

# DOUGLAS SHIRE BIOSECURITY PLAN

All stakeholders working together to implement ongoing, coordinated and effective biosecurity management across the Douglas Shire area 2017-2021

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## **Executive Summary**

The purpose of the Douglas Shire Biosecurity Plan (BP) is to bring together all sectors of the local community together to manage invasive plants and animal. It does this by outlining the key responsibilities, roles and desired outcomes required under the Biosecurity Act 2014 for the whole of the Douglas Shire area. In doing so, it aims to benefit the community through preventing or reducing the impacts of pests and weeds on the economy, environment and people of the area through:

- Addressing the obligations under the Biosecurity Act 2014 for all stakeholders.
- Prioritisation invasive pests and prevent the introduction and spread of invasive plants and animals within Douglas Shire based on best practice.
- Identifying the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders involved and providing direction on managing biosecurity risks
- Building partnerships and enable better use of resources available within the community and across all land managers
- Better coordination between all stakeholders, including integrated catchment management approaches, statewide land protection strategies and management of conservation areas.

The plan identifies the goal for managing biosecurity in the Douglas Shire Council as:

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





## 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.

## Protecting values and managing risks

A risk-based approach to biosecurity requires us to first understand the values which are important to the community. When we understand what is important, where and why, we can then identify how invasive plants and animals (biosecurity matter) may impact those values. It is likely that the things we value may be at risk from more than a single biosecurity matter and even if those risks are not equal, they may be detrimental in an accumulative way. It is also likely that a single asset may represent a range of the values outlined below. For example, a waterway on a property may be equally important for its value for conservation (as habitat); agriculture (for watering stock); water resources (for natural flows); and community (a local swimming hole) simultaneously.

The risk assessment process, which is used to identify the issues requiring a response in this plan, considers the likelihood and extent of the impact/s a biosecurity issue might present on four broad categories of values.

## **Conservation and biodiversity**

Conservation and biodiversity assets and values represent the natural environment, plants animals and forests. These assets can range from landscapes and features like our national parks and reserves through to remnant or restored patches of forest to individual trees. These assets might contain or support unique or rare plants, animals and communities or they may simply provide important places for natural processes to take place.



## Agriculture and industry

Agriculture and industry represent primary production and the economy. These may include highly modified or intensive production systems right through to the relatively natural systems utilised in the rangelands. An industry like honey production might make use of both native forests and intensive agricultural systems. Other industries might be based in urban or industrial systems.



## 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.



With established pest species the challenge is to ensure all stakeholders are meeting their obligations. The numerous weeds, vertebrate pests and tramp ant incursions highlight the vulnerability of our region to the introduction of biosecurity matter and the strategic importance of preventing the spread of biosecurity matter across Australia.

Given the favorable conditions in the Wet Tropics Bioregion, the Douglas Shire area is faced with a diverse range of weed and pest animal issues. The favorable climate provides ideal habitat for a huge variety of noxious weeds and an ideal harborage for large populations of pest animals with its rich resources and year-round water and cover.

The Douglas Shire Council local area Biosecurity Plan 2016-2020 is written to in accordance with the provisions of the Biosecurity Act 2014. The Biosecurity Plan is subject to ongoing review every four years, with necessary updates being made on annual basis to reflect changes in resources, pest threats, legislation or policy.

The Douglas Shire Council formally adopted this Biosecurity Plan through a resolution of council.

## **Pest Management Planning**

A program to stop land degradation by pest invasion is a major undertaking. It cannot be achieved simply by allocating finance in the annual budget. Without setting goals and defining the means of achieving them, any gains will be due to good luck rather than good management.

When clear guidelines are not communicated it is difficult to track progress toward pest management outcomes. It is also more difficult for landowners and managers to understand what is required of them to deliver their general biosecurity obligation. This Biosecurity Plan forms a policy document which in effect is a reference tool for field and administrative staff from within Douglas Shire Council, but also applies equally to all landholders and managers across the Douglas Shire area.

