Blackall Tambo Regional Council
PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN
2012-2016

Blackall-Tambo
Regional Council

Exploring the past. Innovating the future.

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

Pest Management Plan

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SECTION A

Executive Summary

The Blackall Tambo Regional Council Pest Management Plan (PMP) was developed for the benefit of the whole community and is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 Queensland.

With the implementation of the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002* very clear responsibilities are identified for local government and land owners. Blackall Tambo Regional Council has recognised its responsibilities and roles within the Act and has put forward a Pest Management Plan that not only addresses current legislation, but also endeavours to raise community awareness of pest management issues. Resourcing pest management continues to be an inhibiting factor to achieving desired goals however, it is anticipated that this plan will become an aid not only for pest management planning but in achieving external funding to achieve set objectives.

1.0   Introduction

1.1   Purpose
The purpose of this Pest Management Plan (PMP) is to bring together all sectors of the local communities to provide for the management of declared pests in this local government's area. In so doing, the PMP:

- lists known high risk pest animals and invasive weeds in the shire
- sets strategies, priorities, activities and responsibilities for control of high risk pest animals and invasive weeds at a local scale
- ensures resources are targeted at the highest priority pest management activities and those most likely to succeed
- sets achievable objectives for the local community that address the economic, environmental and social impacts of weeds and pest animals
- incorporates monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of the plan
- informs regional planning processes on local pest management priorities.

1.2   Background
Weeds and pest animals are in every local government area. Weeds and pest animals cost Queensland more than $600 million every year in lost production and control costs. They also cause degradation of natural resources, including vegetation, threaten biodiversity values and interfere with human health and recreational activities.

1.3   Scope of a PMP
This PMP covers all land within the boundaries of this local government area, including state land. By agreement, land owned by the Australian government or held by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities under a Deed of Grant in Trust is also included.

Pest species targeted in this PMP are exotic species and some indigenous species such as locusts. Pests are defined as species declared under the three declaration classes identified by the Act (refer Table 1), local laws, or other species that are having or has the potential to have an impact in the area.

Table 1: Classes of declared pests under the Act

Class*	Description
1	A Class 1 pest is one that is not commonly present in Queensland, and if introduced would cause an adverse economic, environmental or social impact. Class 1 pests established in Queensland are subject to eradication from the state. Landowners must take reasonable steps to keep land free of Class 1 pests.
2	Class 2 pests are established in Queensland and have, or could have, an adverse economic, environmental or social impact. Management of these pests requires coordination and they are subject to programs led by local government, community or landowners. Landowners must take reasonable steps to keep land free of Class 2 pests.
3	Class 3 pests are established in Queensland and have, or could have, an adverse economic, environmental or social impact. Landholders are not required to control Class 3 pests unless their land is adjacent to an environmentally significant area

- Declared pest species are identified in *Schedule 2 of the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Regulation 2003* – visit on line at http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/L/LandPrPSRMR03.pdf

2.0 Declared and Other Locally Significant Weeds and Pest Animals Present in Blackall Tambo Regional Council

Priority rating

- **High** potential detrimental impact to the Shire of not doing anything to control the pest based on predictive pest management models

- **Medium** beneficial impact of spending money NOW to control the pest (e.g. weed present in very small numbers in a Shire which could be eradicated with a small amount of money and effort)

- **Low** present but not economical to control too widespread.

2.1 List of declared and significant animal and plant pest within the Blackall Tambo Regional Council

Table 1. Prioritised list of pest animal and plants within the Blackall Tambo Regional Council

Name of Pest	Priority	Level of control	Declaration status
Pest Animals			
Wild dogs (<u>Canis familiaris</u>) 	High **1**	Containment with reasonable level of control	Class 2

Feral pigs (Sus scrofa)	High 2	Containment with reasonable level of control	Class 2
Foxes (Vulpes vulpes)	High 2	Containment with reasonable level of control	Class 2
Feral cats (Felis catus)	High 2	Containment with reasonable level of control	Class 2
Rabbits (Oryctolagus cuniculus)	Medium 3	Containment with reasonable level of control	Class 2
Locusts	Low 4	Identification and notification	Class 2
Feral goat	Low 4	Containment with reasonable level of control	Class 2
Weeds			
Parthenium (Parthenium hysterophorous)	**High**	Control of isolated, strategic infestations/populations	Class 2
Parkinsonia (Parkinsonia aculeata)	High	Control of isolated, strategic infestations/populations	Class 2

Mother of Millions (Bryophyllum delagoense)	High	Control of isolated, strategic infestations/populations	Class 2
Florestina (Florestina tripteris)	High	Control of isolated, strategic infestations/populations	Undeclared
Cactus Includes tree pear, rope cactus, coral cactus etc	Medium	Control of isolated, strategic infestations/populations	Class 1 or 2
Rubber vine (Cryptostegia	Low	Eradication	Class 2

grandiflora)			
Mesquite	Low	Eradication	Class 2
Athel Pine (Tamarix aphylla)	Low	Containment within specified areas	Class 3

2.2 Annual Pest Distribution Survey

An annual Pest Survey Program will be conducted. Blackall Tambo Regional Council will collect and collate this information and map all high priority weed species listed in this plan.

Following are Standard Operating Procedures for each pest animal and declared weed and other 'locally significant' weeds listed above.

2.3 Standard Operating Procedure for each of the Identified plant and animal pests

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
WILD DOGS (<u>CANIS FAMILIARIS</u>)

Description of problem

Wild dogs are non-domestic dogs, including dingoes and dingo hybrids. They are present throughout the state and kill, harass or maim sheep and cattle, domestic pets, native wildlife and other domestic animals and are known vectors for other diseases capable impacting humans and livestock.

Status of the pest

Wild Dogs are a Class 2 declared pest and have a very high priority within Blackall Tambo Regional Council.

Local distribution of the pest

Develop distribution map

Program objectives

To manage, control and work towards reducing the impact on the sheep and cattle industries.
To foster increased participation amongst all landholders, neighbours and government agencies.
To better coordinate a strategic control program across all Councils in the region.
To reform dog syndicates and local wild dog eradication committees.
To adopt best practice methodologies and most recent scientific findings.
To continue to lobby government for improved control methodologies

Who is responsible

Landowners: accepting lead role and responsibility for wild dog control; destruction and control of wild dogs; responsible use of livestock guarding animals.
Local government: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness; and promoting responsible dog ownership;
Animal welfare organizations: promoting responsible pet ownership.
State Government Departments: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research; maintenance of the Wild Dog Barrier Fence.

Will do what

1. Trap, shoot or bait on an identified needs basis.
2. BTRC WDAG continue to develop strategies and provide advice to council.
3. Maintain and expand wild dog education program throughout the Council region.
4. Encourage adoption of best practice for guardian animals.
5. Prepare landholders and other affected agencies for assuming control of this issue and encourage landholders to appoint a local coordinator.
6. Lobby the state government for increased resources for control.
7. Continue to strengthen the regional perspective on wild dog control
8. Continue to map wild dog activity, attacks, areas of control and scalp returns

Resources needed

Financial, human and capital resources as determined by Council budget
Landholder support
State government support – research, coordination, poison

Performance Indicators Numbers

of wild dogs reduced. Reduced
sightings by landowners. Reduction
in number of dog attacks.
Formation and effective operation of dog syndicates and regular distribution of data from syndicates.
Level of participation in coordinated control campaigns

Monitoring and Review

Feedback from syndicates

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
FERAL PIGS (<u>SUS SCROFA</u>)

Description of problem
Feral pigs (*Sus scrofa*) have a significant impact on the environment and agricultural production and are a potential reservoir and vector of exotic diseases. Control methods include poisoning, trapping, exclusion fencing, ground shooting and shooting from helicopters. Feral pigs are omnivorous, opportunistic feeders.

They kill and eat lambs, damage pasture and crops by grazing, trampling, and uprooting the ground, and damage stored grain facilities, fence lines and watering points. They are carriers of endemic diseases such as leptospirosis, Q fever, brucellosis, and sparganosis, and are also susceptible to a wide range of exotic diseases and could act as reservoirs or vectors should these diseases enter Australia. Feral pigs have a significant impact on the natural environment through wallowing, grazing, rooting and predation.

Status of the pest
Class 2 pest and given a high priority by BTRC

Local distribution of the pest.
Develop distribution map

Program objective
To control and manage populations
Reduced environmental damage particularly in riparian zones
To continue to foster commercial viability

Who is responsible
Landowners: destruction and control of pest animals.
Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (DEEDI): statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

Will do What
1. Poisoning and trapping;
2. Facilitating shooters
3. Map distribution

Resources needed
Local, individual and regional (mapping)

Performance Indicator
Reduced environmental degradation;
Managed local population

Monitoring and Review
Ongoing

**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
FOXES (VULPES VULPES)**

Description of problem

European red foxes are adaptable and can be found in a variety of habitats that range from deserts to urban environments but exclude the tropics, depending on the local availability of food and shelter. Foxes are opportunistic feeders that will eat fruit, invertebrates, small mammals, frogs, fish, and birds. They are a threat to the survival of many ground-dwelling native animals, such as rock wallabies. In rural Australia, foxes kill a significant number of lambs and goat kids. Poisoning with 1080 is the most effective large-scale control option; trapping and shooting are also effective when used appropriately.

