

Gympie Regional Council Biosecurity Plan 2023-2028 (Invasive Plants and Animals)





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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The Gympie Region Biosecurity Plan (the Plan) provides the framework as to how all landowners meet their obligations to reduce biosecurity risks associated with invasive plants and animals (often referred to as weeds and pest animals) that have significant economic, environmental, and social impacts on primary industries, natural ecosystems, and human and animal health.

The management of invasive plants and animals (referred to as invasive biosecurity matter in the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act) is the shared responsibility of land managers, industry, the community, and all levels of government. As such, under the Act, any person who [deals with biosecurity matter](#) (including having it present on their property) must reduce the risks associated with biosecurity matter that is present on land which they manage, or connected to activities they undertake.

Local government has a legislative responsibility to regulate the management of invasive biosecurity matter (weeds and pest animals listed in the legislation) within their local government boundaries. This plan provides clear guidance on the strategic approach that is being taken and what is expected of Gympie region residents and visitors to fulfill their obligations regarding invasive plant and animal management.

This Plan:

- Lists Gympie region priority invasive plants and animals.
- Sets management goals for priority invasive species.
- Identifies actions that can be taken to meet goals and reduce associated biosecurity risks.
- Informs investment into strategic biosecurity management.
- Details how the plan will be monitored, evaluated, and reviewed.

The Plan will commence at the time the Plan is adopted by Council and will expire at the end of 2028.

1.2 The Plan Companion

This Plan has a supporting document called the Companion to the Gympie Region Biosecurity Plan (Plan Companion), which contains information that describes the framework and strategic decision-making processes that were applied in the development of the Plan.

The Plan Companion presents and justifies council's approach to invasive plant and animal management and supports strategic and operational decision making.

The Plan companion provides information on:

- Strategic biosecurity management.
- Supporting strategies and policies.
- Biosecurity plan development.
- Reasonable and practical measures to reduce risk.



1.3 Vision

This Plan provides a basis for the cooperative and coordinated management of invasive plants and animals throughout the Gympie region.

At its centre, the Plan promotes the importance of shared ownership, effective actions, and long-term commitment to invasive species management in the region.

1.4 Scope

This Plan addresses the management of invasive biosecurity matter, plus any locally significant introduced species that are a priority for the Gympie region. Invasive biosecurity matter are invasive species listed as:

1. [Prohibited Matter](#) - invasive plants and animals listed in Schedule 1, parts 3 and 4 of the Act, and
2. [Restricted Matter](#) - invasive plants and animals listed in Schedule 2, part 2 of the Act.

Refer to Schedules 1 and 2 of the [Biosecurity Act 2014](#) for the full list of invasive species regulated under this legislation.

There are significant obligations that apply when dealing with biosecurity matter, including the general biosecurity obligation ([Section 2.2](#)), prohibited matter obligations ([Section 2.2.1](#)), and restricted matter obligations ([Section 2.2.2](#)).

All land and waterways within the boundaries of the local government are included in the scope of this plan.