## Land Management in Douglas

Land in the Douglas Shire Council area is primarily managed for one or more of the following range of values:

- Residential /industrial
- Tourism and recreation
- Grazing
- Cropping and horticulture
- Nature Conservation
- Cultural Heritage
- Quarries



## **The Biosecurity Working Group**

The Douglas Shire Council Biosecurity Working Group DSCBWG was formed and open to all stakeholders to ensure Douglas Shires Biosecurity Plan is developed by and for the entire community.

The DSCBWG considered all pests in relation to the range of land management priorities in the Douglas Shire Council area. The challenge in the development of the DSBP is to balance the needs of rural land uses with those expectations from other residents and the growing concern for natural resources within the community

The role of the Biosecurity Working Group is:

- To acknowledge the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders.
- To provide advice to the Douglas Shire Council, Regional and State agencies and organisations on the biosecurity management priorities and requirements of land managers and owners of the Douglas Shire area.
- Identify research priorities and operational needs of the DSLGA and ensure the DSBWG is represented at the NAMAC who Regional Pest Management Sub-committees for the purpose of the co-investment model.
- Develop and review a Biosecurity Plan for invasive biosecurity matter for all land tenure in the DSLGA.
- Prioritise invasive biosecurity matter and local priority pest species and develop locally specific obligations to ensure pests are being managed and to a standard that is accepted by the community.
- Ensure all stakeholders formally know, accept and acknowledge their roles and responsibilities in relation to the DSBP.
- Ensure key stakeholders are involved in monitoring, reviewing, and coordinating the implementation of the DSBP.

## **Legal Requirements Regarding Pests**

#### 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 with in 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.

#### 48 Main function of local government

- (1) The main function under this Act of each local government is to ensure that the following biosecurity matter (*invasive biosecurity matter* for the local government's area) are managed within the local government's area in compliance with this Act-
  - (a) prohibited matter mentioned in schedule 1, parts 3 and 4;
  - (b) prohibited matter taken to be included in schedule 1, parts 3 and 4 under a prohibited matter regulation or emergency prohibited matter declaration;
  - (c) restricted matter mentioned in schedule 2, part 2;
  - (d) restricted matter taken to be included in schedule 2, part 2 under a restricted matter regulation.

The Biosecurity Act 2014 lists schedules for prohibited and restricted matter that can be viewed at:

https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-2014-007

## **Biosecurity Plans**

The *Douglas Shire Biosecurity Plan 2017-2021* will guide the management of all invasive biosecurity matter and locally declared pests in the Douglas Shire Council area as per section 53 of the Act.

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 Biosecurity Act provides Authorised Officers with powers and tools needed to ensure the level of response is appropriate to the level of biosecurity risk.

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

## **The General Biosecurity Obligation**

The general biosecurity obligation (GBO) is one of the core principles of the Biosecurity Act and represents a major shift in thinking – from prescriptive to outcome-based management.

#### 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 Douglas Shire Council Biosecurity Plan 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 PWG 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.

The management outcomes guide or set the standard for the actions and measures thought to be reasonable and practical by the Douglas Shire Community that will help in addressing the biosecurity risk posed by these pests and achieve the desired local management objectives.

There may be circumstances when a person fails to take actions to discharge their GBO to manage a biosecurity risk.

An authorised officer determines, through risk-based decision-making, if the person has failed to take appropriate actions consistent with the management outcomes stated in the Douglas Shire Council Biosecurity Plan to address that biosecurity risk.

The officer must be certain that the person responsible for the biosecurity matter understands the risk/s that must be mitigated. There may be a need for the officer to provide some education to the person. Following this, if the individual does not take steps to mitigate the risk, the officer would be in a position to consider issuing a biosecurity order.

The person then must take the actions stated in the Biosecurity Order to address the risk.

## **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 2.

#### **Biosecurity Programs**

Biosecurity programs (surveillance or prevention and control programs) have been implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries <u>https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-</u> priorities/biosecurity and Douglas Shire Council <u>https://douglas.qld.gov.au/environment-water-and-waste/natural-resource-management/pest-management/</u> to enable proactive management of a weeds and pest animals. The Douglas Shire Council surveillance program 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 <a href="https://douglas.qld.gov.au/environment-water-and-waste/natural-resource-management/pest-management/">https://douglas.qld.gov.au/environment-water-and-waste/natural-resource-management/</a> or purchased through council for the price of printing.