Status of the pest

Class 2 pest given a high priority by BTCR

Local distribution of the pest.

Develop distribution map

Program objective

To continue to reduce and control population

Who is responsible - the lead agency
Landowners: destruction and control of pest animals.
Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (DEEDI): statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

Will do What

1. Bait, trap and shoot to control local populations;
2. Map distribution.

Resources needed

Local, individual and Regional (Mapping)

Performance Indicator –

Reduced population numbers;
Less stock morbidity and mortality

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing

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STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
FERAL CATS (<u>FELIS CATUS</u>)

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Description of problem
Feral cats are distributed throughout Queensland. They are highly adaptable animals that can survive and reproduce in all habitats. Few environmental factors limit their distribution. They are opportunistic predators and studies of their diet have shown that they take as prey many native animals including small mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects, and fish. Through predation, feral cats can cause disruption to ecosystems and are implicated in the elimination of some species from areas such as islands.

Feral cats are able to increase numbers quickly under favourable conditions – female cats have three litters per year with an average of five kittens per litter. Domestic cats are continuously adding to the stray and feral cat population numbers (a cat's status is not constant – an owned cat may become feral).

Status of the pest
Class 2 pest given a high priority by BTRC

Local distribution of the pest.
Develop distribution map

Program objective
To control and manage population

Who is responsible - the lead agency
Landowners: destruction and control of pest animals.
Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (DEEDI):
statewide planning, mapping, coordination of management, raising awareness, and research.
Local governments, RSPCA, animal welfare groups: encouraging responsible pet ownership.

Will do What
Conduct road patrols on regular basis.

1.   Acquire and set feral cat traps around specific areas within Council and territories to scope the effectiveness of capturing feral cats.
2.   Report on success of feral cat control works;
3.   Council to create by-law to restrict number of   cats per household to two and for all cats to be de-sexed;
4.   Community wide education strategy needs to be undertaken to encourage responsible cat ownership.

Resources needed
Local, individual and regional (mapping)

Performance Indicator
Reduced population numbers
Reduced environmental damage

Monitoring and Review
Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
RABBITS (ORYCTOLAGUS CUNICULUS)

Description of problem

Rabbits have spread throughout Queensland, with the largest populations found in the granite belt, south-western Darling Downs, Maranoa, southern Warrego and the far southwest. Their pest status is mostly due to their enormous breeding capacity (18–30 young per female per year), which enables them to repopulate rapidly after droughts or control campaigns. By competing for food and burrow space, they have contributed to the reduction in number and extinction of many native animals. They also reduce the quantity and quality of pasture for grazing animals, and are a primary cause of soil erosion by preventing the regeneration of native vegetation.

Status of the pest

Class 2 pest given medium priority by BTRC

Rabbits are one of Australia's worst agricultural and environmental pests, estimated to cost the nation between $600 million and $1 billion annually.

Local distribution of the pest.

Develop distribution map

Program objective

To control and manage local populations

Who is responsible - the lead agency
Landowners: destruction and control of rabbits.
Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness outside the DD–MRB area.
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (DEEDI): statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research. **Darling Downs – Moreton Rabbit Board (DD–MRB):** compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness inside the DD–MRB area; maintenance of the DD–MRB fence.

Will do What

Conduct spot light surveys where populations are identified. Advise landholders as to appropriate controls for small populations and assist with larger populations in ripping and fumigating, poisoning and ongoing surveillance.

Resources needed

Performance Indicator
No increase in population numbers

Monitoring and Review
Ongoing

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STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
LOCUSTS

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Description of problem
Three species of locust have been declared for their capacity to rapidly build up in numbers, migrate, and severely affect parts of Queensland. The development of plagues depends on the amount, distribution, and timing of rainfall throughout Queensland. Certain combinations of these factors can make significant plagues possible. The APLC accepts responsibility for any locust situation in Queensland that represents a threat to southern states.
Local governments in crop production areas that are at risk currently make annual payments into a Plague Pest Contingency Fund. This fund has a ceiling of $500 000 with a commitment of matching funding from the Queensland Government of up to $250 000 in any financial year, and is used to fund control activities. Control of locusts must take into consideration the economic, practical, and technical feasibility of control methods. Reactive control is expensive and largely unproductive, whereas preventative control based on monitoring, prediction, and strategic chemical or myco-insecticide *Metarhizium*) applications are effective and economically feasible.

Status of the pest
Class 2 pest given low priority by BTRC

Local distribution of the pest.
Only monitored for plague populations when an issue

Program objective
To monitor for build up of plague population and notify appropriate authority;

Who is responsible -
Responsibility for locust management in areas outside the APLC's area of responsibility is shared between landholders (for locusts that can be controlled within the resources of individual landholders), local governments (advice and coordination), and NR&M (advice, coordination, and control of swarms).

Landowners: localized control of locusts; in-crop control of locusts
Local governments: control of locusts in places such as roadsides and reserves. **DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (DEEDI), Australian Plague Locust Commission (in defined areas):** broad-scale strategic and preventative locust control.
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): locust control, and monitoring any adverse effects of control, on EPA estates.
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (DEEDI), local governments, Australian Plague Locust Commission (in defined areas): surveillance and mapping.

Will do What
1. Monitor for plague populations;
2. Notify the commission of any populations identified.

Resources needed
Local, individual, state and federal.

Performance Indicator
Number of plague populations

Monitoring and Review
Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
- **PRICKLY ACACIA (ACACIA NILOTICA)**
- **MESQUITE (PROSOPIS SPP.) and**
- **PARKINSONIA (PARKINSONIA ACULEATA)**

Description of problem

Prickly acacia is a thorny tree introduced from India. Six million hectares of Queensland are presently infested, and a further 50 million hectares are at risk of invasion, including the Mitchell grass downs and surrounding areas of tropical savannah. Cattle are the primary agent of dispersal for the seeds. Prickly acacia forms dense thickets that render land unproductive. The *Prickly Acacia Strategic Plan* has adopted a national containment line to safeguard uninfested areas. Eradication of prickly acacia from Queensland is no longer practical due to the size of current infestations; however, reducing the rate of spread and impacts of existing infestations is feasible. Property-level control is essential.

Description of problem

Mesquite is a highly invasive thorny shrub native to North and Central America, which has been named a Weed of National Significance (WONS) in Australia. The genus *Prosopis* contains 35–40 species.

P. flexuosa and synonymous with *P. juliflora* var. *velutina*)), honey mesquite (*P. glandulosa*), and algaroba (*P. pallida* (syn. *P. limensis*)), and the hybrid *P. glandulosa* var. *torreyana x P. pallida.* Large infestations in the shires of Richmond, McKinlay, Flinders, and Cloncurry cover over 120 000 hectares, with

small, isolated infestations elsewhere. Enforced management and control is necessary to prevent mesquite from forming dense thickets across its potential range of at least 60 per cent of arid and semi-arid Queensland. In the United States of America, it causes an estimated US$200–500 million in lost grazing production per annum. The long-term objective is to eradicate mesquite from Queensland over the next 30 years.

Description of problem

Parkinsonia (*Parkinsonia aculeata*) is a thorny shrub native to South and Central America, which has been named a Weed of National Significance (WONS) in Australia. In Queensland, parkinsonia is found in at least 35 local government areas and covers over 80 000 hectares. Heavy infestations are present in the Fitzroy, Burdekin, Lake Eyre, and Gulf Rivers catchments. The catchment areas of the Balonne and Maranoa rivers that flow into

Murray–Darling system and the rivers that flow into the Gulf of Carpentaria are mostly free, but isolated infestations in central and western Queensland have the potential to spread across large areas.

Under favorable conditions, it can form dense thickets along creeks and rivers and around dams, replacing any pasture grasses and hindering stock movement. Complete eradication from Queensland is not practical, given the size and remoteness of infestations; possible and desirable, however, is reducing its rate of spread and adverse effects, and protecting areas at risk through enforced management and control.

Status of the pest

PRICKLY ACACIA (ACACIA NILOTICA),
MESQUITE (PROSOPIS SPP.) considered low priority within BTRC
PARKINSONIA (PARKINSONIA ACULEATA)

Weeds of National Significance (WONS) in Australia. Class 2 declared weed and given a low to high priority by BTRC

Local distribution of the pest.

