

Central West REGIONAL BIOSECURITY PLAN



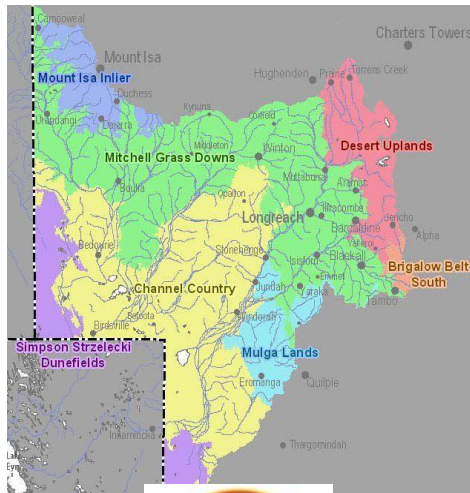
Blackall-Tambo
Regional Council

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RAPAD

Incorporating Central Western
Regional Organisation of Councils



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Glossary

ACDC	Agricultural Chemical Distribution Certificate
APLC	Australian Plague Locust Commission
APVMA	Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority
BQ	Biosecurity Queensland (part of DAFF)
DCQ	Desert Channels Queensland
DAFF	Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries
DEHP	Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
DTMR	Department of Transport and Main Roads
DNPRSR	Department of National Parks Recreation Sport and Racing
DUC	Desert Uplands Committee
NQDT	NQ Dry Tropics NRM Group
LG	Local Government
LGO	Local Government Officer
DNRM	Department of Natural Resources and Mines
RAPAD	Remote Area Planning and Development Board
RBP	Regional Biosecurity Plan
CWRPMG	Central West Regional Pest Management Group
CWRBP	Central West Regional Biosecurity Plan
RTO	Registered Training Authority
RLO	Rural Lands Officer
SRLOG	Shire Rural Lands Officer Group of Western Queensland
SW NRM	South West NRM
Stakeholders	To Do - List all stakeholders and partners....also refer to pg 28

Executive Summary

Biosecurity is fundamentally about risk management. The aim of this Central West Regional Biosecurity Plan is to set strategic direction for this region by prioritising activities and guide all stakeholders in the region to control invasive biosecurity matter such as pest animals and invasive plants for the benefit of the entire community. Other biosecurity matter such as animal and plant health diseases are managed under national and state management planning instruments such as AusVetPlan. The reason for writing this plan is to provide a map of where we are, where we want to be in the future and how we are going to get there. Local Governments have legislative power under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* to ensure prohibited and restricted pest animals and invasive plants are managed in their local government area. To achieve greater impact on controlling pest animals and invasive plants this plan sets priorities at the local government level as well as the broader regional level of the combined seven local governments of RAPAD. This plan incorporates the co-investment model approach between all stakeholders and partners in the RAPAD / CWQ region.

A significant benefit of developing a biosecurity plan for a local government area(s) is bringing together the local community and key stakeholders to agree on the priorities and strategies to manage priority invasive biosecurity matter in their area.

This biosecurity plan in essence sets the strategic direction for State and Local governments, NRM groups (DCQ, SWNRM, NQ Dry Tropics, and Desert Uplands), Landcare, AgForce, utility services, industry and other important partners in a cooperative and collaborative way so that all our efforts are directed towards the same agreed priorities. Future funding as well as any extraordinary external funding that becomes available should also be linked in with this existing planning structure. This plan delivers achievable objectives to ensure all landholders in the region actively undertake pest animal and plant control, have agreed risk management strategies in place to ensure reduced movement of pest animals and plants from their properties which is supported by encouragement, incentives and if necessary, compliance. Stakeholders will invest resources in a collaborative approach to ensure regional community priorities are addressed.

Introduction

The Central West Queensland (CWQ) Region covers the seven local government areas of the Barcaldine, Blackall-Tambo and Longreach Regional Council and the Winton, Barcoo, Boulia, Diamantina Shire Councils. The region covers a total area of 396,609 km² and accounts for 22.9 per cent of the land area of Queensland.

The region has a diverse range of landscapes, ranging from the open woodlands, spinifexes and escarpments of the Desert Uplands along the Great Dividing Range, through the rolling plains of the Mitchell Grass Downs, the vast floodplains of the Channel Country through to the Simpson/Strzelecki Dune fields – the driest part of Queensland. There are also significant areas of the Mulga Lands and a small part of the Brigalow Belt South. The region contains wetlands of international significance and national importance and the biodiversity hot spot the Desert Uplands. Most of the CW region lies within the Lake Eyre Basin catchment with smaller areas to the south east falling in the Murray Darling and to the east in the Burdekin and Fitzroy catchments.

The Central West Queensland Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD) is the Regional Organisation of Councils for the seven shires of Central West Queensland. The RAPAD Board members, concerned about the increasing impacts of pest animals and plants, agreed in late 2010 to embark on a regional pest management project in partnership with other stakeholders in the region. The RAPAD Board members were looking for

opportunities to provide more effective strategic control of pest animals and invasive plants in the region through initiatives such as setting regionally agreed priorities, providing effective coordination and lobby for and sharing of resources.

Stakeholders involved include the Commonwealth Government, Regional NRM Groups, Desert Channels Queensland, South West NRM, NQ Dry Tropics and Desert Uplands, plus the Queensland State Government agencies with responsibilities in pest and land management, which include Biosecurity Queensland and the Department of Natural Resource and Mines (DNRM). Other likely partner State agencies active in weed and pest control include the Department of National Parks Recreation Sport and Racing, Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) and Queensland Rail (QR).

Other important partners include AgForce which is the peak body representing thousands of Queensland beef, sheep and wool, and grains primary producers of the region, along with Landcare and local pest management groups.

The Shire Rural Lands Officers Group of Western Queensland (SRLOG) represents the operational face of the local governments of the region in the areas of stock routes and pest management.

The CEO of each local government is responsible for delivery of the outcomes.

Purpose

The purpose of this Regional Biosecurity Plan (RBP) is to bring together all sectors of the local communities to provide for the management of biosecurity matter such as pest animals and invasive plants in the seven local government areas of RAPAD. In doing so, the RBP:

- lists known high risk biosecurity matter such as pest animals and invasive weeds in the seven local governments.
- set priorities, what should be done about them and why it is best to act early before further spread.
- sets achievable objectives with strategies, priorities, objectives and responsibilities for achieving the objectives.
- sets achievable objectives for the local community that prevent or minimise the impact of biosecurity risk from pest animals and invasive weeds on human health, social amenity, the economy and the environment.
- better use and sharing of resources within the CWQ region
- ensures resources are targeted at the highest priority biosecurity risk and those most likely to succeed
- incorporates monitoring and evaluation and reporting of the effectiveness of the biosecurity plan
- informs the local community about the content of the plan and achievement of its objectives
- ensures duplication is minimised as far as possible

Goal of Regional Biosecurity Plan

The goal of Central West Regional Biosecurity Plan is:

To involve and ensure all community members are aware of, and are responsibly managing their biosecurity obligations, having special regard for the areas regional biodiversity, agricultural, economic base and cultural values.

Strategic Direction

The strategic direction of this plan is to implement policies and achievable objectives to safeguard the economy, environment, human health and social amenities from the impact of pest animal and invasive plants, through conducting risk assessment and directing the most effort to controlling the highest biosecurity risk. **This biosecurity risk and investment priorities may vary between local government areas and stakeholders however the overarching principle is what is best for the region.**

These priorities have been set based on a risk based framework after consultation and local existing knowledge from landowners, local government, State & Federal Government agencies, Biosecurity Queensland, NRM groups, AgForce and other interested parties after the history/biogeography, undesirable traits and biology/ecology of a pest animal or invasive plant have been analyzed. Effective pest management to protect the productive capacity and environmental integrity of the land requires a long term commitment by all these entities.

Because the plan is risk based any additional funding above the normal allocation will be allocated after consultation with the CWRPMG and CWRPTG and be directed if possible at the highest risk pest animal or invasive plant.

PRIORITY RATING OF RESTRICTED BIOSECURITY MATTER (PEST ANIMALS AND INVASIVE PLANTS) AND OTHER LOCALLY SIGNIFICANT PEST ANIMALS AND WEEDS PRESENT IN REGION

Priority rating

- **High** potential detrimental impact on social, economic and environmental to the region of not doing anything to control the pest animal or invasive plant based on predictive biosecurity risk management models
- **Medium** beneficial impact of spending money NOW to control the pest animal or invasive plant (e.g. present in very small numbers in a region which could be eradicated with a small amount of money and effort)
- **Low** present but not economical to control because it is too widespread

Priority Rating of Numbers

- 1 Local government and or landowners will commit heavily in controlling the pest
- 2 Local government and or landowners will commit moderately in controlling the pest
- 3 Local government and or landowners will commit only if the pest looks like getting out of control or becoming an emergent threat.