The Douglas Shire Council prevention and control program/s are aimed at managing or reducing or eradicating a limited number of high priority pests that currently pose a significant risk to the biosecurity considerations of the Douglas Shire region. A copy of the prevention and control programs can be obtained <u>https://douglas.qld.gov.au/environment-water-and-waste/natural-resource-management/pest-management/</u> or purchased through council for the price of printing.

## **Invasive Biosecurity Matter**

#### **Prohibited Matter**

Prohibited matter includes a range of invasive plants and invasive animals in the Act that have the potential to have significant impacts and are currently not present or known to be present in Queensland. <u>https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/biosecurity/policy-legislation-regulation/biosecurity-act-2014/biosecurity-matter-report/prohibited-matter</u>

#### Identifying prohibited matter

It is the responsibility of all Queenslanders, as well as visitors from interstate and overseas, to be aware and take steps to prevent prohibited matter from entering our state. You will be expected to know about the prohibited matter that you may come across as part of your environment, business or hobby.

#### **Reporting prohibited matter**

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. You must also take all reasonable steps to minimise the risks of the prohibited matter and not make the situation worse. If you are unsure if it is prohibited matter, contact Biosecurity Queensland for more information on 13 25 23

#### **Restricted Matter**

Restricted matter is listed in the Act and 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 uninfested parts of the State. <u>https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/biosecurity/policy-</u> <u>legislation-regulation/biosecurity-act-2014/biosecurity-matter-report/restricted-matter</u>

#### **Categories of restricted matter**

There are seven categories for restricted matter, five 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.

Restricted matter is biosecurity matter that is present in Queensland and is likely to have a detrimental impact. There are specific actions that are required to limit restricted matter's impact by reducing, controlling or containing it.

Plant and animal species in the DSC Biosecurity Plan 2017–2021 refer to seven restricted matter categories.

Category 1	must be reported to a Queensland Government inspector within 24 hours.
Category 2	must be reported to a Queensland Government inspector or a local
	Government authorised officer.
Category 3	must not be distributed. This means it must not be released into the
	environment unless the distribution or disposal is authorised by a regulation or under a permit.
Category 4	must not be moved.
Category 5	must not be possessed or kept unless it is under a permit issued in accordance
	with the Act or another act.
Category 6	must not be fed except for the purpose of preparing for or undertaking a control
	program.
Category 7	must be destroyed and disposed of as soon as practicable in accordance with
	Queensland Government requirements.
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#### There may be several restriction categories that apply to particular biosecurity matter.

See <u>https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/biosecurity/invasive-plants-animals/fact-sheets</u> for a detailed list of restricted invasive plants in Queensland.

#### **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 Eradication Program



**Goal:** Locate all infestations within the Shire and control, with the aim to eradicate from the Douglas Shire Council Area.

**Performance Indicator:** Surveys of the entire Shire completed with all Siam Weed located mapped and controlled.

#### Strategic Action:

- To conduct annual surveys to locate and map Siam Weed within the Douglas Shire;
- To ensure that all infestations located are controlled;
- Promote individual landholders and other departments to control Siam Weed on their lands;
- Douglas Shire Council to facilitate public awareness programs with landholders in high risk areas
- To issue biosecurity orders to non-compliant landholders as required;
- Identify funding opportunities to assist in all of the above programs.

Project partners: Douglas Shire Council, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, landowners

#### **Hiptage Eradication Program**



**Goal:** In partnership with Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service locate all infestations within the Shire and control, with the aim to eradicate from the Douglas Shire Council Area.

**Performance Indicator:** Surveys completed within management areas, all Hiptage, mapped and treated with no reproductive events.

#### Strategic Action:

- To conduct annual surveys to locate and map Hiptage within the Douglas Shire;
- To ensure that all infestations located are controlled prior to seeding;
- Promote individual landholders and other departments to control Hiptage on their lands;
- Douglas Shire Council to facilitate public awareness programs with landholders in high risk areas
- Identify funding opportunities to assist in all the above programs.