Continue to develop distribution map

Program objective

To contain existing core infestations

To treat and control smaller isolated patches

To eradicate single trees in isolated areas

Who is responsible
Landowners: destruction of infestations.
Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION
(DEEDI): statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

Will do What
1. Council continue to provide assistance with chemical and man power, a property pest management plan will be required from the landholder;
2. Continue to assist landholder with applications for WONS money;
3. Continue to foster relationships with state and federal agencies to treat core infestations

Resources needed
Spray units, herbicide, 4WD vehicle, quad bikes, trailer, personal protective equipment (PPE). chemical handling training, secure chemical storage facility/ shed, chainsaws/ weed management equipment.

Performance Indicator
No increase in the size of core infestations

Monitoring and Review
Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
PARTHENIUM WEED (PARTHENIUM HYSTEROPHOROUS)

Description of problem
Seeds are easily spread in mud, fodder, earthmoving equipment and grain-harvesting machinery. Restrictions on the movement of contaminated machinery and materials are therefore necessary to prevent spread to vulnerable areas. Under favourable conditions, parthenium can form dense stands that exclude other plants, including crops and pastures.
All parts of the plant, including pollen and dry material, can produce allergic responses in humans. Parthenium costs Queensland more than $14 million per annum in control and lost agricultural production. Complete eradication is no longer feasible; however, preventing or reducing its spread into new areas of the state and managing its adverse effects are feasible and desirable.

Status of the pest
Class 2 pest and Weed of National Significance and is given a high priority plant pest in the BTRC

Local distribution of the pest.
 See attached map

Program objective
To immediately address any emerging population;

To assist with the maintenance of existing population where funding permits;

To provide assistance to landholders where funding permits.

Who is responsible - the lead agency
Landowners: destruction of infestations.
Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.
QPI&F: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.
NRM Groups: Mapping, local and regional landholder coordination, seeking and disseminating funding, providing resources, liaising with technical specialists.

Will do What

1. Monitor known infestations and produce maps
2. Establish and maintain containment lines around core infestations
3. Spot spray outside containment lines
4. promote best practice procedures/guidelines in core infestations
5. Disseminate best practice information through tourist information centres and other community facilities.
6. Lobby for funding for wash down facilities.

When
Ongoing

Resources needed
Registered herbicides and Equipment Spray pack, spray tank, Quad and trailer
Financial support from Council, Government, other agencies, landholders.
Employment agencies/ initiatives, conservation volunteers

Performance Indicator
% reduction in the abundance of parthenium within and outside the containment area
Maintenance of containment lines

Monitoring and Review
monitor and report on the distribution, range, abundance and/or density of a weed

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
RUBBER VINE (<u>CRYPTOSTEGIA GRANDIFLORA</u>)

Description of problem
Rubber vine is a woody climber native to Madagascar, which was introduced to Australia in the 1860s. It and is one of Queensland's worst environmental weeds, distributed over some 700 000 hectares of the state. It forms dense thickets, especially along the banks of watercourses. This weed replaces native riparian vegetation on a massive scale, and severely affects pasture production. Eradication from Queensland is no longer practical due to the size and remoteness of infestations; however, preventing spread and reducing its adverse effects are realistic objectives.

Status of the pest
Weed of National Significance (WONS); Class 2 declared weed and classed a low priority within BTRC

Local distribution of the pest.
Develop mapping showing distribution

Program objective
To clearly map the distribution
To control local populations

Who is responsible
Landowners: destruction of infestations.
Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION
(DEEDI): statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

Will do What
1. Develop map of current distribution;
2. Control existing populations.

Resources needed
Local and state

Performance Indicator
No new populations
No growth in existing populations

Monitoring and Review
Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
MOTHER OF MILLIONS (Bryophyllum delagoense)

Description of problem

Mother of Millions is a perennial herb to 1 m high. Mother of millions are escaped ornamental plants originating from Madagascar. Five species are commonly naturalised in Queensland with one species and a hybrid increasing over substantial areas.

Mother of millions is highly toxic to stock and because of its succulent features is well adapted to dry areas.

As the name suggests one plant can reproduce a new general from masses of embryoids (plantlets) that are formed on the leaf edges. This makes these plants hard to eradicate. Mother of millions are erect, smooth, fleshy succulent plants growing to one metre or more in height. All species form tall flower spikes in winter with clusters of bell shaped flowers. Each species has a distinctive leaf-shape, but all produce small plantlets along the edges of the leaves. These plantlets drop readily, develop roots, and establish quickly to form a new colony.

Status of the pest

Weed is a declared Class 2 pest and is in given a high priority by the BTRC

Local distribution of the pest.

Develop map of distribution

Program objective

To contain existing populations

Who is responsible

Landowners: destruction of infestations.
Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (DEEDI): statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

Will do What

1. Control existing populations from spreading;
2. Treat and emergent and isolated populations.

Resources needed

Local and State

Performance Indicator

Manage local populations
Treat emergent populations

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
CACTUS (Class 1 & 2)

For the purposes of most cacti spp an emerging population (Class 1) or an establish population (Class 2) are treated exactly the same. The methodology is to treat immediately when a population is identified.

Class 1 & Class 2 Cacti – Includes - *Harissia spp and Cylindropuntia Fulgida & imbricada*

Description of problem

This category encumbers tree pear, coral cactus, rope cactus, *Harissia SPP* and other succulents that have become weeds of significance.

Status of the pest

Weeds are a declared Class 1 or 2 pest and is given a medium priority by the BTRC

Local distribution of the pest.

Develop map of the distribution

Program objective

To control existing populations

To treat any emergent populations

Who is responsible

Landowners: destruction of infestations.
Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (DEEDI): statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

Will do What

1. Control and/or eradicate existing populations (Class 1 & 2 *Harissia* and *Cylindropuntia*) from spreading;
2. Treat emergent and isolated populations.
3. Monitor and treat tree pear populations

Resources needed

Local and R&D

Performance Indicator

Reduction in local population
No new or emergent populations

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
ATHEL PINE

Description of problem

This weed is no widely spread in the area and in its current distribution provides environmental benefit to graziers. This is generally because the only trees are within sheep and cattle yards and have not spread any further in over a hundred years

Status of the pest

Class 3 weed given a very low priority by Blackall Tambo Regional Council

Local distribution of the pest.

Only very isolated trees

Program objective

No objective for this weed

Who is responsible
Landowners: destruction of infestations.
Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION
(DEEDI): statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

Will do What
No endeavour at this time

Resources needed
Nil

Performance Indicator –
No spread of existing isolated trees

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
FLORESTINA (<u>FLORESTINA TRIPTERIS</u>)

Description of problem

Small isolated (but spreading) patch to the south of Blackall Tambo. Scientific community yet advise as to best approach, this plan deciding to wait for such advices.

Status of the pest

Unclassified weed, population growing and is considered a High priority within BTRC

Local distribution of the pest.

Only local currently but is spreading

Program objective

Nil

Who is responsible

Landowners: destruction of infestations.
Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.
**DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION
(DEEDI):** statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

Will do What

Nil

Resources needed

Nil

Performance Indicator

Nil

Monitoring and Review

To maintain follow up in control areas. Maintain vigilance to monitor new infestations. Include monitoring of Florestina when developing the weed monitoring program.

3.0 GOAL (What it intends to achieve) OF PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

The goal of Blackall Tambo Regional Council plan is:

To involve and make all community residents aware of pest management responsibilities, having special regard for the areas regional biodiversity, agricultural, economic base and cultural values.

The Blackall Tambo Regional Council Pest management Plan incorporates six strategies and associated desired outcomes, for managing pests in its local government area:

1. To increase stakeholder awareness and knowledge of pest impacts, and pest management skills

2. To establish long-term stakeholder commitment and compliance to pest plant and animal management

3. To collect relevant pest data to increase knowledge of pests enabling the improvement of pest management practices

4. To create a holistic planning framework for pest management by reviewing, evaluating and implementing integrated pest management strategies and plans, and to adequately resource management actions

5. To prevent the introduction and establishment of new pest animals and plants; and to minimise the spread of existing pest plants and animals to new areas

6. To reduce pest populations and impacts through the adoption and development of best practice pest control methods; protect environmentally significant areas from pest animal and weeds; and offer stakeholder pest management incentives

3.1 MISSION STATEMENT (is a brief statement of the purpose of the plan)

To facilitate the cooperative management of weeds and pest animals, involving all stakeholders, within the Blackall Tambo Regional Council.

3.2 KEY OBJECTIVES (what is expected to be achieved as a result of spending time, money)

To improve weed and pest animal management strategies within Blackall Tambo Regional Council to mitigate and minimise their local and regional impacts.

To contribute and review on a wider scale the Queensland Government strategy for reducing the impact of weeds and pest animals.