Biosecurity Risk Assessment

DOCUMENT



- Identify the pest or disease and establish the context

- Assess source of risk, likelihood of entry, establishment & spread
- (Pathways, hosts & vectors/carriers, geographical distribution, volume & frequency impact on vectors, lifecycle, climatic & environmental suitability)

- Assess scope and impact (human health, market access, productivity/ profitability, supply chain, animal health, environment & biodiversity, community/outdoor amenity/recreation, infrastructure and buildings, political, reputation)

- Determine overall risk rating and priorities for action

- Develop treatment strategies for extreme, high and moderate risks

CONSULT

3.1 List (prioritised) of pest animals and invasive plants in Region

Species targeted under the RBP are predominantly declared pests (as described by the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 and biosecurity restricted matter (as described under the new Biosecurity Act 2014). Councils can also declare pests under Local Laws. The RBP also recognises pest potential of other non-declared plants (eg. Florestina and environmental weeds such as Leucaena).

Name of Pest	Priority	Level of control		Performance indicators	
Pest Animals					
Wild dogs (<i>Canis familiaris</i>)	High 1	Containment with high level of control		Co-ordinated baiting programs carried out. Number of scalps recorded and other on-ground initiatives eg trapping, shooting etc GPS recording and mapping of wild dog sighting via fulcrum or alternative models	
Foxes (<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>)	High 3	Containment with reasonable level of control		Co-ordinated baiting programs carried out and other on-ground initiatives eg shooting GPS recording and mapping of fox sighting via fulcrum or alternative models	
Feral cats (<i>Felis catus</i>)	High 3	In vertebrate conservation areas, containment with reasonable level of control		Number of feral cat sightings reduced to scattered density. GPS recording and mapping of cat sighting via fulcrum or alternative models	
Feral pigs (<i>Sus scrofa</i>)	High 3	In wetlands and watercourse, containment with reasonable level of control		Co-ordinated baiting programs carried out and other on-ground initiatives eg trapping and shooting	

				GPS recording and mapping of feral pig sighting via fulcrum or alternative models	
Rabbits (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	Medium 3	Containment with reasonable level of control		Rabbits kept down below scattered density GPS recording and mapping of rabbit sighting via fulcrum or alternative models	
Locusts	Low 3	Identification and notification		Report swarms to Australian Plague Locust Commission or Biosecurity Queensland	
Feral goat	Low 3	Containment with reasonable level of control		Numbers harvested and sold as marketable resource to where numbers are insignificant GPS recording and mapping of feral goat sighting via fulcrum or alternative models	
Feral Deer	Low 3	Containment with reasonable level of control		Feral kept down below scattered density GPS recording and mapping of feral deer sighting via fulcrum or alternative models	
Weeds					
Prickly acacia (<i>Vachellia nilotica</i>)	High 1	Contain and eradicate isolated infestations. Maintain buffer zones consistent with National Containment Lines. Minimise seed spread into non-		Prickly Acacia is contained and managed throughout the region as per national containment lines and local government plans.	

		infested areas. Continue control, containment and aim to eradicate in core areas		GPS recording and mapping via fulcrum or alternative models	
Mesquite (<i>Prosopis spp.</i>)	High 1	Contain and eradicate isolated infestations		Mesquite infestations eradicated across the region. GPS recording and mapping via fulcrum or alternative models	
Parkinsonia (<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>)	High 1	Contain and eradicate isolated infestations. Maintain buffer zones consistent with National Containment Lines.		Parkinsonia downstream of containment line maintained and the southerly spread halted throughout the catchment. GPS recording and mapping via fulcrum or alternative models	
Parthenium (<i>Parthenium hysterophorous</i>)	High 1 (To prevent spread)	Monitor and control all infestations in the region with the view to preventing spread.		Parthenium infestations controlled as soon as reported. Prevent the possibility of seed spread into the region GPS recording and mapping via fulcrum or alternative models	
Cactus (<i>Cylindropuntia species</i>)	High 1	Contain and eradicate isolated infestations. Increase awareness of the community to the potential of these species.		Cylindropuntia cactus is contained and progressively controlled throughout the region GPS recording and mapping via fulcrum or alternative models	

Rubber vine (<u><i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i></u>)	High 1	Review maps of infestations/populations. Promote awareness and control any isolated, strategic infestations/populations		Tower Hill, Reedy Creek, Alice River, Thompson, Landsborough, catchments are to be controlled with the view to eradicate. Eradicate all Rubbervine in all other areas. GPS recording and mapping via fulcrum or alternative models	
Bellyache Bush (<u><i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i></u>)	High 1	Control known infestations Promote awareness and control any isolated, strategic infestations/populations		Bellyache Bush actively controlled with the view to eradication. GPS recording and mapping via fulcrum or alternative models	
Chinee Apple (<u><i>Ziziphus mauritiana</i></u>)	Medium 1	Small infestation in the Winton Shire to be eradicated		All Chinese Apple eradicated in the region. GPS recording and mapping via fulcrum or alternative models	
Leucaena (<u><i>Leucaena leucocephala</i></u>)	Low 3	Surveillance Control plants in environmental areas grown outside of the Leucaena Network Best Management Code of Practice.		Contain to planted areas managed under the Leucaena Code of Practice. Control along watercourses GPS recording and mapping via fulcrum or alternative models	

Noogoora Burr , Saffron Thistle, Bathurst Burr, Mexican Poppy and others	Low 3	Surveillance Promote awareness and control any isolated, strategic infestations/populations		Encourage control by individual landowners. GPS recording and mapping via fulcrum or alternative models	
Florestina (<i>Florestina tripteris</i>)	Low 3	Monitor current infestations in the Barcaldine and Blackall-Tambo Regions. Support research into this species and actively educate community of its potential.		Florestina will be contained and actively controlled in the region to prevent further spread GPS recording and mapping via fulcrum or alternative models	
Mother of Millions (<i>Bryophyllum delagoense</i>)	High 2	Control known infestations Map infestations and promote awareness		Control Barcoo River infestations and encourage landholders to control GPS recording and mapping via fulcrum or alternative models	

ACHIEVABLE OBJECTIVES

This part of the plan is presented in a series of tables, which outline six Achievable Objectives:

Achievable Objective 1: Awareness

Stakeholders are informed, and aware of pest animals and invasive plants and their management

Achievable Objective 2: Surveillance

Stakeholders play a key role in collecting data and information about the presence, incidence, impacts, prevalence or geographical extent of pest animals and invasive plants.

Achievable Objective 3: Prevention

Stakeholders play a key role in preventing, introduction, spread and establishment of pest animals and invasive plants.

Achievable Objective 4: Commitment

As many as possible stakeholders have ownership and are committed to undertaking coordinated management of pest animals and invasive plants

Achievable Objective 5: Consultation and Partnership

Stakeholders use coordinated and collaborative approach to set strategic directions and priorities.

Achievable Objective 6: Ongoing management of restricted pest animals and invasive plants

Stakeholders undertake efficient and effective control programs of existing restricted pest animals and invasive plants within existing resources.

Under each Achievable Objective there are principles, issues, objectives, which stakeholder is responsible and performance indicators of success.

<p>attendance at field days.</p> <p>Obtain and maintain accreditation to use 1080 immediately upon appointment as well as ACDC licence and other relevant accreditation like nationally accredited biosecurity training and emergency response.</p> <p>Promotion Promotion of biosecurity achievements such as control activities involving multi-shire cooperation through various media channels. Publicise the impacts of invasive plant and pest animals on people and environment, economy and social amenities. Where possible, include the economics of pest prevention and ongoing costs of pest management. Determine the need for best practice biosecurity field days and workshops throughout the region</p> <p>Plan and host best practice biosecurity workshops and field days throughout the region at least one per year.</p> <p>Information Sharing Share data between agencies and all stakeholders by making pest distribution maps available to stakeholders to enhance their awareness of the issues. Participate in annual Pest Distribution Survey held each year.</p>	<p>BQ, Local Government, NRM groups and Industry</p> <p>All stakeholders</p>	<p>Interested stakeholders hold 1080 accreditation, ACDC licences, emergency response.</p> <p>Positive promotion of achievement. Local information centres, council websites promote biosecurity issues and warnings Number of events identified.</p> <p>Number of events and field days held</p> <p>Up to date mapping showing regional priorities, containment lines and control zones available to all stakeholders Pest Distribution Maps available on the Internet</p>
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Achievable Objective 2: SURVEILLANCE

Stakeholders play a key role in collecting data and information about the presence, incidence, prevalence or geographical extent of pest animals and invasive plants.

Principle: Surveillance activities are coordinated and planned to maximise the early detection of biosecurity risks. Early detection enables action to be taken to prevent establishment.