1.5 The Gympie region

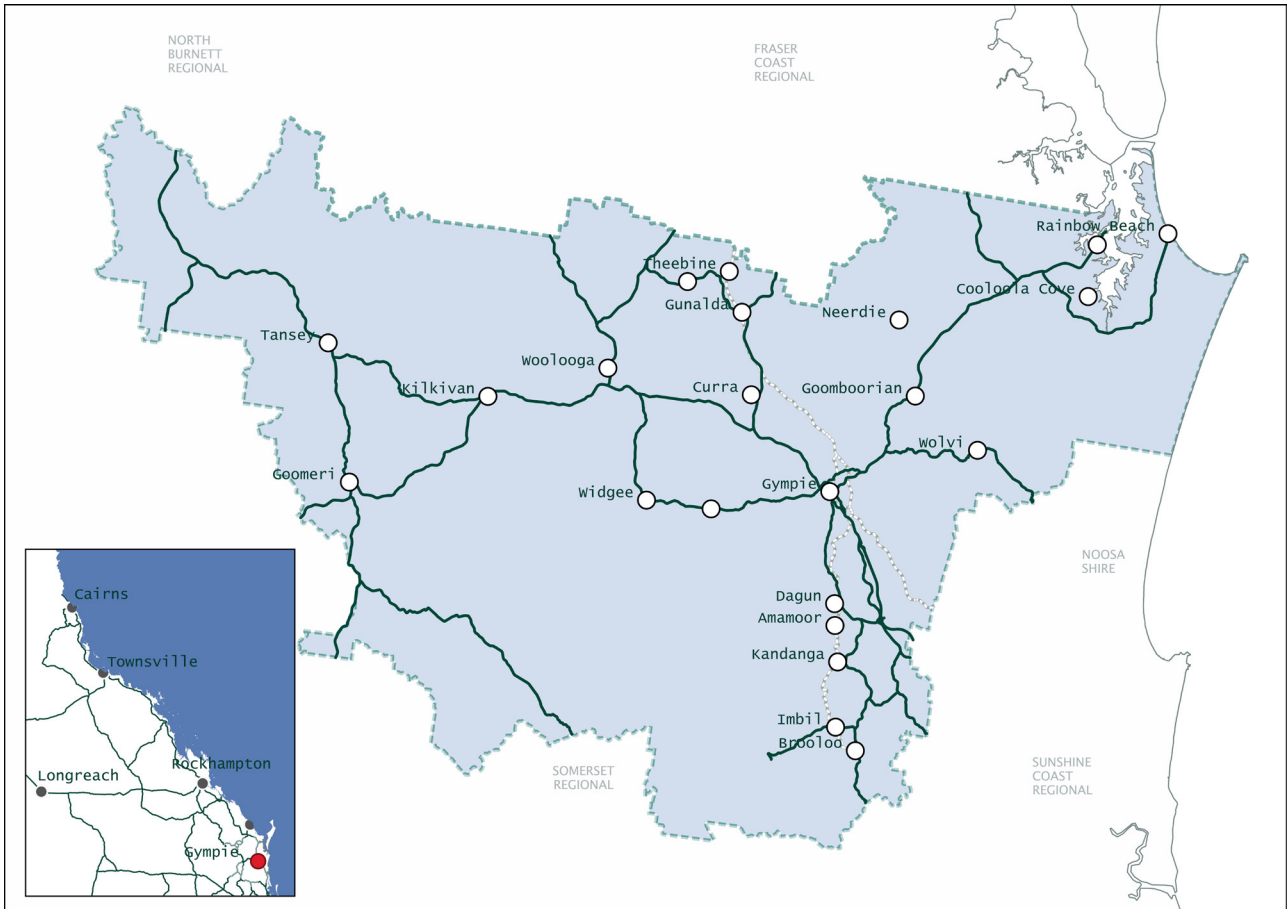
The Plan covers the full extent of Gympie Regional Council, which is located in the Wide Bay Burnett region of Queensland and covers an area of nearly 7000 square kilometres. The Gympie region incorporates urban, coastal, hinterland and extensive rural zones and supports a diverse mix of landscapes, lifestyles and economic values.

The main population centre is Gympie, with small townships and communities spread across the region.

Rural land is predominantly used for agriculture, particularly beef production and forestry. Tourism is also an important industry, and the demographic profile of the Gympie region is changing to include a growing peri-urban population.



Figure 1. Gympie Regional Council map of region



2. Biosecurity responsibilities

2.1 The Biosecurity Act

The *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act) aims to protect Queensland from the impacts of [invasive plants and animals](#) and promotes proactive management of [biosecurity risks](#) using timely and effective biosecurity responses to protect human health, the economy, the environment, and social amenity.

The Act is built around the following concepts:

- *Shared responsibility* - everyone (governments, industries, and individuals) who [deals with](#) something that may pose a biosecurity risk to Queensland has an obligation to manage the risk.
- *Risk-based decision making* - the Act requires that the response to a biosecurity risk is reasonable and practical and risk-based decision making is used to ensure that the response is proportionate to the level of risk. This allows flexibility in the application of the legislation and balances the interests of the community with those of the individual.
- *The precautionary principle* - allows action to be taken to manage biosecurity incursions where serious or irreversible damage is possible, but the scientific knowledge is incomplete. It considers that on-balance, the cost of not taking action to minimise a risk is more significant than the cost of taking early and definitive action which subsequently proves to be unnecessary.