4.0 REVIEWING THE PLAN

This Council will review this PMP at our own discretion or when review is mandatory such as:
- annual review – at least 3 months before the start of each financial year (s.33(2)); and
- if a State pest management strategy is amended to ensure it is consistent with the
- full review – when a state pest management strategy is amended (s. 33(3)).

5.0. Stakeholder responsibilities
Key stakeholder responsibilities for implementing this Plan are outlined below:

Stakeholder	Key roles and responsibilities			
	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Other
Blackall Tambo Regional Council	Surveillance, early detection, and raising awareness	Compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping and raising awareness Encourage good pest management eg vehicle wash down, weed vendor declaration etc	Local planning, mapping and raising awareness Encourage good pest management eg vehicle wash down, weed vendor declaration etc	Local laws Contribute financially through the precept system for pest control and research services Lobby for more support and resources in pest management Foster a more regional approach to pest management Develop policy on council vehicle and machinery wash down
Biosecurity Queensland, Primary Industries and Fisheries	Early detection, destruction of infestations, compliance, state wide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness and research	Supply 1080 to local government and administer, monitor, record and enforce proper use of 1080 Research into improved pest management. Provide extension and technical skills in pest management	Compliance, state wide planning, raising awareness and research	Operate the Wild Dog Barrier Fence Research control techniques Support local government planning, extension and education services
Department of Environment and Resource Management		Landholder responsibilities and provide resources for best practice pest management on National Parks		Ensure the conservation of biodiversity, monitor and regulate environmental impact of weed and pest animal management
Department of Health		Granting approval for use of 1080 and strychnine		Lead role in maintaining public health and safety in issues associated with poisons
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Australia		Regional consultation in setting policy on pest management		National border protection and surveillance, funding support for programs dealing with WONS

Natural Resource Management Group		Regional planning, mapping, GIS training and education, and funding support for pest management programs Lobbing all levels of Govt.	Regional planning, mapping and funding support for resource management work programs
Landholders (including state landholding agencies eg Main Roads)	Early detection, destruction of infestations	Destruction and control of weeds and pest animals Encourage good pest management eg vehicle wash down, weed vendor declaration etc	Weed control in environmentally significant areas

Section B

6.0 STRATEGIES USED IN THIS PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN

6.1 TO INCREASE STAKEHOLDER AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE OF PEST IMPACTS, AND PEST MANAGEMENT SKILLS

Public Awareness
6.1.1 Public awareness
The strategy to be used to increase awareness of pests and their impacts include:
- Field days and information days so that the public are able to identify the weed or pest species and have knowledge of their impacts and management
- Target awareness campaigns at landholders in areas at risk of the introduction/invasion of a species to prevent its establishment)
- Alert the public to any inclusion of Class 1 and other new pests using the local media
- Undertake pest awareness activities, e.g. participation in Weedbuster Week, field days and practical demonstrations, information & or links on council website, etc
- Distribute weed and pest animal information to the community (e.g. through local print, radio, and television media)

   Desired Outcomes:
   - *Local community is aware of current high priority pests and have knowledge of their impact and management.*
   - *Local community is aware of the PMP outcomes against the Plan objectives.*

6.1.2 Education and training
Strategy to be used to increase stakeholder knowledge of pest impacts and improve skills in pest management
- Provide professional training to council officers and other stakeholders in relation to pest identification and best management practices
- Accredited training (e.g. nationally accredited competency based training in weed and pest management, Workplace health and safety training, approved training in the use of sodium fluoroacetate (1080) etc)
- Increase land manager knowledge and skills in weed and pest management

Desired Outcomes;
   - Number of pest management courses attended
   - Percentage of officers accredited to national competency standards
   - Number of pest management workshops, conferences and forums attended
   - Number of training initiatives delivered to stakeholder groups

6.2 TO ESTABLISH LONG-TERM STAKEHOLDER COMMITMENT AND COMPLIANCE TO PEST PLANT AND ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

Commitment and Partnerships
6.2.1 Long term commitment
Establish long-term stakeholder commitment to weed and pest animal management
- Build working partnerships between stakeholders to generate a holistic approach to pest management and a sense of community ownership of the problem
- Include resource allocations in annual work programs

   Desired Outcomes
   - Number of other local government plans that include pest management actions

6.2.2 Roles and Responsibilities
Establish roles and responsibilities for weed and pest animal management that are accepted by landholders, community, industry and government
- Establish, through consultation, agreed roles and responsibilities for all stakeholders in the implementation of the program
- Requirement for actions for all stakeholders to be developed in consultation with them and included in annual action programs

  Desired Outcomes
  - MOU signed between stakeholders defining roles and responsibilities

6.2.3 Community Attitude
- Assist DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (DEEDI) in gathering community attitude and awareness information eg surveys at local shows, field days, events etc

6.2.4 Compliance and Enforcement
Ensure compliance with the Act in weed and pest animal management
- Enforce compliance when landowners do not take reasonable steps to control pests
- Adopt/refine/implement operational procedures developed by DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (DEEDI), e.g. seizures; quarantine; confiscation and destruction of declared pests; entering land, vehicles and property; recovering costs; survey and inspections; straying dogs
- With stakeholders, develop and implement a compliance program, including e.g. communication; education; incentives and persuasion; warnings; revocation and suspension of rights.
- Appointment/register of authorised officers for the purposes of the Act
- Provision for a register of enforcement activities, as required by the Act

  Desired Outcomes
  - Number of enforcement actions
  - Percentage of compliance
  - Authorised officers, local government delegations, and compliance actions included in register
    - Percentage of local government compliance officers participating in state-wide networking

6.3   TO COLLECT RELEVANT PEST DATA TO INCREASE KNOWLEDGE OF PESTS ENABLING THE IMPROVEMENT OF PEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

6.3.1 Data collection & assessment
Collect, use, and make available data relevant to weed and pest animal management
- Map all Class 1 and priority Class 2 declared pests
- Contribute pest data to state wide mapping of all declared species (DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (DEEDI)'s Annual Pest Survey)

  Desired Outcomes
  - Percentage of Class 1 and priority Class 2 declared pests mapped
  - Percentage of pest control activities for which monitoring and evaluation data is recorded

6.3.2 Availability of Information
- Make printed weed and pest animal information available to stakeholders through outlets such as libraries, tourist information centres, schools, and other educational institutions

- Using media such as local newspapers, radio, television, and web sites to disseminate pest information to the community
- Making other maps available to the community (e.g. of pest distribution, containment lines, environmentally significant areas, and survey programs)

Desired Outcomes:
- *Number of outlets where pest information is available to local community*
- *Number of media releases dissemining pest information to the community*

6.4   To create a holistic planning framework for pest management by reviewing, evaluating and implementing integrated pest management strategies and plans, and to adequately resource management actions

Desired Outcomes
- Number of other local government plans including corporate plan that include pest management actions

Strategic directions

6.4.1 Planning
Create and maintain a planning framework for weed and pest animal management
- Include practical measures for the detection, eradication or management of species in the local government area
- Ensure that pest management programs are consistent with similar programs in neighbouring areas
- Ensure that pest management programs are consistent with other resource management and related plans (e.g. regional natural resource management plans, stock route network management plans, vegetation management plans etc)

Desired Outcomes

6.4.2 Strategy management and coordination
- *Implement, evaluate, and review integrated weed and pest animal programs*
- Review PMP 3 months before end of each financial year
- Complete new PMP 3 months prior to the expiry of its predecessor

Desired Outcomes

6.4.3 Resources
Efficiently and adequately resource weed and pest animal management
- Secure adequately resourcing local pest management actions
- Submit local government precepts to DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION (DEEDI) for state-wide services such as research, extension, plague pest control, barrier fences etc

Desired Outcomes

6.4.4 Holistic Management
Ensure consistency between PMP and resource management and related plans (e.g. regional natural resource management plans, catchment and sub-catchment plans, conservation management plans, regional coastal management plans, water resource operations plans, vegetation management plans, native title plans, local government corporate plans, local government planning schemes; stock route network management plans

Desired Outcomes
- Number of other local government plans including corporate plan that include pest management actions
- Signed MOU between regional catchment groups.