Project partners: Douglas Shire Council, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, landowners

#### **Miconia Species (Four Tropical Weeds Eradication Program)**



**Goal:** In partnership with the Four Tropical Weeds team locate and control all Miconia infestations within the Shire with the aim to eradicate.

**Performance Indicator:** Surveys completed within management areas, all Miconia species located, mapped and treated with no reproductive events.

#### Strategic Action:

- Participate in survey and control program
- To ensure that all infestations located are controlled prior to seeding;
- Assist or facilitate public awareness programs such as displays at local field days /talks with landholders in high risk areas;

**Project partners**: Four Tropical Weeds Eradication Program, Douglas Shire Council, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Whyanbeel Community Group.

#### Feral Pig Management Program



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

**Performance Indicator:** A reduction in complaints received regarding feral pig damage occurring within the Shire.

#### Strategic Action:

- To coordinate an effective feral pig trapping program within Douglas Shire
- Promote individual landholders and other departments on their lands and monitor populations and impacts of feral pigs
- To provide a 1080 baiting service where appropriate;
- To provide advice on best management practice to the community;

Project partners: Douglas Shire Council, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, landowners

The desired outcomes proposed for this plan are consistent with those of the state weeds and pest animal strategies (developed in accordance with the requirements of the Biosecurity Act 2014 and are central to the success off biosecurity management activities.

Desired Outcome 1	Stakeholders are informed, knowledgeable and are committed to pest weed and animal management.
Desired Outcome 2	To ensure all stakeholders are strongly committed to implementing effective biosecurity management.
Desired Outcome 3	Strategic directions are established, maintained and owned by all stakeholders.
Desired Outcome 4	To prevent the introduction and establishment of new weeds and pest animals.
Desired Outcome 5	Integrated systems for managing the impacts of established weeds and pest animals are developed.

"Stakeholders are informed, knowledgeable and have ownership of weed and pest animal management"

**Objective** - To increase community, industry, agribusiness and government awareness of pests and their impacts

Principle	Strategic Action	By Whom	Timeframe	Success Indicator	
Awareness	Provide draft BMP for PWG and public consultation/submissions.	DSC	2017	Draft posted on DSC web site. Submissions received.	Completed (Revised 2019)
	Review BMP and Programs annually		2021	Review completed and amendments made	2019
	Submit BMP for adoption by Council.	DSC	2017	Adopted BMP and action plans published on DSC Web site. with linkages to FNQROC web site and DAF fact sheets.	Completed in 2017 (Revised 2019)
	PMAC works together to promote weed and pest animal awareness across sectors and interest groups	All Stakeholders	Ongoing	Extension material available. Information circulated through existing networks	
	Biosecurity displays are presented at the Field Days & other opportunities (i.e. Reef guardian Program, Canegrowers, Catchment Group meetings)	DSC, DAFF	Ongoing	Number of presentations made	

"To ensure all stakeholders are strongly committed to implementing effective biosecurity management".

**Objective**- Establish long term commitment to pest weed and animal management and ensure compliance with the Act in pest weeds and pest animals management

Principle	Strategic Action	By Whom	Timeframe	Success Indicator
Commitment, Consultation and partnership	Maintain a working group of key stakeholders to develop and review plans and actions	Stakeholders	Annually	Meetings held and updates provided. Continued working partnerships
A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	Participate in delivery and hosting of taskforce operations under the regional taskforce MOU	DSC & FNQROC	As required	Number of taskforces attended or hosted
	Participate in regional advisory and governance of Biosecurity (NAMAC)	DSC, DAF & FNQROC	Quarterly	Attend and contribute to quarterly NAMAC meetings
	Maintain and promote a Surveillance, Prevention and Control Programs for key projects and priorities	DSC	Annually	Pest Survey Program maintained and implemented
	Support State and Commonwealth pest management projects.	DSC, DAF & DES	On going	State/Commonwealth projects supported.
	Support other *stakeholder projects where they align with the BMP.	DSC, Landcare & Terrrain	On going	Stakeholders, community groups supported.
	Utilise compliance where necessary in line with principals in the Strategic Action Plans.	DSC	As required	Compliance exercised when necessary to achieve actions within the BMP.