These principles are designed to provide a responsive and equitable system for the management of biosecurity risks in Queensland.

The *Biosecurity Act 2014* and the *Biosecurity Regulation 2016* can be found on the Office of Queensland Parliamentary Council website: <https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/browse/inforce>.

2.2 The general biosecurity obligation

The [general biosecurity obligation](#) (GBO) is the principal obligation under the Act and requires a person to take actions to minimise biosecurity risks. To fulfill their GBO, a person must take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise biosecurity risks under their control. This will include active management of priority invasive plants and animals, as described in this Plan.

2.2.1 Prohibited matter obligations

[Prohibited matter](#) is biosecurity matter that is not currently established in the State, but if it entered, could have serious impacts. Prohibited biosecurity matter must not be dealt with without a permit and, if found, must be reported to a Biosecurity Queensland inspector (Department of Agriculture and Fisheries) without delay by calling 13 25 23.

2.2.2 Restricted matter obligations

[Restricted matter](#) is biosecurity matter that is already having a social, environmental or economic impact in the State and must be managed when it is found. Restricted matter is assigned [category numbers](#) from 1-7. Each category imposes an obligation on a person to do, or not to do, certain actions to prevent or minimise biosecurity risks. Penalties may apply where a person fails to comply with these obligations.



2.3 Other biosecurity matter and locally significant species

Local government does not have the legislative authority to enforce the management of biosecurity matter, other than invasive biosecurity matter, unless declared under a local law. However, some non-native species pose significant biosecurity threats to the region and its industries. Some of these species have been included in the Plan to raise awareness and promote management by the community.

2.4 Roles and responsibilities

2.4.1 Role of local government

Local government officers authorised under the Act have functions and powers to ensure invasive biosecurity matter found within the local government's area of operation is managed in compliance with the Act.

The Plan provides direction on the priorities for the region and how the local government will encourage and/or enforce compliance.

Local governments and their employees have an obligation to report notifiable incidents, minimise the risks associated with any biosecurity matter they are dealing with, and to refer obvious biosecurity risks that do not relate to invasive biosecurity matter, such as diseases and contaminants, on to Biosecurity Queensland inspectors.

2.4.2 Stakeholders and tenure

A 'nil tenure' approach is taken in the Plan, which encourages people to work together, across public and private land, to manage invasive plants and animals. This gives a better result than individual, uncoordinated efforts. The responsibility, actions and costs of biosecurity management are shared by all (shared responsibility).

The community sectors involved in invasive plant and animal management include individual landholders, community groups such as Landcare, rural industry and farmer groups, non-government organisations, environmental businesses, and conservation interests. These sectors are represented on Council's Biosecurity Advisory Group (BAG), and the members are tasked with engaging with their own networks to communicate biosecurity related information.

A list of stakeholders and their roles and responsibilities is shown in Table 1.



Table 1 – Stakeholders and their roles and responsibilities

Stakeholder	Role and responsibility
Biosecurity Queensland Other state agencies	State research, prohibited invasive species responses, national responses, awareness, extension and education programs, technical advice, legislation, and compliance to support State priorities.
Gympie Regional Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biosecurity Unit • Environment and Environmental Health • Gympie Regional Library • Parks and Gardens • Regulatory Services • Roads and Maintenance • Waste Management 	Local government invasive plant and animal responses. Awareness, extension and education programs to support council and State priorities. Strategies, policy, programs and compliance actions to support council policy objectives. Facilitation of collaborative management. Management of invasive plants and animals on council lands. Awareness, extension and education programs to support council/State agency priorities.
Natural resource management (NRM) groups	Facilitation of management for regional priorities, contributing to regional planning processes, community awareness and education, technical advice, incentives, land manager engagement.
Industry/reference groups	Application of best management practices to meet their GBO, good neighbour policy, industry-level biosecurity planning, awareness/education of stakeholders, and implementation of quality assurance for commodities.
Land managers Traditional owners State and local government agencies Utility managers	Application of best management practices to meet their GBO, good neighbour policy and property biosecurity planning. Management of invasive plants and animals on their lands.