6.5 TO PREVENT THE INTRODUCTION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PEST ANIMALS AND PLANTS; AND TO MINIMISE THE SPREAD OF EXISTING PEST PLANTS AND ANIMALS TO NEW AREAS

Prevention, eradication & containment
6.5.1 Prevention of introduction
Prevent the introduction of new weeds and pest animals
Prohibit the cultivation, distribution, sale or other supply of pest species
- Use weed hygiene declarations for stock entering stock routes, movement of harvestors and construction equipment, and movement of fodder, soil, and turf
- Adopt weed prevention protocols, and support their adoption by other local stakeholders
- Build, maintain, and promote wash-down facilities in strategic locations.
  Desired Outcomes
  - Percentage of key stakeholder groups using weed prevention protocols
  - Percentage of key stakeholder groups using weed hygiene declarations
  - Percentage of transport corridors with weed prevention programs
  - Number of Class 1 and new Class 2 species targeted for prevention of entry
  - Number of wash-down facilities available and promoted
  - Percentage of infrastructure development contracts that include weed prevention conditions
  - Number of retail outlets not selling invasive pest species

6.5.2 Early detection and eradication
Prevent the local establishment of new weeds and pest animals
- Identify pests prioritised for early detection and eradication
- Survey areas at risk from new infestations of Class 1 pests
- Implement a rapid response program, together with state government, for handling new infestations of Class 1 pests
- Destroy all infestations outside national or local containment lines
- Eradicate small, isolated infestations
- Establish a monitoring and identification network for weeds and plague pest animals (e.g. locusts, mice, field rats

  Desired Outcomes
  - Number of Class 1 pest species targeted for eradication
  - Percentage of the local government area covered by such programs
  - Percentage of Class 1 rapid response programs featuring stakeholder cooperation, and number of key stakeholder groups with roles in these programs
  - Percentage of new Class 2 incursions targeted by rapid response programs
  - Number of quarantine notices issued

6.5.3 Containment
Minimise the spread of weeds and pest animals to new areas
- Contain local Class 2 pests in core infestation areas (e.g. by maintaining the Wild Dog Barrier Fence and the Darling-Downs-Moreton Rabbit Board fence)
- Manage pest animals inside barrier fences (if applicable)

  Desired Outcomes

- Number of Class 2 pests targeted for containment
- Number of complaints received about pest animal damage inside contained areas
- Percentage of the wild dog check fences maintained to established standards

6.6   TO REDUCE PEST POPULATIONS AND IMPACTS THROUGH THE ADOPTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF BEST PRACTICE PEST CONTROL METHODS; PROTECT ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT AREAS FROM WEEDS; AND OFFER STAKEHOLDER PEST MANAGEMENT INCENTIVES

Effective integrated systems *(Principles—best practice; improvement; commitment)*
6.6.1 Development of management practices
Develop new, and improve existing, weed and pest animal management practices
- Contribute to developing local best practice
- Adopt timely and effective integrated best practice management for priority pest species that considers timing, integrated techniques, non-target damage, workplace health and safety

Desired Outcomes

- Number of improvements recommended
- Number of research needs identified
- Number of new contributions to local best practice
- Number of research projects assisted
- Number of adaptive management practices developed

6.6.2 Adoption of management practices
Adopt and promote best practice in weed and pest animal management
- Collate and distribute best practice information to land managers

Desired Outcomes
- Percentage of priority pest operations based on best practice
- Number of outlets distributing best practice publications
- Number of refuse sites made inaccessible to pest animals

6.6.3 Management incentives
Offer incentives to stakeholders for practicing pest management
- Continue to offer effective existing incentives
- Assess the effectiveness of existing and potential incentives
- Revise, or introduce suitable new, weed and pest animal incentives
- Recognise efforts of those who have made significant contributions

Desired Outcomes
- o Number of effective incentive programs available to land managers
- o Number of land managers using existing incentive programs

6.6.4 Population and impact management
Reduce pest populations and impacts
- Coordinate plague pest animal management with stakeholders *(if relevant)*
- Coordinate impact reduction programs for established pest animals (e.g. baiting, trapping, harbour removal)

Desired Outcomes
- Number of complaints received about pest species

- Number of management programs undertaken for established pests, and number of participating land managers
- Number of different biological control agents distributed
- Reduction in the distribution, density and/or abundance of pest species

6.6.5 Environmentally significant areas
Protect environmentally significant areas from weeds
- Identify environmentally significant areas
- Prioritise weeds and pest animal management in environmentally significant areas

   Desired Outcomes
   - Number and extent of environmentally significant areas prioritised for weed management
   - Number and extent of priority weed work programs implemented for environmentally significant areas

ANNEXURE A

Weeds of National Significance

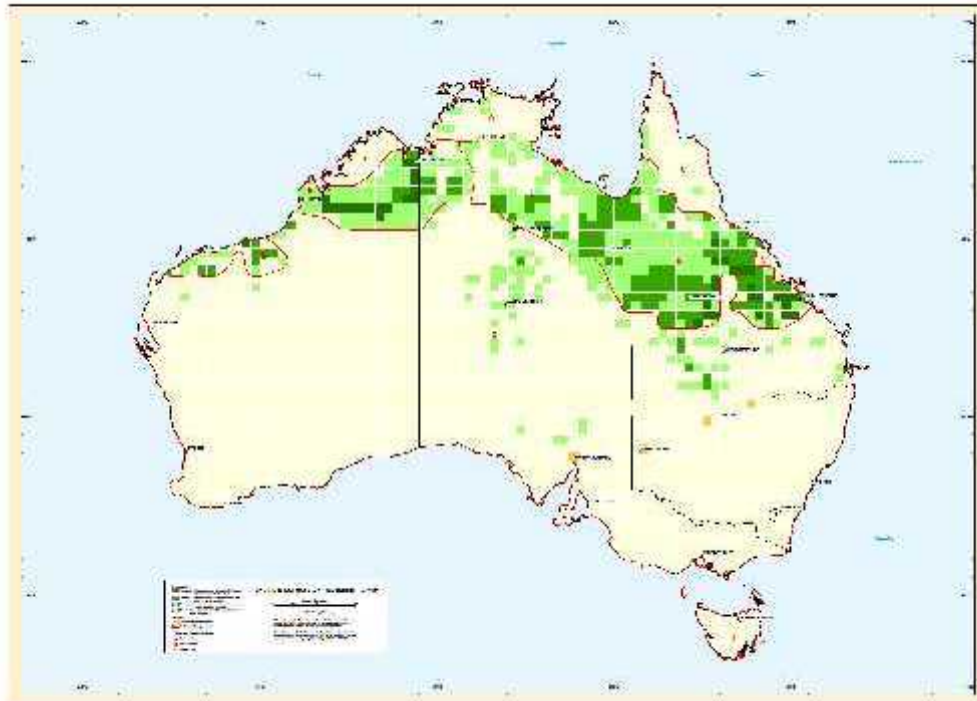## Containment lines

For

Parkinsonia and Prickly Acacia
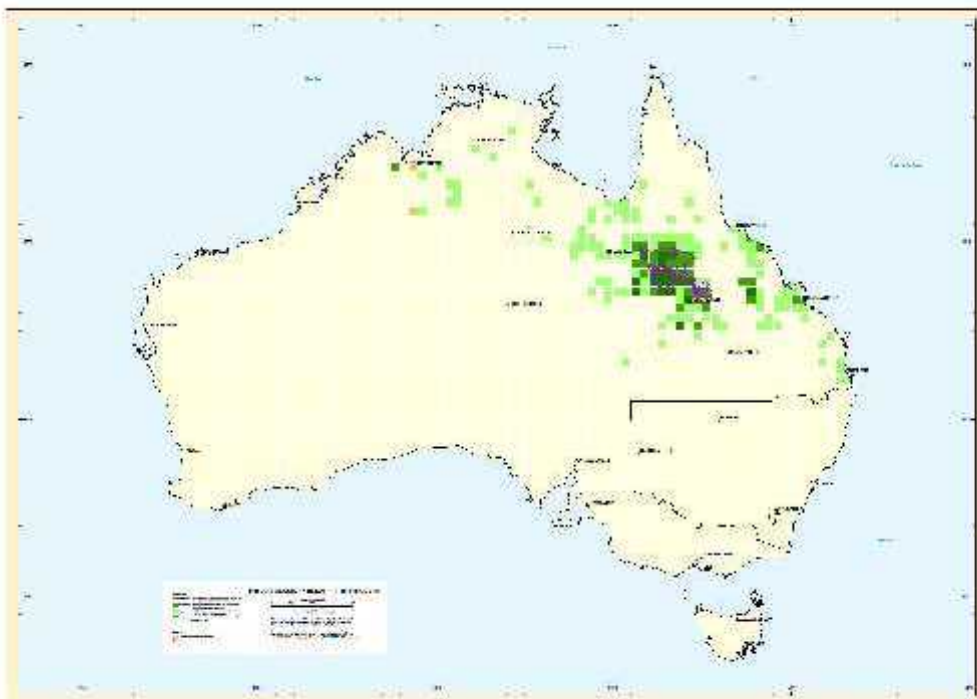
Figure 1 – Parkinsonia Containment Lines