"Strategic directions are established, maintained and owned by all stakeholders"

**Objective-** To create a coordinated and integrated planning framework for weed and pest animal management

Principle	Strategic Action	By Whom	Timeframe	Success Indicator
Planning, Integration	Ensure that the Biosecurity Management Plan is consistent with related strategies and plans	DSC, DAF, FNQROC	Annually	No inconsistencies between plans. 3) The level of attendance and participation of State Agency representation in planning meetings
	Participate and contribute to regional planning and advisory groups and forums (i.e. NAMAC)	DSC, DAF, FNQROC	As required	Number of meetings and events hosted or attended
	Annual review of action plan and management objectives by PMAC	Stakeholders	Annually	Timely review of action plans
Con Service Ser	Support DSC Development Assessments. Promote pest issues and undesirable species to planning staff	DSC	On going	Informed staff review vegetation plans. Undesirable species are not used. Developments meet legislative requirements concerning pests.

"Introduction spread and establishment of weeds and pest animals is prevented."

**Objective-** To prevent the introduction and establishment of new weeds and pest animals

Principle	Strategic Action	By Whom	Timeframe	Success Indicator
Prevention	Adopt weed prevention protocols.	Stakeholders	Ongoing	Occurrence of new weeds species
	Promote weed hygiene declarations for movement of harvesting and construction plant, and fodder.	Stakeholders	Ongoing	Use of weed prevention declaration
	Promote early reporting of pest problems and respond to landowners complaints promptly.	DSC & DAF	Ongoing	% of recurrence of target weeds
	Promote and participate in Rapid Response protocol.	DSC & DAF	As required	

"Integrated systems for managing the impacts of established weeds and pest animals are developed."

**Objective** - Adoption of best practice management techniques by stakeholder/land managers

Principle	Strategic Action	By Whom	Timeframe	Success Indicator
Best Practice Management	Consider: timing, integrated, techniques, non-target damage, cost prevention, animal welfare, workplace health and safety, monitoring, research, operational procedures and chemical registration requirements in planning	Stakeholders	Ongoing	Feedback on the Pest Management Plan's comprehensive coverage of issues.
	Promote the use, awareness and availability of best practice information.	DSC, DAF & FNQROC	As required	Best Practice Manuals distributed
	Maintain and update pest management distribution and objectives. Contribute to Annual Pest Distribution Survey	DSC & DAF	Annually	Distribution and management objective mapping for priority pests and weeds remains current. GIS data shared freely between all stakeholders

## **Prioritisation of Biosecurity Matter in the Douglas Shire Area**

The framework utilised by the working group in assessing and assigning the priorities of Biosecurity matter within this plan was developed within local government and adopted regionally by the FNQROC. The process of determining priorities was conducted by members of the Biosecurity working group prior to going to wider consultation. For more details on the framework refer to the Local Government Pest Assessment, Prioritisation and Planning Framework at <a href="http://www.fnqroc.qld.gov.au/files/media/original/003/d7a/a59/809/Framework.pdf">http://www.fnqroc.qld.gov.au/files/media/original/003/d7a/a59/809/Framework.pdf</a>.

Douglas Shire Council weed		Existi	ing pla	ns	Impacts and threats Capacity to mana					manage	
prioritisation		and p	orioriti	es							
		NATIONAL	STATE	LOCAL	Conservation/ Biodiversity	Riparian/ Aquatic	Agricultural/ Production	Residential/ Urban	Achievability	Current Extent	Total Score
	Miconia species	5	2.5	5	5	4	1	5	2	5	34.5
	Water Hyacinth	2.5	1.5	4	4	5	1	4	4	5	31
	Siam Weed	0	1.5	5	4	4	4	3	4	5	30.5
	Limnocharis	3	1.5	5	3	5	2	2	4	5	30.5
	Gamba grass	2.5	1.5	5	4	3	3	2	4	5	30