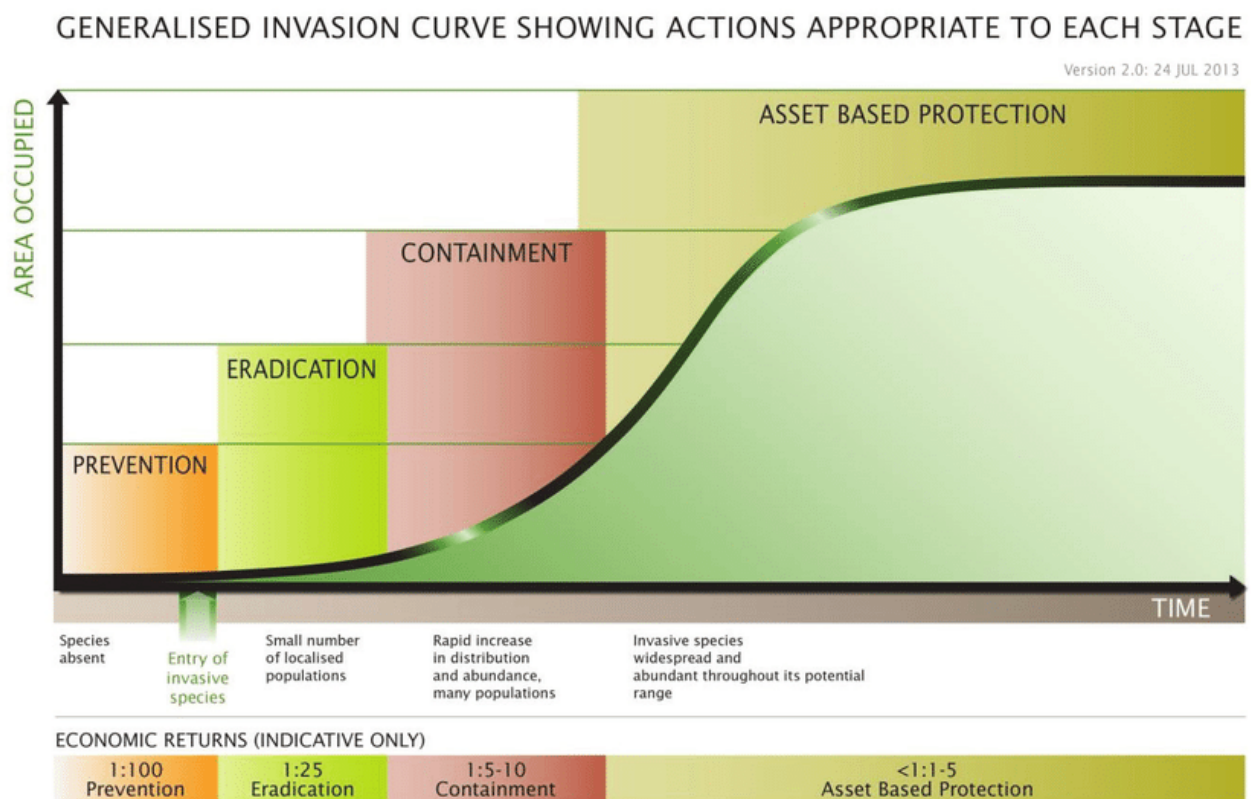


3. Strategic biosecurity management

Strategic biosecurity management requires a planned and well considered approach to the management of invasive plants and animals. It considers the biology and behaviour of individual species, their comparative biosecurity risk, and the current and potential level of invasion/ establishment to determine the most effective and strategic management approach.

Modern biosecurity planning practices use the generalised (PECA) invasion curve (Figure 2) as the basis for strategic decision-making for invasive species management. This pairs an understanding of invasion biology with economic modelling to help decision-makers determine where to invest their resources.

Figure 2 – The generalised invasion curve describes the four stages of invasive species invasion and the most appropriate management goal/objective for each (Agriculture Victoria 2020).



This plan has been developed using standardised approaches to risk prioritisation that consider the extent and impact of invasive species at a local level so they can be assigned to a management goal.

Management goals in this Plan are aligned to the generalised invasion (PECA) curve stages: Prevention, Eradication, Containment and Asset protection.