Figure 2 – Prickly Acacia Containment Lines

Annexure B – Budget 2010-11

2010-2011						
BUDGET COVERING - LEGAL OBLIGATIONS WITH REGARD TO MONITORING - COMPLIANCE & PROMOTION						
FERAL ANIMALS - BUDGET						
Class	**Declaration Status**	**Name of Pest**	**LEGAL OBLIGATIONS**	**Days**	**DISCRETIONARY FUNDING**	**Activities**
High 1	*Class 2*	*Wild dogs (Canis familiaris)*		20	$ 6,060.00	Ground baiting
			$100,000.00			Precept payment
				16	$ 4,848.00	Aerial baiting
				14	$ 4,242.00	Co ordination
				1900 scalps	$ 190,000.00	Wild dog scalps @ $100 per scalp
				25 days	$ 7,575.00	Disposal of scalps
			$13,320.00	40		Collection, analysis, mapping and distribution of data
			$1,909.00	2 men		Personal Protective clothing and equipment - overalls, gum boots, rubber gloves, hat, boots
			$13,986.00	42		Compliance, surveillance, monitoring, planning
			$9,990.00	30		Education & Training (raising awareness)
				1	$ 303.00	Promoting responsible dog ownership

Priority	Class	Species	Cost	Qty	$	Description
				20x2	$ 12,120.00	Consultation/meetings/ Dog Syndicates
				4 x 2	$ 2,424.00	Advertising
			$16,126.00	112		Plant & Equipment
					$ 5,500.00	Avgas
					$ 18,146.00	Plane
Subtotal			$155,331.00			
High 2	**Class 2**	**Feral pigs (Sus crofa)**	$1,332.00	4		Compliance, surveillance, mapping, raising awareness
				6x2	$ 1,212.00	Poisoning and trapping
			$576.00	4		Resources/plant & equipment
			$1,908.00			
High 2	**Class 2**	**Foxes (Vulpes vulpes)**	$1,332.00	4		Compliance, surveillance, mapping, raising awareness
				6x2	$ 1,212.00	Bait, trap & shoot to control local populations
			$576.00	4		Resources/plant & equipment
Subtotal			$1,908.00			
High 2	**Class 2**	**Feral cats (Felis catus)**	$9,990.00	30		Compliance, surveillance, mapping, raising awareness
					$ 200.00	Raising Awareness
			$1,500.00	10 traps		Acquire & set feral cat traps
			$7,992.00	24		Local Law to restrict number of cats per household
			$7,776.00	54		Plant & Equipment
			$27,258.00			
Medium 3	**Class 2**	**Rabbits (Oryctolagus cuniculus)**	$1,332.00	4		Compliance, surveillance,
				2 x 2	$ 1,212.00	Raising awareness outside the outside the DD-MRB area
			$576.00	4		Plant & Equipment
			$1,908.00			

				Days	Dollars	Activities
Low 4	*Class 2*	*Locusts*	$1,332.00	4		Monitoring of lucusts in places such as roadsides and reserves
			$576.00	4		Plant & Equipment
		$1,908.00				
Low 4	*Class 2*	*Feral Goats*				Montior
	SUBTOTAL ANIMALOBLIGATIONS	**$190,221.00**				
					$ 255,054.00	

Class	Declaration Status	Name of Pest		Days	Dollars	Activities
High	*Class 2*	*Parthenium (Parthenium hysterophorous)*	$30,969.00	93		Monitor known areas of infestations and produce maps
			$6,660.00	20		Treating containment lines on reserve land
					$ 22,725.00	Spot spray outside containment lines
			$1,332.00	4		Promote best practice procedures/guidelines in core infestations
					$ 300.00	Disseminate best practice information through tourist information centres and other community facilities
				10 x 1 (EDO)	$ 6,060.00	Lobby for funding for wash down facilities
				5 X 3	$ 4,545.00	Advertise/educations/promotions
			$909.00			Personal protective equipment (PPE), face masks, rubber gloves, gum boots, overalls, protective glasses, hat
			$3,760.00			Poisons - Round up, Ally, (Brush off) Wetting agent

Priority	Class	Species	Cost	Days	Amount	Description
			$20,848.00	97		Plant & Equipment (including 20 days of ute and quickspray)
		$64,478.00				
High	Class 2	Parkinsonia (Parkinsonia aculeate)	$3,330.00	10		Compliance, Surveillance, Local Planning, Raising awareness
			$1,665.00	5		Treat any emergent and isolated populations
				20 x 3	$ 18,180.00	Continue to assist landholder with applications for WONS money (Weeds of National Significance)
				4 x 3	$ 3,636.00	Continue to foster relationships with State & Federal agencies to treat core infestations
		(ute & quickspray)	$1,720.00	5		Plant & Equipment
			$250.00			PP & E
			$3,140.00			Herbicide - Access, diesel
		$10,105.00				
High	Class 2	Mother of Millions (Bryophyllum delagoense)	$9,990.00	30		Control existing populations from spreading
				10 x 2	$ 6,060.00	Treat any emergent and isolated populations
			$9,990.00	30		Compliance, Surveillance, Local Planning, Raising awareness
			$14,640.00	60		Plant & Equipment (30days of spray units - 60 days utes)
					$ 6,840.00	Herbicide - Graxon DS
		$34,620.00				
High	Undeclared	Florestina (Florestina triperis)	$6,660.00	20		Compliance, Surveillance, Local Planning, Raising awareness
			$2,880.00	20		Plant & Equipment
				2 x 3	$ 1,818.00	Monitor known areas of infestations
			$740.00			Herbicides - Round up, 24D, brush off, wetting agent

|							
			$10,280.00				
Medium	*Class 1 or 2*	*Cactus (Cylindropuntia species)includes tree pear, rope cactus, coral cactus etc.*	$3,330.00	10			Compliance, Surveillance, Local Planning, Raising awareness
				7	$ 2,121.00		Control existing populations from spreading, treat any emergent and isolated populations
			$1,440.00	10			Plant & Equipment
			$1,700.00				Poisons/Resources - Darlon 600, Access, Diesel
			$6,470.00				
Low	*Class 2*	*Rubber Vine (Cryptostegia grandiflora)*	$666.00	2			Compliance, Surveillance, Local Planning, Raising awareness
			$288.00				Plant & Equipment
			$954.00				
Low	*Class 2*	*Mesquite*	$666.00	2			Compliance, Surveillance, Local Planning, Raising awareness
			$288.00				Plant & Equipment
			$954.00				
Low	*Class 3*	*Athel Pine (Tamarix aphylla)*	$666.00				Compliance, Surveillance, Local Planning, Raising awareness
$190,221.00			$288.00				Plant & Equipment
			$954.00				
		SUBTOTAL WEED OBLIGATIONS	$64,337.00		$ 72,285.00		
		TOTAL - PEST OBLIGATIONS	**$383,373.00**		**$ 399,624.00**		
Income	**RMPC**		$ 28,000.00				

- **Total working days required to achieve plan outcomes = 399 Days**
  - **Total working days in a year = 200 Days**
  - **Total working weeks in a year = 40 Weeks**
- **Estimation of time and value associated with maintenance, co ordination enforcement of same = 260 Days = $78,780.00**
  - **Wages are oncosted - Costed at $333 per man per day**
  - **Projected budget totals increase by 5% each year**

Utes oncosted at $144/day
Quickspray oncosted at $200 / day
Quad Motorbike oncosted at $200 / day
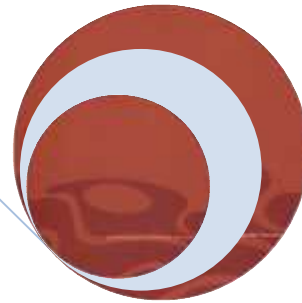
BLACKALL-TAMBO REGIONAL COUNCIL – PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN 2012-2016

This part of the plan sets out strategic programs addressing pest management generally in the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council.
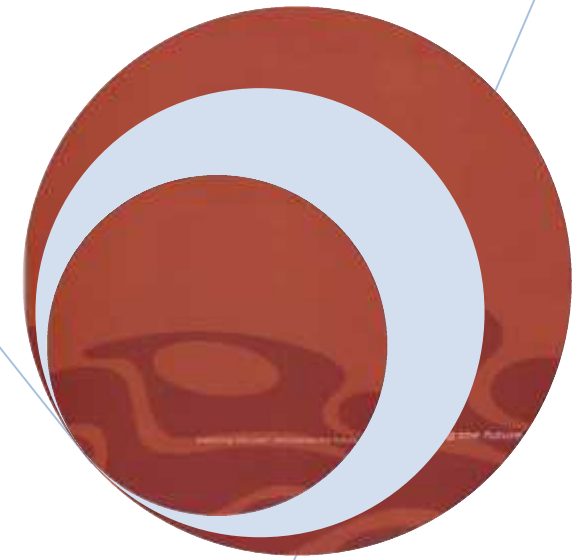
table of
contents …….