***	Mexican bean tree	0	2.5	5	4	4	1	3	5	5	29.5
	Hiptage	0	1	4	5	5	2	5	4	3	29
	Pond Apple	2.5	1.5	5	4	5	3	1	3	3	28
	Water lettuce	0	1.5	4	4	5	1	4	3	5	27.5
	Parthenium	2.5	1.5	5	3	2	3	1	4	5	27
	Salvinia	2.5	1.5	4	4	5	1	4	3	2	27
	Kudzu vine	0	1.5	3	4	4	2	3	3	5	25.5
	Venezualan Pokeweed	0	1	4	4	4	1	3	3	5	25
	Thunbergia Species	0	1.5	4	4	4	1	4	4	2	24.5
	lvy Gourd	0	1	3	3	3	1	2	4	5	22
	Tobacco Weed	0	1.5	4	3	2	4	2	3	2	21.5

Douglas Shire ( animal prioritis 2016	Existi and p	ing pla prioriti	ins ies	Impacts and threats Capacity to manage							
		NATIONAL	STATE	LOCAL	Conservation/ Biodiversity	Riparian/ Aquatic	Agricultural/ Production	Residential/ Urban	Achievability	Current Extent	Total Score
	Feral pigs	0	1.5	5	4	4	4	2	2	1	23.5
	Wild dogs	0	1.5	3	3	2	4	3	2	1	19.5
and the second s	Electric Ants	5	2.5	5	5	3	4	5	5	5	40.5

The following weeds are presumed eradicated from the area and are currently under monitoring to ensure they do not reoccur. Any suspected sightings of these weeds should be reported to DSC on 40999444.

MONITORING	Weed	Location	Where to watch out for it
	Alligator Weed	Port Douglas	Aquariums, waterways, gardens
	Limnocharis flava	Port Douglas, Wonga and Cape Trbulation	Water features, gardens, nurseries,

#### Pest and weed alerts

If you suspect you have seen any of these pests and weeds in the Douglas Shire Area, please report to the DSC on 40999444. For further information go to <u>www.daff.qld.gov.au</u>

ALERTS	Weed	Vicinity (State or Local	Likely source and
		Government Area)	mode of spread
	Fireweed	Tablelands	Machinery, stockfeed, wind, roadside maintenance
	Kosters Curse	Mareeba, Cassowary Coast	Birds, water, machinery
***	Cabomba caroliniana	Cairns, Cassowary Coast	Aquariums, Boats, fishing gear, water
	Stevia ovata	Tablelands	Machinery, wind, water
	Hygrophila costata	Cairns, Cassowary Coast, Hinchinbrook	Aquariums, water
	Neptunia – Water mimosa	Cairns	Food gardens, water
	Madras thorn	Cairns	Ornamental gardens
	Aleman grass	Cassowary Coast, Hinchinbrook	Grazing, stolons (cuttings)

Yellow Crazy Ants	Cairns, Mareeba	Building / garden materials, machinery
<i>Senegalia insuaeis,</i> species	Cairns, Cassowary Coast, Mareeba, Cook	Edible gardens
Opuntioid cacti	Cairns, Cassowary Coast, Mareeba	Ornamental gardens
Limnobiun Iavaetatumn	Cairns, Tablelands, Mareeba	Aquariums, water

## **Action Plans for Control of Priority Plant Pest and Animal Species**

Action plans have been developed for priority pest plant and 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.
- Implement appropriate strategic actions at the most appropriate time to have the greatest impact on the targeted pest (best management practice) and ensure they meet their general biosecurity obligation.
- Plan and coordinate pest management activities with neighbouring properties by targeting common management objectives and goals within relevant geographic areas.

There are numerous 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.



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

#### **Management zones**

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.