Issue: Surveillance Data Collection & Assessment

Objectives:	Responsibilities:	Performance indicators:
<p>Coordinate and plan surveillance activities to maximise the early detection of biosecurity risks by collecting, using, and make available data relevant to pest animals and invasive plants management.</p> <p>Train stakeholders actively involved in surveillance to know what to look for and how to report possible biosecurity risks.</p> <p>Collate and disseminate information on the presence, distribution and abundance of pest animals and invasive plants.</p> <p>Maintain and update a central database of known pest animals and invasive plants in the region. All pest data is transferred to Pest Central and shared with BQ and CWRPMG.</p> <p>Encourage use of Fulcrum and/or Pest Central to record data on the impact of pest animals and invasive plants. Use standardised protocols for collecting, validating and sharing data.</p> <p>Ensure data and maps are provided to all stakeholders in the region to assist in strategic planning of control work and funding applications.</p> <p>Priority list of areas requiring survey in the region</p> <p>1. Aerial survey of major water courses in the region where required..</p>	<p>All stakeholders</p> <p>BQ and NRM groups BQ, LG and NRM groups</p> <p>BQ, Local Government NRM Groups</p> <p>BQ, Local Government NRM Groups</p>	<p>The extent to which data is collected and used in managing biosecurity risks</p> <p>Trained operators conducting surveillance and reporting identified biosecurity risks.</p> <p>Database maintained of known pest animals and invasive plants in the region</p> <p>Fulcrum and Pest Central used to store data on impact from pests.</p> <p>Useful maps and shared information provided to stakeholders across the region.</p> <p>Priority survey plan developed and maintained.</p>

Achievable Objective 3: PREVENTION

Introduction, spread and establishment of pest animals and invasive plants is prevented.

<p>Principle: Prevention - <i>Effective prevention of establishment of pest animals and invasive plants is achieved by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) <i>preventing the spread of pest animals and invasive plants, especially by human activity;</i> ii) <i>early detection and intervention to control pest animals and invasive plants.</i> 		
<p>Issue: Early detection and eradication</p>		
<p>Objectives:</p> <p>Take a more preventative approach to biosecurity risk to prevent the introduction of new pest animals, associated diseases and invasive plants</p> <p>Identify and prioritise potential prohibited and restricted pest animals and invasive plant threats to the region (includes plants that may not yet be weeds but of concern).</p> <p>Identify and prevent any movement of soil or road base with potential to spread restricted invasive plants</p> <p>Ensure councils, utility companies and industry inspect any disturbed areas or corridors every six months to check for new established weeds.</p> <p>Identify and prioritise emerging threats to the region, including floods, bush fires, land managers, mining activity, surveys, vehicle movements etc</p> <p>Coordinate and fund a regional rapid response program for treating isolated infestations of biosecurity events</p>	<p>Responsibilities:</p> <p>All stakeholders</p> <p>BQ, NRM Groups, all stakeholders</p> <p>Local Government, Industry</p> <p>LG, utility service providers, industry</p> <p>BQ, NRM Groups, Emergency Management SES</p> <p>BQ and Local Government</p>	<p>Performance indicators:</p> <p>The extent to which the introduction of new pest animals and invasive plants is prevented.</p> <p>List of potential prohibited threats to the region developed and distributed across the region (information centres, LG offices, agricultural resellers and sales outlets for plants)</p> <p>All quarries free of restricted invasive plants</p> <p>New corridors and disturbed areas are weed free.</p> <p>List of emerging threats has been developed and distributed</p> <p>Rapid Response Program in place to deal quickly and efficiently with minimal impact on the region</p>

<p>Develop protocols for movement of livestock into and within the region to minimize the spread of weed seeds.</p> <p>Weed hygiene protocols are developed and implemented for Utilities mining / exploration and contractor vehicles when in the region to minimize the spread of pest weeds</p>	<p>Industry</p> <p>Utility companies, BQ, LGs</p>	<p>Protocols developed for movement of livestock into and within the region to minimize the spread of weed seeds</p> <p>Protocols developed for Utilities , mining / exploration and all contractor vehicles in the region to minimize the spread of pest weeds</p>
<p>Provisions of vehicle wash down facilities in each town within the region. (Assist Local Government source external funding to install vehicle wash down facilities).</p> <p>Encourage all LG's and industries to support the use of "Weed Hygiene Declaration Forms" for prevention of weed seed spread.</p> <p>Identify and implement where required a Stock Route weed free transitional areas between shire boundaries for travelling stock.</p> <p>Monitor nurseries and resellers to prevent the establishment of new invasive plants in ornamental plantings in the region.</p> <p>Ensure local communities are aware of the risk of certain exotic garden plants becoming future weeds.</p> <p>Investigate equipment modifications to improve weed seed hygiene (eg. air blowers for slashers and vehicles) when moving between infested and clean areas in the field</p>	<p>Local Government</p> <p>Industry and local government</p> <p>Local government</p> <p>BQ Local Government</p> <p>BQ, Local government</p> <p>Local government, utility companies and contractors</p>	<p>Wash down facilities at strategic locations are of a high standard and have consistent signage.</p> <p>% of LG's and industries supporting the use of the "Weed Hygiene Declaration Forms."</p> <p>Stock Routes are weed free between shire boundaries for travelling stock.</p> <p>Monitor nurseries and resellers do not sell invasive plants likely to become a problem in the region.</p> <p>Community awareness campaign about the risk of garden escapees and new plants with pest potential.</p> <p>Weed hygiene protocols and required modifications for strategic clean down of vehicles and equipment in the field, especially when moving from an infested area to a clean area</p>

<p>Principle: Emergency response – stakeholders can rapidly and effectively respond to biosecurity emergencies with strong support and involvement of all stakeholders</p>		
<p>Issue: First Response Action</p>		
<p>Objectives:</p> <p>Train local government RLOs and other stakeholders in emergency response in regards feral animal control in the event of an animal disease outbreak, as per AusVet Plan</p> <p>Quickly and efficiently deal with biosecurity emergencies with minimal impact on rural enterprises and the community</p> <p>Establish communications and community engagement processes that provide timely information through a range of channels</p> <p>Identify and mobilise appropriate resources during the initial stages of the response as required by state government (Complete within days of response)</p>	<p>Responsibilities:</p> <p>Biosecurity Queensland, LGs</p> <p>Biosecurity Queensland, LGs</p> <p>Biosecurity Queensland, LGs</p>	<p>Performance indicators:</p> <p>Local government RLOs and other stakeholders are aware of their responsibilities in an emergency response as per AusVet Plan</p> <p>Biosecurity emergencies dealt with quickly</p> <p>Communications and community engagement processes that provide timely information are in place.</p> <p>List of available appropriate resources mobilised</p>

Achievable Objective 4: COMMITMENT

All stakeholders are committed to and undertake coordinated management of pest animals and invasive plants

Principle: Commitment – *Effective management of pest animals and invasive plants requires a long-term commitment by affected land managers, community, industry groups and government entities to achieve a collaborative approach to biosecurity.*

Issue: Long term Commitment

Objectives:	Responsibilities:	Performance indicators:
<p>Establish long-term stakeholder commitment to pest animals and invasive plants management by investigating people’s attitude to biosecurity and find ways to motivate them to change behaviour (where necessary) to better manage biosecurity risk from pest animals and invasive plants.</p>	<p>All stakeholders</p>	<p>The proportion of stakeholders working in partnership on long-term pest animals and invasive plants management.</p>
<p>Value client and stakeholder needs to ensure they are represented in decision making processes</p>	<p>All stakeholders</p>	
<p>Pursue all options for funding across all levels of the community. Lobby for funding by demonstrating the whole of community value of holistic management coordinated across the CWQ region.</p>	<p>NRM groups, local government</p>	
<p>Define and communicate the capacity of stakeholders to deliver on their biosecurity obligations, completed annually</p>	<p>All stakeholders</p>	

Stakeholders are aware, knowledgeable and have ownership of pest animals and invasive plants management

Principle: *Strong local leadership to build and sustain relationships, systems, capacity and capabilities in biosecurity will build confidence and resilience to the vision of this plan.*