3.1 Biosecurity risk assessment and management

Invasive plants and animals that pose a biosecurity risk to the values of the Gympie region have been assessed via a rigorous risk assessment. Risk-based decision making has been used throughout the development of the Plan and informs the following processes:

- Identification of biosecurity matter that is a risk to the Gympie region,
- Categorisation of biosecurity matter to an appropriate management goal,
- Selection of reasonable and practical measures for each management goal,
- Managing compliance.

A detailed explanation of this process is provided in Section 2 of the Plan Companion.

3.1.1 Invasive species identification

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) has fact sheets for prohibited and restricted invasive species that can be accessed via the Queensland Government DAF website: [Invasive plant and animal publications | Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Queensland \(daf.qld.gov.au\)](https://daf.qld.gov.au). The website and factsheets provide information on pest plants and animals, including description, habitat, distribution, lifecycle, impacts, control techniques, and legal requirements. Links to fact sheets and other information resources are provided in Table 2 and 3.

The Brisbane City Council Weed Identification Tool is also a valuable reference for weed ID and control information and can be accessed here: <https://weeds.brisbane.qld.gov.au/>. If you require further advice, please contact Gympie Regional Council.

3.1.2 Management goals

Invasive species identified as causing or having the potential to cause risk to the Gympie region have been assigned to a PECA Management goal, as shown in Table 2 and 3.

Each PECA Management goal has an objective and desired outcomes which are described in detail, in Table 4.

PECA Management goal objectives:

- *Prevention* aims to prevent the arrival and establishment of invasive plants and animals that are not already in the local government area.
- *Eradication* is the elimination of every individual of a species from an area.
- *Containment* involves the establishment of areas where there are defined management protocols that halt or slow the rate of spread of an invasive species.
- *Asset protection* management actions reduce the impacts of an established or widespread weed or pest animal to environmental, social, or economic assets.

A person can satisfy their general biosecurity obligation by meeting the outcomes expected for each of the four management goals, via the implementation of reasonable and practical measures.



3.1.3 Reasonable and practical measures

Reasonable and practical measures describe the actions needed to reduce the biosecurity risk associated with invasive plants and animals and must be in line with the management goal and the related desired outcomes. Council does not expect land managers to undertake actions that are impractical, ineffective, prohibitively expensive, or infeasible for some other reason. Council will deem control actions to be reasonable and practical, as long as the management goal is met.

For example, if the management goal is Eradication, then the control actions taken must result in the complete removal/death/destruction of all targeted pest species, and these actions must continue until the targeted pest species is no longer present on the land that you manage.

Examples of reasonable and practical measures include:

- Following hygiene procedures, such as washing vehicles/machinery, to prevent the spread of an invasive plant.
- Checking that the plant or animal you are acquiring (e.g., purchased at a market, given to you by a neighbour) is not listed in the biosecurity plan.
- Reporting the progress of eradication targets for pest species on your land, to the Gympie Regional Council biosecurity officer.
- Managing invasive plants or animals in accordance with best practice control methods.
- Getting involved in a pest animal baiting or trapping program.

A comprehensive list of reasonable and practical measures and desired outcomes is provided in Table 4.

Species-specific management guidelines may be developed for invasive species or species groups that are of particular concern in the Gympie region. Management guidelines are located on the Gympie Regional Council website and provide information on:

- Appropriate control measures,
- Hygiene requirements,
- Expected management outcomes,
- Compliance actions.

Species denoted in Eradication and Containment in Table 2 and 3 are more likely to attract compliance actions if control methods do not meet the management goal outcomes for that species.

3.1.4 Compliance actions

Council biosecurity officers ([authorised person](#)) provide education and advice to land managers so they can understand and manage biosecurity risks related to the biosecurity matter they deal with. If a CBO reasonably believes that a person has failed, or may fail, to discharge the person's general biosecurity obligation (GBO), the officer may give the person a biosecurity order.

If a person fails to comply with the order, council may undertake the actions stated in the biosecurity order. The recipient of the order will be charged a biosecurity order entry fee (refer to council's fees and charges), plus any costs associated with invasive plant or animal control actions performed to comply with the biosecurity order. Gympie Regional Council will maintain a register of biosecurity orders issued by authorised council officers.



3.2 Priority invasive plants list and management goals

Table 2. Management Goals for priority invasive species – Gympie region.