	First detection	Increasing abundance	Approaching fu	Il distribution
	D -> P.,	T ••••••	M	AP
Core management objectives	Prevention is a <u>deliberate</u> action taken to prevent species spreading to <u>management zones</u> where they do not currently occur.	Eradication is a <u>deliberate</u> action taken to remove all individuals of a species including all propagules in the soil seed bank from within a <u>management zone</u> .	Containment is a <u>deliberate</u> action taken to prevent establishment and reproduction of a species beyond or out of a <u>management zone.</u>	Asset Protection is a <u>deliberate</u> action taken to reduce the impacts on important assets in a <u>management zone.</u>
Transitional management objectives	Delimitation is a <u>deliberate</u> action taken to determine whether a species is present or absent in a <u>management zone</u> .	Intensive Control is a <u>deliberate</u> action taken to move a <u>management zone</u> towards eradication from containment or asset protection to eradication.	Transitional Management is <u>deliberate</u> action to move away from an eradication objective to a containment or an asset protection objective within a <u>management zone.</u>	

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

## Key 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.		
R	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.

	lllegal 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.
S	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**



For more information on using this biosecurity action plan fact sheet, and further information on control tools, refer to the Douglas Shire Biosecurity Management Plan available at douglas.qld.gov.au and customer service centres.



64-66 Front Street an. QLD. 4873

















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























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64-66 Front Street, Mossman, QLD, 4873



























> 64-66 Front Street, Mossman, QLD, 4873

( 1800 026 318 douglasshirecouncil

uglas.qid.gov.au quiries@douglas.qid.gov.au





















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## Appendix 1

The current 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 Agriculture and Fisheries
Kim Erbacher	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
David Leyden	Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
Kylie Goodall	Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
Jeff Arneth	Jabalbina Aboriginal Corporation
Drew Watson	Mossman Canegrowers
Laurie Taylor	AgForce Daintree
John Anich	Mossman Botanical Gardens

## Appendix 2

Douglas Shire Council Biosecurity Order and Information Notice

Develoe Shire Council	Biosecurity matter or animal matter details	
DOUGLAS	Mailor type	Action document (e.g. code, goldelhe)
Biosecurity order and information notice	Restricted matter     Prohibited matter     Other (including animal matter)	
Purisant to section 373 of the Albancurity Act 2014 (the Act)	Common name Scientific name	Proof of action
Biosecurity order Biosecurity order number (system generated)		Fry which the receptors made to show on receptor in compying with the bookdary order. Example places when before, during and other reament.
Recipient	The recipient has field or may fiel to discharge the GBD in that:	
First name Last name		
Customer role RBE Number		
Land owner Manager Occupier Other RBE	Actions The action's the recipient must take at the place to prevent or reduce the biosecurity risk arising from the recipient's failure or possible	Proof of action must be undertaken by
Company name	failure to discharge the QBO.	Action 2 Clean or deinfact Perrove
	All actions on this biosecurity order must be taken by the expiry date.	Control or exadicate Permitive from the place and destroy, or cause the destruction of
Property/Bailding name Unit/Lot/Street number Street name	Arters 1 Clean or disinfect Research	Destroy or cause the destruction of Btop using the place or part of a place
	Remove from the place and destroy, or cause the	Dispose of Treat or refrein from treating
Saburb/TownLocality State Postcode Country	Control or oradicate destruction of	Prohibit, or restrict the removal of
E-mail address	Destroy or cause the destruction of Stop using the place	
	Dispose of Treat or refrein from treating	Action must be taken by
Phone Fax Mobile	Prohibit, or restrict the removal of	Action datails
	Action must be taken by	
Prolamed method of cantact	Pharbel Linear an amount ag	
Any E-mail Phone Mail	Action details	
l'Ince		
The place where the recipient failed to discharge, or may fail to discharge, their General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO). Fill in the fields that best describe the place.		
Real progenty description for the place		
Saturb/TawnLocality State Postcode County		
Roal Property Description many redge Local poverryment area Property Identification Code (PIC)		
Other description for the place		
Is this description in addition to the real property description?		
Yes No		
Further property description/comments		
		Action document (e.g. code, galdeline)
		14
14		Ph.