Issue: Community Attitudes

<p>Objectives:</p> <p>Landholders to have property biosecurity plans. Useful templates are available through the national Farm Biosecurity website.</p> <p>Improve the understanding of community attitudes to pest animal and invasive plants management</p> <p>Support SRLOG meetings to provide information on community attitudes to biosecurity in relation to pest animals and invasive plants.</p> <p>Identify areas of biosecurity where CWRPMG and SRLOG may require adjustment to make them more effective</p> <p>Encourage community to be proactive in weed ID and control through promoting membership in their local Landcare or community Group</p> <p>Encourage Landcare and community groups to support regional and local biosecurity plans annually</p>	<p>Responsibilities:</p> <p>Landholder</p> <p>All stakeholders</p> <p>BQ, Local Government, NRM groups</p> <p>BQ, Local Government, NRM groups, Industry</p> <p>All stakeholders</p> <p>All stakeholders</p>	<p>Performance indicators:</p> <p>Number of properties with biosecurity plans</p> <p>The extent to which community attitudes to biosecurity are understood</p> <p>Number of times SRLOG acts as a medium for community attitude information exchange. Eg inviting community members to attend.</p> <p>Number of issues identified.</p> <p>Number of new properties engaging in weed ID and control activities. Increase in membership within Landcare Groups.</p> <p>Number of groups supporting and using the plans to obtain funding and improve their control activities.</p>
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Issue: Compliance & Enforcement		
<p>Achievable Activities:</p> <p>Promote an ethical and positive compliance culture to ensure compliance with the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> in pest animals and invasive plants management</p> <p>Competency and training needs are identified, budgeted and addressed to enable RLOs to fulfil their compliance obligations.</p> <p>Compliance and enforcement training undertaken by RLOs every 2 years (link in with BQ and Qld Health vertebrate pesticide 1080 re-training if possible).</p> <p>Encourage Compliance Officers to participate in statewide networks, where</p>	<p>Responsibilities:</p> <p>All Stakeholders</p> <p>LG</p> <p>LG and BQ</p> <p>LG</p>	<p>Performance indicators:</p> <p>Ethical and positive compliance culture prevails in region.</p> <p>Competence and training needs of RLOs are identified and addressed.</p> <p>All Rural lands/Local Laws officers trained compliance and enforcement</p> <p>CWQ Compliance Officers are networked with</p>

<p>possible.</p> <p>Appoint all RLOs as authorised officers under the <i>Act</i> once they hold sufficient knowledge and experience and before they exercise any powers under <i>Act</i>.</p> <p>Inform the broader community about compliance issues and enforcement processes.</p> <p>Suggest recommendations to policy makers through the CWRPMG re: possible amendments of <i>Act</i>.</p> <p>Develop innovative approaches to getting voluntary compliance in targeted areas.</p> <p>Enforce policy on reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise biosecurity risk by issuing Biosecurity Orders when and where appropriate.</p> <p>Take enforcement action if all other approaches fail. Maintain a register of all pest control compliance activities.</p> <p>Compliance network established and up to date information exchanged regularly at SRLOG and CWRPTG meetings</p>	<p>LG</p> <p>All stakeholders</p> <p>All stakeholders</p> <p>LG and BQ</p> <p>LG</p> <p>LG</p>	<p>other Compliance Officers across Qld.</p> <p>All RLOs appointed as authorised officers under the <i>Act</i></p> <p>Broader community informed about compliance and enforcement.</p> <p>Amendments of <i>Act</i> to improve its intent suggested.</p> <p>Voluntary compliance achieved.</p> <p>Biosecurity orders issued when warranted as per compliance policy.</p> <p>Enforcement action taken after other approaches fail.</p> <p>Compliance network established through CWRPTG and SRLOG.</p>
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Achievable Objective 5: CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP

Stakeholders use coordinated and collaborative approach to set strategic directions and priorities. Strategic directions are established, maintained and owned by all stakeholders

<p>Principle: Planning - Biosecurity <i>planning must be consistent and integrate at local, regional, State and national levels to ensure resources target priorities for biosecurity risks identified at each level</i></p>		
<p>Issue: Holistic Management</p>		
<p>Objectives: Ensure this biosecurity plan integrates and aligns with</p>	<p>Responsibilities: Everyone</p>	<p>Performance indicators: This biosecurity plan is central reference for other</p>

<p>existing plans, including Local Government plan,(road material bringing weeds) CWQ Regional Plan, DCQ Regional NRM Plan, DUC NRM Plan, Dry Tropics NRM Plan, Georgina Diamantina catchment plan, Diamantina Catchment plan and Cooper Catchment plan.</p> <p>Ensure local wild dog management advisory group plans align with this biosecurity plan.</p> <p>Relay local information to representatives on the National/State Weeds and Feral Animal Groups</p> <p>Encourage consultation between interested stakeholders to form shared responsibilities and partnerships to undertake priorities set by this biosecurity plan.</p> <p>Enhance the relationship with CWRPMTG to this plan</p> <p>Utilise the services of RAPAD Employment Services Qld, grey nomads and the QCS Work Program Queensland Corrective Services)(to achieve this plan's objectives.</p>	<p>Wild dog groups, local governments and DAFF</p> <p>Everyone</p> <p>Everyone</p>	<p>plans to align to.</p> <p>Wild dog budget are enhanced but do not complete against other priorities for funding</p> <p>Evidence of two way flow of information between national pest animal and invasive plants groups.</p> <p>Number of work projects completed with joint partnership</p> <p>CWRPMTG and SRLOG is actively supported</p> <p>Joint project partnerships with available local labour sources</p>
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Principle: *Biosecurity planning must be consistent at local, regional, State and national levels to ensure resources target priorities for biosecurity risks that are identified at each level*

Issue: Planning

Objectives:	Responsibilities:	Performance indicators:
<p>Generate this regional biosecurity plan to set priorities consistent with all other local, regional, state and national pest management and natural resource management plans and strategies.</p>	<p>All stakeholders</p>	<p>Local and State Govt, NRM groups plans are aligned with the Regional Biosecurity Plan</p>
<p>Review regional pest animal and invasive plant priorities, and activities every two years.</p>	<p>CWRPMG</p>	<p>Regional biosecurity priorities are accurate and relevant for the planned biosecurity activities</p>
<p>Review this regional biosecurity plan bi-annually to ensure it guides the CWRPMG and remains a useful tool for all</p>	<p>CWRPMG</p>	<p>RBP reviewed at least every financial year and continues to guide the CWRPMG and remains</p>

<p>stakeholders</p> <p>Develop, monitor and evaluate annual RBP annual action plans before end of each year.</p> <p>Encourage all land holders/managers to develop, implement and review a biosecurity plan for the land they control</p>	<p>CWRPMG</p> <p>Landowners/managers</p>	<p>a useful tool for all stakeholders.</p> <p>RBP annual action plan in place, monitored and evaluated yearly</p> <p>Number of landholders/managers have developed and implemented Biosecurity Plans</p>
<p>Principle: Resources are shared among stakeholders to increase efficiency and effectiveness.</p>		
<p>Issue: Resources To efficiently and adequately resource pest animals and invasive plants management</p>		
<p>Objectives:</p> <p>Resource sufficient enough to do a good job with the tools and equipment available</p> <p>Coordinate resource sharing arrangements for strategic control of pest animals and invasive plants (guided by targets for activity outlined in RBP annual action plan)</p> <p>Work on combined contribution to strategic control areas, if any identified.</p> <p>Refer to local emergency management plans to ensure all equipment, skilled workers and contractors within the region are made available to all stakeholders in case of an emergency response. (Complete by 2016/17)</p>	<p>Responsibilities:</p> <p>Local government</p> <p>Local government</p> <p>Local government</p> <p>Local government</p>	<p>Performance indicators:</p> <p>High proportion of biosecurity activities are adequately resourced</p> <p>Number of resource sharing arrangements effectively implemented</p> <p>Number of collaborative regional biosecurity projects undertaken</p> <p>Up to date list of all relevant equipment and personnel drafted and made available to all shires and departments.</p>

Achievable Objective 6: ONGOING MANAGEMENT

Integrated systems for managing the impacts of restricted pest animals and invasive plants are developed and widely implemented

Issue: Containment of established restricted invasive weeds		
<p>Objectives: Minimise the spread of restricted invasive plants to new areas by implementing containment zones set by risk based decision making framework</p> <p>Identify areas/regional containment lines for strategic control</p> <p>Develop and implement control strategies for each of the areas.</p> <p>Define regional buffer/containment zones for all WONS species occurring in the CWQ region and ensure they are consistent with National control and containment lines.</p>	<p>Responsibilities: BQ, Local Government NRM Groups</p> <p>BQ, Local Government NRM Groups</p>	<p>Performance indicators: List of containment zones developed and implemented. % of control strategies that have been developed and implemented</p> <p>Buffer/containment zones identified and drafted</p> <p>Buffer/containment zones for WONS have been identified and mapped on relevant regional maps.</p>
Issue: Control of established restricted invasive plants		
<p>Objectives: Minimise the spread of pest animals and invasive plants to new areas by implementing control as per SOP for each pest animal and invasive plant species.</p> <p>Prioritise available resources to control established restricted invasive plants. Where possible, provide and promote shared access to control equipment.</p> <p>Implement, evaluate and prioritise biosecurity activities through a risk based decision making framework and align resources to biosecurity risk by incorporating into an annual operational plan</p>	<p>Responsibilities: BQ, Local Government NRM Groups, utility service providers, industry, land managers</p>	<p>Performance indicators: The extent to which established pest animals and invasive plants are prevented from spreading</p> <p>Established restricted invasive plant infestations are reduced in size and impact.</p> <p>The biosecurity activity with the highest risk gets the highest priority.</p>