Management Goal: Prevention - Aim to prevent the arrival and establishment of invasive plants and animals.			
Common name	Scientific name	Schedule	Fact sheet link
Alligator weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	Restricted category 3	Alligator weed
Bridal creeper/bridal veil	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	Restricted category 2,3,4,5	Bridal creeper Business Queensland
Bellyache bush	<i>Jatropha gossypifolia and hybrids</i>	Restricted category 3	Bellyache bush
Cha-om	<i>Senegalia pennata sp. insuavis</i>	Prohibited	Cha-om Business Queensland
Chilean needle grass	<i>Nassella neesiana</i>	Restricted category 3	Chilean needle grass
Cholla cactus (coral cactus, devil's rope pear, snake cactus)	<i>Cylindropuntia fulgida, C. imbricata, C. spinosior</i>	Restricted category 3	Coral cactus Devil's rope pear Snake cactus
Hudson pear, jumping cholla	<i>Cylindropuntia pallida [syn. rosea], C. tunicata, C. prolifera</i>	Restricted category 2,3,4,5	Hudson pear Jumping cholla
Eve's Pin Cactus	<i>Austrocylindropuntia subulata</i>	Restricted category 3	Eve's pin cactus
Harrisia Cactus	<i>Harrisia martinii, H. tortuosa, H. pomanensis (syn. Cereus pomanensis)</i>	Restricted category 3	Harrisia cactus
Horsetails	<i>Equisetum species</i>	Prohibited	Horsetails
Hygrophila	<i>Hygrophila costata</i>	Restricted category 3	Hygrophila
Karoo thorn	<i>Vachellia karroo (syn. Acacia karroo)</i>	Prohibited	Karoo thorn
Mesquites (honey mesquite, mesquite, Quilpie mesquite)	<i>Prosopis glandulosa, P. pallida, P. velutina</i>	Restricted category 3	Mesquite
Mexican Bean Tree	<i>Cecropia pachystachya, C. palmata, C. peltata</i>	Restricted category 2,3,4,5	Mexican bean tree
Mexican Feather Grass	<i>Nassella tenuissima</i>	Restricted category 2,3,4,5	Mexican feather grass Business Queensland
Miconia	<i>Miconia calvescens, M. cionotricha, M. nervosa, M. racemosa</i>	Restricted category 2,3,4,5	Miconia (daf.qld.gov.au)
Mimosa pigra	<i>Mimosa pigra</i>	Restricted category 2,3,4,5	Mimosa pigra
Paper Mulberry	<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i>	Locally significant	Paper mulberry Business Queensland
Parkinsonia	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	Restricted category 3	Parkinsonia
Pond Apple	<i>Annona glabra</i>	Restricted category 3	Pond apple
Prickly Acacia	<i>Vachellia nilotica</i>	Restricted category 3	Prickly acacia

Management Goal: Prevention - Aim to prevent the arrival and establishment of invasive plants and animals.			
Common name	Scientific name	Schedule	Fact sheet link
Red Witchweed	<i>Striga asiatica</i> (Syn. <i>S. Lutea</i> , <i>S. hirsuta</i>)	Prohibited	Red witchweed
Sagittaria	<i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>	Restricted category 3	Sagittaria
Senegal Tea	<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i>	Restricted category 3	Senegal tea
Siam Weed	<i>Chromolaena squalida</i> , <i>Chromolaena odorata</i>	Restricted category 3	Siam weed
Tropical Soda Apple	<i>Solanum viarum</i>	Prohibited	Tropical soda apple
Water mimosa	<i>Neptunia oleracea</i> , <i>N. plena</i>	Restricted category 2,3,4,5	Water mimosa Business Queensland
Willows	<i>Salix</i> species other than <i>S. babylonica</i> , <i>S. x calodendron</i> , <i>S. x reichardtii</i> and <i>S. humboldtiana</i>	Restricted category 3	Tortured willow
Yellow fever tree	<i>Vachellia xanthophloea</i>	Prohibited	Yellow fever tree (daf.qld.gov.au)