Proof of action	Information notice	
Any action the recipient must take to show the recipient is complying with the biosecurity order.	Section 375 of the Electronity Act 9014 (the Act) requires that an information police is alway in the recipient of a biosecurity order	
Exemple, photox laken before, during and effer instiment.	Sector of the bookbardy He 1014 (the Poly requires the artification of the sector of the technic of a bookbardy order.	
	Decision	
	In my capacity as a delegate of the chief executive officer under section 373(1) of the Act, I am giving you a biosecurity order in relation to:	
	biosecurity matter or animal matter place	
	at	Conclusions
Proof of action must be undertaken by	Faots	Based on the evidence above I have made the following conclusions:
Re-entry (if applicable)	In reaching this decision I have considered the following facts:	
Section 373(d) of the Act provides that a biosecurity order may state proposed times or intervals that an authorised officer may enter	(Stample: How has the recipient failed to discharge their G2C), tragection details, Seldence) You have a Conserval Biospeciative (CBRO) for:	
the following places to check compliance with the order:	rou nave a denie a brakedný dorganom (dodu) ko.	
<ul> <li>the place to which the order relates</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>a vehicle of which the recipient is the person in control</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>appliage place of which the recipient is the occupier.</li> </ul>		Expiry date
Place/s for entry	In addition:	You must now take all actions stated in the bioseourity order which accompanies this information notice by:
		Authorized officeridelegate details
Date of intended re-entry interval of intended re-entry		First name Last name
Authority		
Authorized officer defails		Signature Date of issue
First name Last name		
Signature Date of issue		Privacy statement
		Under section 379 of the Act the chief executive officer of Douglas Shire Council must keep a register of biosecurity orders. The
		register must contain details of the place to which the biosecurity order relates, the day the order was given, information about the biosecurity matter or any other thing to which the order relates, the action required to be taken and the period stated in the order for
		taking the action.
issuing authority details		The Act (section 379 (4)) provides that the register of biosecurity orders may be published on the Department of Agriculture and Ekcledies' website your datable way and a person may be person at a factor in a part of the section of a factor of a
Douglas Shire Council Council.Chambers: 64-66 Front Street, Mossman		local government, at the local government's principal place of business.
Postal Address: PO Box 723 Mossman Qki 4873		
Fibme: (07) 4098 2902		Review rights As the neares to where this information police applies. If your interacts are adversely affected and you are discutificed with this decision
ABN: 71 241 237 800		you have a right to apply for internal review of the decision under section 362 of the Act. Under section 363 of the Act the application
Compliance with the bloceourity order		for review must be:
Section 262 of the Act gives an authorised officer the power to enter the place to which this biosecurity order relates to check compliance with the biosecurity order.		<ul> <li>made in the approved form;</li> <li>supported by enough information to enable the review decision to be made; and</li> <li>made with a data of the provide a large allocations and the additional additionadditional additional additional additionadditional additional</li></ul>
in the event of non-compliance with the order, an authorised officer may take the steps stated in the order		<ul> <li>United when in any 50 per being great the internation notice.</li> <li>You are approximated to say your own advice about your review rights. However, should you with to say's an internal review of this</li> </ul>
If the person to whom this order was given does not take the steps set out in the order to remove or reduce the biosecurity risk or		decision you may do so by lodging an internal review application to Douglas Shire Council. Further information regarding the review
prevent the biosecurity risk from recurring, section 263 of the Act gives an authorised officer the power to enter the place to which the biosecurity order relates and take the steps stated in the order.		process, including an application for internal review form may be obtained by visiting the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries website at <u>www.daf.qkl.gov.au</u> or by contacting the DAF Customer Service Centre on 13 25 23.
In addition, under section 380 the issuing authority for a biosecurity order may recover the amount that the issuing authority properly		If applying for an internal review, you may also apply to the Queensland Civil Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) or Magistrates Court for
and reasonably incurs in taking the steps under section 263 as a debt payable to the issuing authority, by the person who failed to take the action.		an immediate stay of the decision whilst the review is being conducted.
Under section 377 of the Aot it is an offence for you to not comply with this order unless you have a reasonable excuse.		Under section 365 of the Act, an internal review decision will be made within 20 days of Douglas Shire Council receiving your application. You will be notified of the outcome within 10 days of the internal review decision being made.
renalues may apply in the udde of non-compliance.		The internal review will be conducted by someone other than myself. If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review you may easily an external review of the decision by CGAT. The internal review decision will detail your rights in this review.
48	58	may avery an examine remove or the decision by space. The memorial remem decision will determyour rights in this regard.