<p>Ensure affected land managers have access to best practice publications and existing knowledge on pest species management to develop an integrated control program.</p> <p>Control restricted invasive plants using the range of best practice methods. When using pesticides, address the requirements of APVMA permits, label, and MSDA and manufacturers recommendation.</p> <p>Take control at the optimum time to get best results of restricted invasive plants (normally when actively growing).</p> <p>Follow up action implemented to gain more effective long term control.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluate success and effectiveness of control methods</p> <p>Promote successful integrated pest management programs to reinforce the importance of regional biosecurity responses.</p>		<p>Best practices used to control restricted invasive plants</p> <p>Best practices used to control restricted invasive plants</p> <p>Control work activities to incorporate new technologies and techniques where practical consistent with law</p> <p>Commitment to follow up is essential. Take follow up action at the most appropriate time.</p> <p>Evaluation done and corrective action taken to improve procedures.</p> <p>Evidence that community values the purpose of the CWQRBP</p>
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Issue: Population & Impact Management of Pest Animals

<p>Objectives:</p> <p>Refer to Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) listed in this Regional Biosecurity Plan for each individual pest animal species to reduce pest animal populations and impacts in the region using methods consistent with best practices.</p> <p>Support establishment of landowner lead wild dog management advisory groups in each local government.</p> <p>Coordinate regional wild dog and feral pig control programmes across the region</p> <p>Coordinate a regional approach to bounty rates and scalp management</p> <p>Monitor and record quantitative data on impact from pest animals on livestock in the region to benchmark success of</p>	<p>Responsibilities:</p> <p>BQ, Local Government NRM Groups</p> <p>Industry, Local Government</p> <p>Local Government</p> <p>Industry</p>	<p>Performance indicators:</p> <p>The extent to which the populations and impacts of established pest animals are reduced.</p> <p>Each local government has effective wild dog management advisory group</p> <p>Regional wild dog control programs completed as per RBP annual work plan</p> <p>All neighbouring local governments have same bounties.</p> <p>Quantitative data available to benchmark success of control programs</p>
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control programs		
Principle: Improvement - <i>Research about pest animals and invasive plants, and regular monitoring and evaluation of biosecurity control activities, is necessary to improve biosecurity practices</i>		
Issue: Research - Development of Improved Management Practices		
<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop new, and improve existing, pest animal and invasive plants management practices. Identify inadequacies in existing biosecurity – by who/which individuals/agencies Identify areas for future research Encourage productive uses of pests such as commercial harvesting and biomass fuels Contribute to developing local best practices Assist research projects if required Make available throughout the region research information and results for all stakeholders. Ensure the adaptability of biosecurity practices Review effectiveness and benefit of local government precept system <p>(Complete by 2016/17)</p>	<p>Responsibilities:</p> <p>BQ, Local Government NRM Groups</p>	<p>Performance indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The extent to which local biosecurity practices are developed and improved. Number of improvements recommended Number of research needs identified Number of new contributions to local best practice Number of research projects assisted Number of research presentations to biosecurity group meetings and newsletters. Number of adaptive management practices developed Continuous improvement of pest management funding system for local government to enact legislated biosecurity requirements.

POLICIES FOR THE REGION

These policies have been ratified and agreed to by all seven local governments of RAPAD.

Policy on Properties having a Biosecurity Plan

- To gain any subsidy for restricted invasive plants control the property must have a Property Biosecurity Plan with the implementation of that Plan be enforced if necessary.
- Either a copy of the Property Biosecurity Plan or the requirement to prepare or update a Biosecurity Plan to be provided with a local government rate search on rural properties.
- Any Development Approvals approved under the Sustainable Planning Act 2009 and State Planning Policy require declared plants to be destroyed in proposed development area or a Property Pest Management Plan lodged with the Council.

Policy on reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise biosecurity risk

- The reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise biosecurity risk from restricted invasive plants within the region will be a 50 m buffer zone free of all restricted invasive plants adjoining property boundary lines and along watercourses where practical. A larger buffer may be imposed in watercourse areas if necessary.
- Properties that have emerging restricted invasive plants must have a Biosecurity Plan stating how they will take reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise biosecurity risk from the emerging prohibited invasive plants so that it does not grow into an uncontrollable situation.

Enforcement Policy

This plan promotes self-regulation and encourages the community to act in accordance with the Act through measures such as targeted communication and education activities, timely provision of information and advice, persuasion, cooperative assistance and collaboration and to raise awareness of the benefits of complying with the Act, and the potential consequences of non-compliance.

In the course of implementing this policy the CEO or delegated authority will ensure compliance and enforcement activities are undertaken in a manner which is:

- in accordance with the law, effective and proportionate, fair and impartial, respectful of individuals, and within officers' authority.
- administer and enforce the Act in a coherent, consistent and objective manner, and

If necessary enforcement measures may be used to ensure compliance to the **general biosecurity obligation** that all reasonable and practical measures are taken to prevent or minimise the biosecurity risk from pest animals and invasive weeds. This should be seen as the final option undertaken only after other avenues to achieve cooperation have failed.

Policy on restricted invasive plants eradication on stock route waters:

Until eradication, continue to control regrowth of declared woody weeds to a 200m clearance zone. To be carried out as part of water maintenance and be part of the water agreement for shared facilities including shared responsibility for control.

Policy on wild dog scalps:

All local government across the region will pay a uniform wild dog bounty..

Recommendation on Leucaena:

That property owners growing Leucaena should stay within guidelines of The Leucaena Network Best Management Code of Practice and that it be recommended as an inappropriate town plant.

Policy dealing with Australian Plague and spur throated Locust –

Liaise with Biosecurity Queensland and Australian Plague Locusts Commission to gauge seriousness / threat of reports

Assist APLC with band and swarm treatment of Australian Plague Locusts

Assist Biosecurity Queensland with swarm control of spur throat locusts

RLO - distribute extension material on locust species

Key Stakeholder’s Responsibilities and Authority

Notwithstanding legislative responsibilities, key stakeholder responsibilities for implementing this Plan are outlined below:

Stakeholder	Key Roles, Responsibilities and Authority		
	Prohibited Pest Animal and Invasive Plant	Restricted Pest Animal and Invasive Plant	Other
Local Government	Surveillance, early detection/notification and raising awareness	Ensure invasive biosecurity matter is managed according to this plan. Compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping and raising awareness. Prevent weed seed spread. 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. Source more support for more resources in biosecurity management. Foster a more regional approach to biosecurity management. Develop policy on LG vehicle and machinery wash down and weed seed spread. Maintain 1080 approval and chemical handling (eg.ChemCert or SMARTtrain) training, AC DC

			licence
Landholders (including state landholding agencies eg Main Roads, QR, Ergon, LG, Native Title etc)	Early detection, destruction of infestations	Containment and control of pest animals and invasive plants Prevent weed seed spread. Encourage good pest management eg vehicle wash down, weed vendor declaration etc	Access additional funding sources, where possible. Allocate funding to annual control program. Maintain technical skills and knowledge
Natural Resource Management Group (DCQ, SW NRM, NQ Dry Tropics DUC)	Surveillance, early detection/notification and raising awareness. Control of infestations	Regional planning, mapping, GIS training and education, and funding support for natural resource management programs consistent with contracts. Contribute regional perspectives to pest management research training and awareness. Lobbying and participation at all levels of Government. Raising community awareness. Ensure regional investment strategies are consistent with priority biosecurity activities Surveillance and monitoring. Maintain and share database of pest animal and invasive plant distribution. Prevent weed seed spread	
Biosecurity Queensland, Primary Industries and Fisheries	Initiate, coordinate and undertake eradication programs in partnership with relevant stakeholders Early detection, destruction of infestations, compliance, state wide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness and research	Implement system whereby local government, pest control contractors and authorised landowners can assess 1080 as well as administer, monitor and record proper use of 1080. Research into improved pest management. Provide extension and technical skills in pest management and provide best practice guides and fact sheets. Support funding proposals for control programs	Operate the Wild Dog Barrier Fence. Research control techniques. Support local government planning, extension and education services.
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection DEHP and DNPRSR		Landholder responsibilities plus 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.
Queensland Health		Grant approval for use of 1080 and strychnine. Investigate misuse of alleged 1080 and strychnine	Lead role in maintaining public health and safety in issues associated with poisons
Commonwealth Department of Agriculture	National border protection and surveillance, funding support for programs dealing with WONS	Regional consultation in setting policy on pest management	

Livestock Biosecurity Network and Farm Biosecurity website	Coordinated national awareness of prohibited animal diseases and the link to pest animal management	National processes, awareness resources and templates for developing property biosecurity plans for all biosecurity matter (animal and plant diseases, weeds and pests)

Standard Operating Procedures

Following are Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for most restricted pest animals and invasive plants in this region. These SOP state who does what, where, when, why and how to dealt with a particular restricted pest animal or invasive plant and should be read in conjunction with fact sheets that can be found at <http://www.daff.qld.gov.au/plants/weeds-pest-animals-ants/educational-resources-and-careers/publications/fact-sheets>

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR WILD DOGS (*CANIS FAMILIARIS*)

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 of impacting on humans and livestock.



