mikania vine (<i>Mikania</i> species) Mimosa pigra (<i>Mimosa pigra</i>) Neptunia/Water mimosa (<i>Neptunia oleracea</i>) Opuntoid cacti (<i>Austrocylindropuntia</i>), (<i>Cylindropuntia</i>) and (<i>Opuntia</i> species) Parthenium (<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>) Stevia (<i>Stevia ovata</i>) Yellow Crazy Ants (<i>Anoplolepis gracilipes</i>)
RESTRICTED MATTER CATEGORY 3 (PRESENT)	African Tulip (<i>Spathodea campanulata</i>) Gamba grass (<i>Andropogon gayanus</i>) Giant Rat's tails grass (<i>Sporobolus pyramidalis</i> and <i>S. natalensis</i>) Giant sensitive plant (<i>Mimosa diplotricha</i>) Hiptage (<i>Hiptage benghalensis</i>) Hymenachne and hybrids (<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>) Kudzu (<i>Pueraria montana</i>) Lantana (<i>Lantana camara</i>) Madeira Vine (<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>) Mother of Millions (<i>Bryophyllum</i> spp.) Pond Apple (<i>Annona glabra</i>) Prickly Pear (<i>Opuntia</i> spp.) Salvinia (<i>Salvinia molesta</i>) Siam Weed (<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>) Sickle pod (<i>Senna obtusifolia</i>) Singapore Daisy (<i>Sphagneticola trilobata</i>) Thunbergia (<i>Thunbergia grandiflora</i>) Thunbergia laurifolia (<i>Hygrophylla costata</i>) Tobacco weed (<i>Elephantopus mollis</i>) Water hyacinth (<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>)

	Water lettuce (<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>)
KNOWN ENVIRONMENTAL WEEDS (NON-DECLARED/RESTRICTED) Although not declared, these plants are known to spread into our local environments and waterways. Other invasive plants Business Queensland	Aleman grass (<i>Echinochloa polystachya</i>) Ardisia crenata and <i>Ardisia elliptica</i> Arrowhead vine (<i>Syngonium podophyllum</i>) Brilliantasia (<i>Brillantaisia lamium</i>) Caribbean pine (<i>Pinus caribaea</i>) Clumping fishtail palm (<i>Caryota mitis</i>) Coconut (<i>Cocos nucifera</i>) Duranta (<i>Duranta</i> spp.) Glow vine (<i>Saritaea magnifica</i>) Golden cane palm (<i>Dypsis lutescens</i>) Grader grass (<i>Themeda quadrivalvis</i>) Guinea grass (<i>Megathyrsus maximus</i> var. <i>maximus</i>) Itch Grass (<i>Rottboellia cochinchinensis</i>) Japanese sunflower (<i>Tithonia diversifolia</i>) Morning glories (including <i>Ipomoea indica</i>) Navua sedge (<i>Cyperus aromaticus</i>) Papyrus (<i>Cyperus papyrus</i>) Pothos (<i>Epipremnum aureum</i>) Purple Yam (<i>Dioscorea alata</i>) Rain tree (<i>Samanea saman</i>) Red ivy/Aluminium plant (<i>Hemigraphis alternata</i>) Snakeweed (<i>Stachytarpheta</i> spp.) Traveller's palm (<i>Ravenala madagascariensis</i>) Yellow allamanda (<i>Allamanda cathartica</i>)
PEST ANIMALS -RESTRICTED & KNOWN ENVIRONMENTAL PEST	Asian honeybee (<i>Apis cerana</i>) Cane toads (<i>Rhinella marina</i>) Dingo (<i>Canis familiaris</i>) Electric ants (<i>Wasmannia auropunctata</i>) Feral cat (<i>Felis catus</i>) Feral pig (<i>Sus scrofa</i>) Indian myna (<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>) Rabbits (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>) Wild dog (<i>Canis familiaris</i>)
PEST ANIMALS ALERT SPECIES (NOT PRESENT)	Red-eared slider turtle (<i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>) Asian green mussel (<i>Perna viridis</i>) Yellow crazy ants (<i>Anoplolepis gracilipes</i>)
LOCALLY DECLARED Pests Declared Under Subordinate Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environment)	Leucaena (<i>Leucaena</i> spp) Turbina (<i>Turbina corymbose</i>)

Appendix 3

Douglas Shire Council Biosecurity Response Pathway

*Risk-based, proportionate and consistent actions in line with the Biosecurity Act 2014,
Douglas Shire Biosecurity Plan 2027–2031 and Invasive Plants & Animals Surveillance Program 2027–2031*



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