Table 1: Classes of declared pests under the Act

Class*	Description
1	A Class 1 pest is one that is not commonly present in Queensland, and if introduced would cause an adverse economic, environmental or social impact. Class 1 pests established in Queensland are subject to eradication from the state. Landowners must take reasonable steps to keep land free of Class 1 pests.
2	Class 2 pests are established in Queensland and have, or could have, an adverse economic, environmental or social impact. Management of these pests requires coordination and they are subject to programs led by local government, community or landowners. Landowners must take reasonable steps to keep land free of Class 2 pests.
3	Class 3 pests are established in Queensland and have, or could have, an adverse economic, environmental or social impact. Landholders are not required to control Class 3 pests unless their land is adjacent to an environmentally significant area

Declared and Other Locally Significant Weeds and Pest Animals Present in Blackall Tambo Regional Council

Priority rating

– **High** potential detrimental impact to the Shire of not doing anything to control the pest based on predictive pest management models

– **Medium** beneficial impact of spending money NOW to control the pest (e.g. weed present in very small numbers in a Shire which could be eradicated with a small amount of money and effort)

– **Low** present but not economical to control too widespread.

List of declared and significant animal and plant pest within the Blackall Tambo Regional Council

Table 1. Prioritised list of pest animal and plants within the Blackall Tambo Regional Council

Name of Pest	Priority	Level of control	Declaration status
Pest Animals			
Wild dogs (Canis familiaris)	High 1	Containment with reasonable level of control	Class 2
Feral pigs (Sus scrofa)	High 2	Containment with reasonable level of control	Class 2
Foxes (Vulpes vulpes)	High 2	Containment with reasonable level of control	Class 2
Feral cats (Felis catus)	High 2	Containment with reasonable level of control	Class 2
Rabbits (Oryctolagus cuniculus)	Medium 3	Containment with reasonable level of control	Class 2
Locusts	Low 4	Identification and notification	Class 2
Feral goat	Low	Containment with reasonable level of control	Class 2

	4		

Weeds			
Parthenium (Parthenium hysterophorous)	**High**	Control of isolated, strategic infestations/populations	Class 2
Parkinsonia (Parkinsonia aculeata)	**High**	Control of isolated, strategic infestations/populations	Class 2
Mother of Millions (Bryophyllum delagoense)	**High**	Control of isolated, strategic infestations/populations	Class 2
Florestina (Florestina tripteris)	**High**	Control of isolated, strategic infestations/populations	Undeclared
Cactus (Cylindropuntia species) Includes tree pear, rope cactus, coral cactus etc	Medium	Control of isolated, strategic infestations/populations	Class 1 or 2
Rubber vine (Cryptostegia grandiflora)	Low	Eradication	Class 2
Mesquite	Low	Eradication	Class 2
Athel Pine (Tamarix aphylla)	Low	Containment within specified areas	Class 3

Strategic Program

This part of the plan sets out strategic programs addressing pest management generally in the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council. The programs will be implemented over the four-year life of the plan and are aligned with the desired outcomes set out in the Queensland weeds and pest animals strategies.

Desired outcomes, strategic objectives and actions

Strategic Objective: 6.1: To increase stakeholder awareness and knowledge of pest impacts, and pest management skills	Measure of success
	Local community is aware of current high priority pests and have knowledge of their impact and management. Local community is aware of the PMP outcomes against the Plan objectives.

Issue: Availability of information

Desired Outcome: Stakeholders are informed, knowledgeable and have ownership of weed and pest animal management

Strategic actions	By whom	When	Status
• Field days and information days so that the public are able to identify the weed or pest species and have knowledge of their impacts and management	BTRC, BQ, DERM, SWNRM,DEEDI,DCQ	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Target awareness campaigns at landholders in areas at risk of the introduction/invasion of a species to prevent its establishment)	BTRC, BQ	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Alert the public to any inclusion of Class 1 and other new pests using the local media	BTRC,DQ, BCQ, DEEDI	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Undertake pest awareness activities, e.g. participation in Weedbuster Week, field days and practical demonstrations, information & or links on council website, etc	BTRC, DCQ, BQ, SWNRM, Stakeholders	Ongoing by 1 July 2010	Ongoing
• Distribute weed and pest animal information to the community (e.g. through local print, radio, and television media)	BTRC,DCQ, BQ	Ongoing	Ongoing

Strategic Objective: 6.1.2 To increase stakeholder knowledge of pest impacts and improve skills in pest management	**Measure of Success** Number of pest management courses attended Percentage of officers accredited to national competency standards Number of pest management workshops, conferences and forums attended Number of training initiatives delivered to stakeholder groups

Issue: Education and Training

Desired Outcome: To have Council Officers and Stakeholders educated and trained in pest identification and best management practices

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Provide professional training to council officers and other stakeholders in relation to pest identification and best management practices	LGAQ, DERM, BQ, SRLOG	30/12/2011 Ongoing	Ongoing
• Accredited training (e.g. nationally accredited competency based training in weed and pest management, Workplace health and safety training, approved training in the use of sodium fluoro acetate (1080) etc)	BTRC, STOCK ROUTE OFFICERS, SHIRE RANGER	30/12/2011	Ongoing
• Increase land manager knowledge and skills in weed and pest management	SWNRM, DEEDI, BTRC	Ongoing	Ongoing

Strategic Objective:6.2 To establish long-term stakeholder commitment and compliance to pest plant and animal management	**Measure of Success** Number of other local government plans that include pest management actions

Issue: Commitment and Partnerships

Desired Outcome: To have developed committed long-term stakeholders who are compliant with pest plant and animal management

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Build working partnerships between stakeholders to generate a holistic approach to pest management and a sense of community ownership of the problem	Neighbouring Councils, BTRC, Stakeholders RMPC'S	2012 Ongoing	Ongoing

	By Whom	When	Status
• Include resource allocations in annual work programs			
Strategic Objective:6.2.2 Establish roles and responsibilities for weed and pest animal management that are accepted by landholders, community, industry and government	**Measure of success** MOU signed between stakeholders defining roles and responsibilities		
Issue: Identification of Responsibilities for weed and pest animal management			
Desired Outcome: Established responsibilities for inclusion in annual action programs			
Strategic Actions:	**By Whom**	**When**	**Status**
• Establish, through consultation, agreed roles and responsibilities for all stakeholders in the implementation of the program	BTRC, Stakeholders	2012 Ongoing	Ongoing
• Requirement for actions for all stakeholders to be developed in consultation with them and included in annual action programs	BTRC, Stakeholders	Ongoing	Ongoing
Strategic Objective: 6.2.3 Data collation and distribution of awareness information	**Measure of success** Collation and analysis of collected data leading towards higher level of awareness		
Issue: Community Attitude			
Desired Outcome: Collation and analysis of data in partnership with DPI&F			
Strategic Actions:	**By Whom**	**When**	**Status**
• Assist DPI&F in gathering community attitude and awareness information	BTRC, DPI	2011	Ongoing
• Distribution of surveys at local shows, field days, events etc	BTRC, DERM	2011 Ongoing	Ongoing
Strategic Objective: 6.2.4 Ensure compliance with the Act in weed and pest animal management	**Measure of success** Number of enforcement actions Percentage of compliance Authorised officers, local government delegations, and compliance actions		

	included in register
	Percentage of local government compliance officers participating in state-wide networking

Issue: Compliance and Enforcement

Desired Outcome: BTRC and stakeholders to be fully compliant

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Enforce compliance when landowners do not take reasonable steps to control pests	BTRC, DERM	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Adopt/refine/implement operational procedures developed by DPI&F, e.g. seizures; quarantine; confiscation and destruction of declared pests; entering land, vehicles and property; recovering costs; survey and inspections; straying dogs	BTRC	2011	Ongoing
• With stakeholders, develop and implement a compliance program, including e.g. communication; education; incentives and persuasion; warnings; revocation and suspension of rights.	BTRC	2013	Ongoing
• Appointment/register of authorised officers for the purposes of the Act	BTRC	20/2/10	Ongoing
Provision for a register of enforcement activities, as required by the Act	BTRC	30/6/10	Ongoing

Strategic Objective:6.3 To collect relevant pest data to increase knowledge of pests enabling the improvement of pest management practices	**Measure of success** Percentage of Class 1 and priority Class 2 declared pests mapped Percentage of pest control activities for which monitoring and evaluation data is recorded

Issue: 6.3.1 Data collection & assessment

Desired Outcome: Make available data collected relevant to weed and pest animal management

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Map all Class 1 and priority Class 2 declared pests	BTRC, DCQ	30/6/2010	Ongoing
• Contribute pest data to state wide mapping of all declared species (DPI&F's Annual Pest Survey)	BTRC	20/2/2010	Ongoing