Status of the pest

Wild Dogs are a restricted pest animal and have a very high priority within Central Western Queensland.

Local distribution of the pest

Review distribution maps

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.
Continue to support the coordinated strategic control program across all Councils in the region.
Promote dog syndicates and local wild dog eradication committees.
To adopt best practice methodologies and most recent scientific findings.
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; representation on the Wild Dog Coordinating Committee. Encourage participation in Shire Rural Lands Officer Group
Continue assistance in wild dog control.



Industry: coordination and participation in wild dog committees and syndicates.

Animal welfare organizations: promoting responsible pet ownership.

State Government Departments: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, legislation, raising awareness, and research; maintenance of the Wild Dog Barrier Fence. Manage wild dogs in state managed lands that join grazing enterprises with livestock.

Natural Resource Management Groups – support research and dissemination of information.

Will do what

1. Trap, shoot or bait on an identified needs basis.
2. Participate in wild dog management advisory committees to coordinate the timing of wild dog control activities across western Qld
3. Wild dog groups continue to develop strategies and provide advice to landholders
4. Encourage landholders to form syndicates where there is not an existing one to encourage landholders to appoint a local coordinator
5. Maintain and expand wild dog education program throughout the region.
6. Encourage adoption of best practice for guardian animals eg Maremmas.
7. Source more support from the state government for increased resources for control.
8. Continue to strengthen the regional and industry perspective on wild dog control
9. Continue to map wild dog impacts including livestock attacks, stressed flocks, areas of control and scalp returns
10. Share mapping and other relevant information about wild dog control with neighbouring local governments and other agencies
11. Support partnerships with groups such as Sporting Shooters Association Farmer Assist Program.

Resources needed

Financial, human and capital resources as determined by Council budget and policies

Rural Lands Officer and other approved persons with Fluoroacetate acid (1080) and strychnine approval

Landholder support in coordinated baiting programs and other control programs

State government support – research, coordination, poison and alternative baits

Performance Indicators

Numbers of wild dogs reduced.

Reduced sightings by landowners.

Reduction in number of dog attacks.

Formation and effective operation of wild dog syndicates and regular distribution of data from syndicates.

Level of participation in coordinated control campaigns

Monitoring and Review

Feedback from syndicates; Review the effectiveness of money, resources and time invested into wild dog control.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR FERAL PIGS (*SUS SCROFA*)

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, especially along watercourses and ephemeral wetlands.



Status of the pest

Feral Pigs are a restricted pest animal and have a high priority within conservation areas of Central Western Queensland

Local distribution of the pest.

Update distribution map when feral pig populations concentrate on waterholes in conservation areas

Program objective

To control and manage population numbers

Who is responsible

Land managers of conservation areas: destruction and control of pest animals in high value conservation areas.

Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.

DAFF: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

NRM Groups: Strategic control around high value natural resource management assets.

Will do What

Poisoning and trapping are the most effective control techniques. Small isolated populations of pigs may be removed by shooting from the ground or from helicopters and/or by the use of dogs to flush them from their cover. A strategic time to control feral pigs is during the dry season when pigs are congregating around waterholes and watercourses.

However, control is difficult for several reasons:

1. • Pigs are intelligent, adaptable and secretive.
2. • Breeding occurs year-round under favourable conditions when there is sufficient protein in their diet.
3. • Commitment to control varies.

Resources needed

Financial, human and capital resources as determined by Council budget; Landholder and volunteer group support.

Performance Indicator

Population numbers reduced, support local commercial controls, review distribution maps.
Impact such as lamb losses from predators reduced.

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing mapping and control measures

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 poultry, 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

Foxes are a restricted pest animal and have a high priority within Central Western Queensland.

Local distribution of the pest.

Develop distribution map, where appropriate

Program objective

To control and manage population numbers

Who is responsible - the lead agency

Central West Regional Biosecurity Plan Version 5



Landowners: destruction and control of pest animals.

Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.

DAFF: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

Will do What

1. Trap, shoot or bait on an identified needs basis.
2. Conduct night-time road patrols on regular basis in affected areas.
3. Acquire and set traps around specific areas within Council areas, where foxes have been problematic.

Resources needed

Financial, human and capital resources as determined by Council budget and policies

Rural Land Officer with Fluoroacetate acid (1080) and strychnine approval

Landholder support in baiting programs and other control programs

Fox traps that can be shared with affected community members

State government support – research, coordination, poison

Performance Indicator

Reduction in population numbers and reported domestic animal attacks

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR FERAL CATS (*FELIS CATUS*)

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

Feral cats are a restricted pest animal and have a high priority within Central Western Queensland.

Local distribution of the pest.

Develop distribution map for areas of high conservation value

Program objective

To continue to reduce population numbers

Who is responsible - the lead agency

Land managers of high value conservation areas: destruction and control of predatory pest animals.

Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.

DAFF: statewide planning, mapping, coordination of management, raising awareness, and research.

Local governments, RSPCA, animal welfare groups: encouraging responsible pet ownership.

Will do What



1. Trap, shoot or bait on an identified needs basis.
2. Conduct road patrols on regular basis especially around known breeding sites like refuse dump.
3. Acquire and set feral cat traps around specific areas within Council areas and territories to scope the effectiveness of capturing feral cats.
4. Report on success of feral cat control works
5. Council to create by-law to restrict number of cats per household to two and for all cats to be de-sexed unless registered breeders.
6. Community wide education strategy needs to be undertaken to encourage responsible cat ownership.

Resources needed

Local Resources

Performance Indicator

Reduction in Feral Cat numbers

Continued control of isolated populations

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

Rabbits are a restricted pest animal and have a medium priority within Central Western Queensland. 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.

Update mapping indicating the spread and range of Rabbits

Program objective

To identify local population and continue to contribute to R&D

Who is responsible - the lead agency

Landowners: destruction and control of rabbits, where problematic.

Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness outside the DD–MRB area.

DAFF: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

Will do What



A range of techniques is available for their control in Queensland and outlined in the Biosecurity Queensland Rabbit Control PestFact. After consideration of animal welfare issues and non-target impacts, choice of control technique should be based on an understanding of rabbit behaviour, social structure, habitats and food preferences. Best results are achieved through a combination of control techniques and sustained follow-up.

Resources needed

Local and individual resources supported by government when necessary.

Performance Indicator

Continue to map and control local populations
Increased level of involvement in major rabbit control programs.

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR LOCUSTS

Description of problem

Three species of locust are restricted pests for their capacity to rapidly build up in numbers, migrate, and severely affect cropping areas of Queensland and other states. 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 to bands of immature hoppers are effective and economically feasible.



Status of the pest

Locusts are a restricted pest and have a low priority within Central Western Queensland however under certain seasonal conditions locusts can have a major impact on grazing land and therefore needs to be monitored and control taken when feasible.

Local distribution of the pest.

Varied seasonally and intervention is dependent on population numbers and distribution

Program objective

To identify population as early as possible and notify the appropriate authority.

Who is responsible - the lead agency

Responsibility for locust management in areas outside the Australian Plague Locust Commission (APLC) 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 QDAFF (advice, coordination, and control of swarms).

Landowners: report localised bands of locust hoppers to QDAFF or APLC <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/animal-plant-health/locusts/landholders> .

Localized control of locusts, as required;

Local governments: control of locusts in places such as roadsides and reserves.

DAFF, Australian Plague Locust Commission (in defined areas): broad-scale strategic and preventative locust control as well as surveillance and mapping.

DNPRSR: locust control, and monitoring any adverse effects of control, on national parks as per Operational Policy <http://www.nprsr.qld.gov.au/licences-permits/pdf/op-pk-nrm-locust-control.pdf> .

Resources needed

Local and individual resources only

Performance Indicator

Notification prior to bands and swarms developing to relevant authority

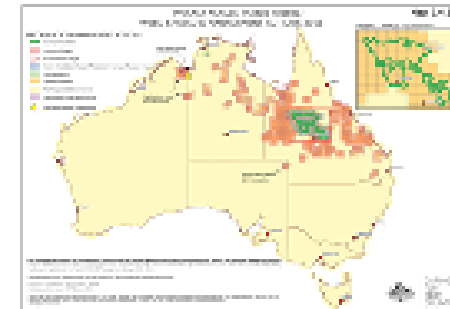
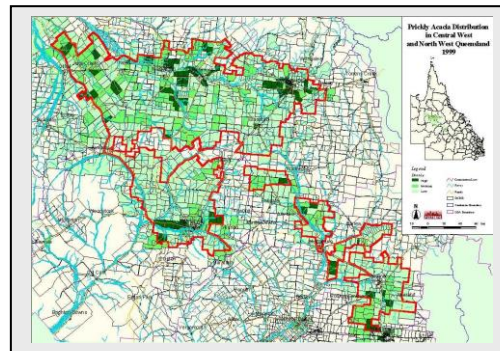
Monitoring and Review

Ongoing

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

Description of problem

Prickly acacia is a thorny tree introduced from India that has been recognised as a Weed of National Significance (WoNS). 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 savanna. Cattle are the primary agent of dispersal for the seeds and cattle movement to the CWQ region from infested areas can result in new outbreaks. Prickly acacia forms dense thickets that render land unproductive and increase management costs. The *Prickly Acacia Strategic Plan 2000* adopted a national containment line to safeguard uninfested areas – Some parts of Central Western Queensland are located outside of this line meaning all known isolated occurrences of this weed should be controlled towards eradication. In 2011, prickly acacia management was reviewed and mapped into zones of action – eradication, control and asset protection.



Description of problem

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

Four species of mesquite are present in Australia – *P. velutina*, *P. glandulosa*, *P. pallida* and the hybrid (*Prosopis spp. hybrid*). Large infestations in the shires of McKinlay, Flinders and Cloncurry cover over 120 000 hectares, with small, isolated infestations throughout much of western Queensland. No major infestations have established in the Central West to date. 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.



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 1 million hectares. Heavy infestations are present within the upper Lake Eyre Catchments. Isolated infestations in central and western Queensland have the potential to spread across large areas aided by flood movement of seed pods. Under favourable 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. It is more desirable, however, to reducing its rate of spread and adverse effects, and protecting areas at high risk through enforced management and control. Some infestations have established along major creek and river systems within Central Western Queensland. Natural dieback is having an impact on Parkinsonia survival.



Status of the pests

Weed of National Significance (WONS) in Australia. Restricted invasive plant and classed a high priority within Central Western Queensland .

Local distribution of the pest.

Review and update distribution maps for all three woody weeds.

Contribute to regional and state based surveys and mapping initiatives

Program objective

To progressively reduce mesquite infestations, ultimately leading to eradication from the CWQ region

Registered herbicides and Equipment - Spray pack, spray tank, Quad bike and trailer

4WD vehicle, personal protective equipment (PPE), responsible chemical handling training, secure chemical storage facility/ shed, chainsaws and other weed management equipment.

Mechanical control equipment for double pulling dense infestations and cut-stumping isolated plants. Equipment for chemical or mechanical control on bore drains, where relevant.

Financial support from Council, Government, other agencies, landholders.

Employment agencies/ initiatives, conservation volunteers

Performance Indicator

All known infestations are reduced or contained to prevent spreading into uninfected areas

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR PARTHENIUM WEED (*PARTHENIUM HYSTEROPHORUS*)

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. Preventing or reducing its spread into new areas of the state and managing its adverse effects are feasible and desirable.

Key priority areas have been identified by National Parthenium Weed Management Group aimed at long-term control <http://www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/parthenium/>.



Status of the pest

Weed of National Significance (WONS); restricted invasive plant and classed a high priority within Central Western Queensland.

Need to support, build partnerships with land managers, travelling public, coexisting land users, other key NRM stakeholders – regional NRM organisations, State Govt and other local Governments to coordinate activities that link with national priorities to target strategic control at regional and local levels

Local distribution of the pest.

Review mapping showing key priority areas for parthenium weed.

Program objective

To immediately address any emerging population;

Actively manage all small, isolated and outlying infestations.

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

Promote grazing pressure management and pasture competition where infestations occur or are likely to occur;



Maintain monitoring on known infestations that have been controlled. Monitoring during spring/summer needs to occur every 4-5 weeks to ensure activity can occur BEFORE plants seed

To provide assistance to landholders where funding permits.

Encourage industry and government to get better voluntary use of weed hygiene declarations

Encourage everyone to adopt their General Biosecurity Obligation to not transport parthenium weeds seeds on machinery and vehicles

Who is responsible

Landowners: Control and reduction of infestations. Lobby peers and government

Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, raise awareness and encourage weed control. Perform weed control on council controlled land. Monitoring of infestations on private lands

Provide advice to landholders on best management practices for parthenium weed

State Government Agencies: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research. Perform weed control on state agency controlled land.

Local NRM groups: facilitate control of infestations; contribute resources; mapping; local knowledge; planning;

Managers of transport corridors: LG, DTMR and land managers control strategic outbreaks on road verges and tracks to minimise weed seed spread.

Will do What (Who is doing this?)

1. Monitor all infestations and produce maps of the distribution, spread and treated areas
2. Establish and maintain containment lines around core infestations
3. Encourage and assist in developing property biosecurity plans in conjunction with DCQ, Livestock Biosecurity Network and other agencies
4. Control infestations outside containment lines
5. Promote best practice procedures/guidelines in core infestations
6. Disseminate best practice information on parthenium weed awareness and weed seed prevention through tourist information centres and other community facilities.
7. Continue to build partnerships with other key NRM stakeholders' to seek pest plant funding; to control any existing infestations; and to manage any emerging populations
8. Promote use of vehicle clean-downs to remove weed seeds before travelling into non-infested areas
9. Promote regular surveillance of areas where hay and stored grain food have been fed to livestock and poultry

When

Ongoing with an evaluation and review of this procedure every year

Resources needed

Registered herbicides and Equipment - Spray pack, spray tank, Quad bike and trailer

4WD vehicle, personal protective equipment (PPE), responsible chemical handling training, secure chemical storage facility/ shed, and other weed management equipment.

Financial support from Council, Government, other agencies, landholders.

Employment agencies/ initiatives, conservation volunteers

Performance Indicator

Core infestations are managed to current populations and within containments;
Any emergent population is immediately controlled.

Monitoring and Review

Spring/summer – inspect known infestation sites every 4-5 weeks to ensure activity can occur BEFORE plants seed (dependant on rainfall activity & site conditions)

Autumn/Winter - Monitoring should occur every 8-10 weeks – dependant on rainfall activity and site conditions

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR RUBBER VINE (*CRYPTOSTEGIA GRANDIFLORA*)

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. Key priority areas have been identified by National Rubber Vine Management Group aimed at long-term eradication.



Status of the pest

Weed of National Significance (WONS); restricted invasive plant and classed a medium priority within Central Western Queensland .

Need to support, build partnerships with other key NRM stakeholders – regional NRM organisations, State Govt and other local Govts to coordinate activities that link with national priorities to target strategic control at regional and local level

Local distribution of the pest.

Review mapping showing distributions outside of Rubber Vine Containment Line

Program objective

Map any distributions outside containment line

Control local populations using current best practice methods

Who is responsible

Landowners: control of infestations on their land.

Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.

DAFF: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, research and monitoring Councils to see these actions are being completed?

NRM Groups: support coordinated management of strategic infestations in areas of high value NRM assets



Will do What

1. Review map of current distribution across CWQ,
2. Minimise risk from wind spreading rubber vine seed by maintaining a 50 m buffer zone free of all restricted invasive plants adjoining property boundary lines and along watercourses. A larger buffer may be imposed in watercourse areas if necessary
3. Control strategic high priority areas and existing populations using current best practices.
4. Raise awareness – identification, reporting & best practice approaches

Resources needed

WONS rubber vine best practice manual <http://www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/rubbervine/> and Biosecurity Qld PestFact <https://www.daff.qld.gov.au/plants/weeds-pest-animals-ants/educational-resources-and-careers/publications/fact-sheets>

Registered herbicides and Equipment - Spray pack, spray tank, Quad bike and trailer

4WD vehicle, personal protective equipment (PPE), responsible chemical handling training, secure chemical storage facility/ shed, brushcutter and other weed management equipment.

Financial support from Council, Government, other agencies, landholders.

Employment agencies/ initiatives, conservation volunteers

Fire management training

Distribution of rubber vine rust in larger infestations beyond early eradication, when seasonal conditions are favourable for the rust biocontrol agent

Where feasible, mechanical control equipment (eg bladeplough, Ellrott bladeplough, blunt slasher)

Performance Indicator

No new populations

No growth spread from existing populations

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing – need to commit to monitoring areas every 2 years as rubber vine has a relatively short seed viability up to 3 years.