Strategic Objective: Increase knowledge of pests and distribution of information	**Measure of success** Number of outlets where pest information is available to local community Number of media releases dissemining pest information to the community		
Issue: 6.3.2 Availability of Information			
Desired Outcome: To have a well informed public with mapping indicating pest distribution, containment lines, and environmentally significant areas			
Strategic Actions:	**By Whom**	**When**	**Status**
• Make printed weed and pest animal information available to stakeholders through outlets such as libraries, tourist information centres, schools, and other educational institutions	BTRC	30/3/2010	Ongoing
• Using media such as local newspapers, radio, television, and web sites to disseminate pest information to the community	BTRC	31/1/2010	Ongoing
• Making other maps available to the community (e.g. of pest distribution, containment lines, environmentally significant areas, and survey programs)	BTRC, DERM, DCQ, DEEDI	30/9/2011	Ongoing
Strategic Objective: 6.4 To create a holistic planning framework for pest management by reviewing, evaluating and implementing integrated pest management strategies and plans, and to adequately resource management actions	**Measure of success** **Number of other Local Government plans including Corporate Plan that include pest management actions**		
Issue: 6.4.1 Planning			
Desired Outcome: Create and maintain a planning framework for weed and pest animal management			
Strategic Actions	**By Whom**	**When**	**Status**
• Include practical measures for the detection, eradication or management of species in the local government area	DCQ, BTRC	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Ensure that pest management programs are consistent with similar programs in neighbouring areas	DCQ, BTRC	30/12/2013	Ongoing
• Ensure that pest management programs are consistent with other resource management and related plans (e.g. regional natural resource management plans, stock route network management plans, vegetation management plans etc)	DCQ, BTRC	30/12/2012	Ongoing
Strategic Objective: To implement, evaluate and review integrated weed and pest animal programs	**Measure of success**		

	Currency and relevance of pest animal programs

Issue: 6.4.2 Strategy management and coordination

Desired Outcome: Implementation, evaluation, and review of integrated weed and pest animal programs

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Implement, evaluate, and review integrated weed and pest animal programs	BTRC	Ongoing March 2010, March 2011, March 2012	Ongoing
• Review PMP 3 months before end of each financial year	BTRC		Ongoing
• Complete new PMP 3 months prior to the expiry of its predecessor	BTRC	Council discretion	

Strategic Objective: To adequately resource management actions	Measure of success Secure adequate resourcing for local pest management actions

Issue: 6.4.3 Resources

Desired Outcome: Efficiently and adequately resource weed and pest animal management

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Secure adequately resourcing local pest management actions	BTRC	Bi-Annually	Ongoing
• Submit local government precepts to DPI&F for state-wide services such as research, extension, plague pest control, barrier fences etc	BTRC	Annually	Ongoing

Strategic Objective: To establish a signed MOU between regional catchment groups	Measure of success Number of other local government plans including corporate plan that include pest management actions

Issue: 6.4.4 Holistic Management

Desired Outcome: Ensure consistency between PMP and resource management and related plans

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Ensure consistency between PMP and resource management and related plans (e.g. regional natural resource management plans, catchment and sub-catchment plans, conservation management plans, regional coastal management plans, water resource operations plans, vegetation management plans, native title plans, local government corporate plans, local government planning schemes; stock route network management plans	BTRC, Stakeholders	Ongoing	Ongoing

Strategic Objective: 6.5 To prevent the introduction and establishment of new pest animals and plants; and to minimise the spread of existing pest plants and animals to new areas	**Measure of success** Percentage of key stakeholder groups using weed prevention protocols Percentage of key stakeholder groups using weed hygiene declarations Percentage of transport corridors with weed prevention programs Number of Class 1 and new Class 2 species targeted for prevention of entry Number of wash-down facilities available and promoted Percentage of infrastructure development contracts that include weed prevention conditions Number of retail outlets not selling invasive pest species

Issue: Prevention of introduction

Desired Outcome: Prevention of the introduction of new weeks and pest animals

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Use weed hygiene declarations for stock entering stock routes, movement of harvesters and construction equipment, and movement of fodder, soil, and turf	DERM, BTRC	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Adopt weed prevention protocols, and support their adoption by other local stakeholders	BTRC. DERM, Stakeholders	Ongoing	Ongoing

	By Whom	When	Status
• Build, maintain, and promote wash-down facilities in strategic locations	DCQ, DERM, BTRC, Federal Government	2010	Finalised

Strategic Objective: To prevent the local establishment of new weeds and pest animals

Measure of success

Number of Class 1 pest species targeted for eradication

Percentage of the local government area covered by such programs

Percentage of Class 1 rapid response programs featuring stakeholder
cooperation, and number of key stakeholder groups with roles in these programs

Percentage of new Class 2 incursions targeted by rapid response programs
Number of quarantine notices issued

Issue: 6.5.2 Early detection and eradication

Desired Outcome: No new weeds and pest animals locally

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Identify pests prioritised for early detection and eradication	DPI	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Survey areas at risk from new infestations of Class 1 pests	No class 1 pests		
• Implement a rapid response program, together with state government, for handling new infestations of Class 1 pests			
• Destroy all infestations outside national or local containment lines			

- Eradicate small, isolated infestations - Establish a monitoring and identification network for weeds and plague pest animals (e.g. locusts, mice, field rats	

Strategic Objective: To minimise the spread of weeds and pest animals to new areas	**Measure of success** Number of Class 2 pests targeted for containment Number of complaints received about pest animal damage inside contained areas Percentage of the wild dog check fences maintained to established standards

Issue: 6.5.3 Containment

Desired Outcome: Minimisation of the spread of weeds and pest animals to new areas

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
- Contain local Class 2 pests in core infestation areas (e.g. by maintaining the Wild Dog Barrier Fence and the Darling-Downs-Moreton Rabbit Board fence)	BTRC, DEEDI, Stakeholders	Ongoing	Ongoing
- Manage pest animals inside barrier fences (if applicable)	BTRC, DEEDI, Stakeholders	Ongoing	Ongoing

Strategic Objective: To reduce pest populations and impacts through the adoption and development of best practice pest control methods; protect environmentally significant areas from weeds; and offer stakeholder pest management incentives	**Measure of success** Number of improvements recommended Number of research needs identified Number of new contributions to local best practice Number of research projects assisted

	Number of adaptive management practices developed

Issue: 6.6.1 Development of management practices

Desired Outcome: Development of new, and improve existing, weed and pest animal management practices

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Contribute to developing local best practice	Stakeholders	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Adopt timely and effective integrated best practice management for priority pest species that considers timing, integrated techniques, non-target damage, workplace health and safety	Stakeholders	Ongoing	Ongoing

Strategic Objective: To adopt, collate and distribute best practice in weed and pest animal management to inform land managers	Measure of success
	Percentage of priority pest operations based on best practice
	Number of outlets distributing best practice publications
	Number of refuse sites made inaccessible to pest animals

Issue: 6.6.2 Adoption of management practices

Desired Outcome: Adopt and promote best practice in weed and pest animal management

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Collate and distribute best practice information to land managers	BTRC	Ongoing	Ongoing

Strategic Objective: To continue to offer effective existing incentives after assess effectiveness of incentives	Measure of success
	Number of effective incentive programs available to land managers
	Number of land managers using existing incentive programs

Issue: 6.6.3 Management incentives

Desired Outcome: Offer incentives to stakeholders for practicing pest management

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Continue to offer effective existing incentives	BTRC, DCQ	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Assess the effectiveness of existing and potential incentives	BTRC, DCQ	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Revise, or introduce suitable new, weed and pest animal incentives	BTRC, DCQ	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Recognise efforts of those who have made significant contributions	BTRC, DCQ	Ongoing	Ongoing

Strategic Objective: To reduce pest populations and impacts	**Measure of success** Number of complaints received about pest species Number of management programs undertaken for established pests, and number of participating land managers Number of different biological control agents distributed Reduction in the distribution, density and/or abundance of pest species

Issue: 6.6.4 Population and impact management

Desired Outcome: Reduce pest populations and impacts

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Coordinate plague pest animal management with stakeholders *(if relevant)*	BTRC, Stakeholders	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Coordinate impact reduction programs for established pest animals (e.g. baiting, trapping, harbour removal)	Syndicates	Ongoing	Ongoing

Strategic Objective: Protect environmentally significant areas from weeds	**Measure of success** Number and extent of environmentally significant areas prioritised for weed management

	Number and extent of priority weed work programs implemented for environmentally significant areas

Issue: 6.6.5 Environmentally significant areas

Desired Outcome: Protect environmentally significant areas from weeds

Strategic Actions:	By Whom	When	Status
• Identify environmentally significant areas	BTRC, DERM	Ongoing	Ongoing
• Prioritise weeds and pest animal management in environmentally significant areas	BTRC, DERM	Ongoing	Ongoing