Monitoring should be done around April/May periods as flowering is evident at this time

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR BELLYACHE BUSH (*JATROPHA GOSSYPIFOLIA*)

Description of problem:

Erect shrub 2.5 – 3m tall with thick sappy stem. Young leaves are deeply divided into three rounded lobes and are purple coloured and sticky. Older leaves bright green about 10cm in diameter and may have up to five lobes. Flowers small red with yellow centres. Seed pods smooth, oval and the size of a cherry. Ants aid seed dispersal in addition to the pods springing open and propelling seed considerable distances from the parent plant.

Will out-compete native vegetation. Places a specific chemical into the soil to suppress other nearby plants. Becomes a monoculture. Seeds toxic to animals and humans.



Status of the pest:

Weed is a restricted invasive plant and classed a high priority within Central Western Queensland . There are only four known infestations in Central Western Queensland but it still needs to be carefully monitored for any new infestation.

Local distribution of the pest:

Review and update map of distribution

Program objectives:

To contain and reduce current infestations and control new outbreaks.

Who is responsible

Landowners: Control infestations aiming towards eradication.

Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.

State Government Agencies: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness.

Local NRM groups: assist with destruction of infestations; contribute resources; mapping; local knowledge; planning;

Will do what



1. Prevent or minimise risk from spreading bellyache bush by maintaining a 50 m buffer zone free of all restricted invasive plants adjoining property boundary lines and along watercourses. A larger buffer may be imposed in watercourse areas if necessary
2. Landholder maintain surveillance on their land

Resources needed

WONS Bellyache Bush Management Manual <http://www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/bellyachebush/> and Biosecurity Qld PestFact

https://www.daff.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/66737/IPA-Bellyache-Bush-PP45.pdf

APVMA Minor Use Permit PER13707 for use of splatter gun to control bellyache bush

Registered herbicides and Equipment - Spray pack, spray tank, splatter gun, Quad bike and trailer

4WD vehicle, personal protective equipment (PPE), responsible chemical handling training, secure chemical storage facility/ shed, chainsaws and other weed management equipment.

Financial support from Council, Government, other agencies, landholders.

Employment agencies/ initiatives, conservation volunteers

Performance Indicators

Reduction in extent of existing infestations.

Successful eradication with no new plants establishing after seven years of follow up surveillance

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. Tolerates partial shade and often grows in woody debris under tree canopies.

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 restricted invasive plant and is given a low priority by the Central Western Queensland .

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.

DAFF: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

Will do What

1. Prevent or minimise risk from spreading mother of millions by maintaining a 50 m buffer zone free of all restricted invasive plants adjoining property boundary lines and along watercourses. A larger buffer may be imposed in watercourse areas if necessary
2. Control existing populations from spreading;
3. Treat and emergent and isolated populations.
4. Minimise toxic impacts by restricting stock access to infestations.



Resources needed

Registered herbicides and Equipment - Spray pack, spray tank, Quad bike and trailer

4WD vehicle, personal protective equipment (PPE), responsible chemical handling training, secure chemical storage facility/ shed, and other weed management equipment.

Financial support from Council, Government, other agencies, landholders.

Employment agencies/ initiatives, conservation volunteers

Performance Indicator

Manage local populations

Treat emergent populations

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR CACTUS (CYLINDROPUNTIA SPECIES)

Description of problem

This category encumbers, coral cactus, rope cactus and other succulents that have become weeds of significance.



Status of the pest

Restricted invasive plant and a very high priority invasive weed in Central Western Queensland

Program objective

To eradicate isolated populations

Who is responsible

Landowners: Control and reduction of infestations. Lobby peers and government

Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, raise awareness, provide subsidised herbicide (if feasible) and encourage weed control. Perform weed control on council controlled land.

State Government Agencies: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research. Perform weed control on state agency controlled land.

Local NRM groups: facilitate control of infestations; contribute resources; mapping; local knowledge; planning;

Will do What

1. Landholder remain vigilant in treating isolated populations, prevent or minimise risk from spreading *Cylindropuntia* spp cactus by maintaining a 50 m buffer zone free of all restricted invasive plants adjoining property boundary lines and along watercourses. A larger buffer may be imposed in watercourse areas if necessary
2. Council treat all isolated populations on land under their control



3. Minimise spread of seeds by birds and animals by timing treatment of cacti before fruits mature.
4. QPIF and DCQ map infestation, coordinate control, raise awareness

Resources needed

Biosecurity Qld PestFact

APVMA Minor Use Permit 13812 Control of coral cactus in pastures, rights of way, commercial and industrial areas

Registered herbicides and Equipment - Spray pack, spray tank, Quad bike and trailer

4WD vehicle, personal protective equipment (PPE), responsible chemical handling training, secure chemical storage facility/ shed and other weed management equipment.

Protective leather gloves from cactus spines

Long handled tongs

Thorn resistant tyres and boots

Financial support from Council, Government, other agencies, landholders.

Employment agencies/ initiatives, conservation volunteers

Performance Indicator

Reduction in local population

Eradication of isolated populations

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR FLORESTINA (*FLORESTINA TRIPTERIS*)

Description of problem

Small isolated (but spreading) patch to the south of Barcaldine and large patch south of Tambo. Similar to parthenium in how it spreads.



Photo Michelle Rogers

Status of the pest

Unclassified weed, population growing and classed a low priority within Central Western Queensland although known infestations occur in Central Western Queensland.

Local distribution of the pest.

Infestations in Barcaldine, Blackall and Tambo

Program objective

Create awareness, monitor for any new emerging infestation, encourage control to stop spread.

Who is responsible

Landowners: Monitor for any new emerging infestation and control existing infestations.

Local governments: surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.

DAFF: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness.

Will do What

Encourage landowners to control any infestations before it becomes more widespread (cost-effectiveness of controlling isolated infestations)

Resources needed

Biosecurity Qld Sticky Florestina PestFact https://www.daff.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/72378/IPA-Sticky-Florestina-PP153.pdf

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APVMA Minor Use Permit PER11920 for control of *Florestina tripteris* in pastures, stock routes, road verges and non-crop situations

Reference: Mckenzie J, Brazier D, CampbellS, Vitelli J, Anderson A and Mayer R. (2014) Herbicide control of sticky florestina (Florestina tripteris DC.) *The Rangeland Journal* 36(3) 259-265 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/RJ13091>

Performance Indicator

Central Western Queensland clean up known infestations and no new infestations.

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR LEUCAENA (*LEUCAENA LEUCOCEPHALA subsp leucocephala*)

Description of problem

Native to Central and South America, leucaena (*Leucaena leucocephala subsp leucocephala*) is a small tree that has been planted for fodder in many tropical areas of the world, including Queensland. Unless heavily grazed or otherwise controlled, it is able to rapidly spread to adjacent areas.

Will out-compete native vegetation.. Potential to become a monoculture in ungrazed areas. Commercial grazing enterprises adopt The Leucaena Network Code of Practice <http://www.leucaena.net/codeofconduct.pdf> and predominantly use Leucaena leucocephala subspecies glabrata which produces less seed than the common type.



Status of the pest

Undeclared, planted as a fodder crop. Its invasive nature in non-grazed areas along watercourses and conservation areas is being carefully monitored and classed a low priority within Central Western Queensland. Any Leucaena plantings on grazing properties need to be managed within the Leucaena Network Code of Practice <http://www.leucaena.net/codeofconduct.pdf>

Local distribution of the pest.

Map distribution in areas of high conservation value, where grazing does not occur

Program objective

Nil

Who is responsible

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Landowners: Control ungrazed plants near watercourses or outside property boundary. Minimise seeding on grazing enterprises by maintaining plants within browse height of livestock.

Local governments: compliance, surveillance, local planning, mapping, and raising awareness.

DAFF: statewide planning, mapping, coordination, raising awareness, and research.

Meat and Livestock Australia: Management of tree fodder crops and carbon farming

Transport Corridors: Land managers only control plants on transport corridors where there is a safety issue.

NRM Groups: Support controlling plants directly affecting non-grazed areas of high conservation value

Will do What

Manage plants in high value environmental areas

Resources needed

Local

Refer to APVMA Minor Use Permit PER11463 for herbicide control options of environmental weeds in non-crop areas

Biosecurity Qld Leucaena Pestfact https://www.daff.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/73450/IPA-Leucaena-PP85.pdf

The Leucaena Network <http://www.leucaena.net/> has lists of resources available for responsible establishment and management of tree grass pastures

Performance Indicator

No new escapee populations

Leucaena on grazing properties is managed according to the Leucaena Network Code of Practice

Monitoring and Review

Ongoing