Eradication: Aim to completely remove the invasive plants and animals from the local government area.			
Common name	Scientific name	Schedule	Fact sheet link
African Boxthorn	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	Restricted category 3	African boxthorn
Bitou Bush	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> subsp. <i>rotundata</i>	Restricted category 2,3,4,5	Bitou bush
Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> aggregate	Restricted category 3	Blackberry
Grader Grass	<i>Themeda quadrivalvis</i>	Locally significant	Grader grass Business Queensland
Honey Locust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> (incl. cultivars and varieties)	Restricted category 3	Honey locust
Hymenachne	<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	Restricted category 3	Hymenachne
Kudzu	<i>Pueraria montana</i> var. <i>lobata</i> (syn. <i>P. lobata</i>)	Restricted category 3	Kudzu
Opuntia (Bunny's ears, Riverina pear, Blind cactus)	<i>Opuntia microdasys</i> , <i>O. rufida</i> , <i>O. elata</i>	Restricted category 2,3,4,5	Opuntioid cacti
Sicklepods (Foetid Cassia, Hairy Cassia)	<i>Senna tora</i> , <i>S. hirsuta</i>	Restricted category 3	Sicklepods
Silver-leaf Nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	Restricted category 3	Silver-leaf nightshade Business Queensland

Containment: Aim to prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals in the local government area.			
Common name	Scientific name	Schedule	Fact sheet link
African Fountain Grass	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	Restricted category 3	African lovegrass
African Tulip Tree	<i>Spathodea campanulata</i>	Restricted category 3	African tulip tree
Annual Ragweed (not established)	<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>	Restricted category 3	Annual ragweed
Cabomba	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	Restricted category 3	Cabomba
Fireweed	<i>Senecio madagascariensis</i>	Restricted category 3	Fireweed
Gingers - ornamental (Kahili Ginger, White Ginger, Yellow Ginger)	<i>Hedychium coronarium, H. flavescens, H. gardnerianum</i>	Restricted category 3	Kahili ginger Business Queensland
Giant Rat's Tail / weedy <i>Sporobolus</i> grasses (west of Kilkivan)	<i>Sporobolus pyramidalis, S. natalensis, S. jacquemontii, S. fertilis</i>	Restricted category 3	Rat's tail grasses
Leucaena (road reserves)	<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>	Locally significant	Leucaena
Parthenium (not established)	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	Restricted category 3	Parthenium
Paterson's Curse	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Locally significant	NSW WeedWise
Prickly Pears (Tiger Pear, Drooping Tree Pear, Westwood Pear, Common Pest Pear, Velvety Tree Pear)	<i>Opuntia aurantiaca, O. monacantha, O. streptacantha, O. stricta [syn. O. inermis], O. tomentosa (not O. ficus-indica)</i>	R 3 (some 2,3,4,5)	Opuntoid cacti
Rubbervine species	<i>Cryptostegia grandiflora, C. madagascariensis</i>	Restricted category 3	Rubber vine (daf.qld.gov.au)
Water Hyacinth (not in flowing waterways)	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Restricted category 3	Water hyacinth (daf.qld.gov.au)
Water Lettuce (not in flowing waterways)	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	Restricted category 3	Water lettuce (daf.qld.gov.au)
Pencil Willow	<i>Salix chilensis syn. S. humboldtiana</i>	Restricted category 3	Willow Business Queensland

Asset Protection: Aim to reduce impact of the invasive plants and animals on economic, environmental and/or social/amenity assets.			
Common name	Scientific name	Schedule	Fact sheet link
African Lovegrass	<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>	Locally significant	African lovegrass
Annual Ragweed (established)	<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>	Restricted category 3	Annual ragweed
Asparagus Ferns	<i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i> , <i>A. africanus</i> , <i>A. declinatus</i> , <i>A. plumosus</i> , <i>A. scandens</i>	Restricted cat. 3 (some 2,3,4,5)	Asparagus ferns
Balloon Vine	<i>Cardiospermum grandiflorum</i>	Restricted category 3	Asparagus ferns
Broad-leaved Pepper Tree	<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>	Restricted category 3	Broad-leaved pepper tree
Camphor Laurel	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Restricted category 3	Camphor laurel
Captain Cook Tree	<i>Cascabela thevetia</i> (syn. <i>Thevetia peruviana</i>)	Restricted category 3	Captain Cook tree or yellow oleander
Cat's Claw Creeper	<i>Macfadyena unguis-cati</i> (syn. <i>Dolichandra unguis-cati</i>)	Restricted category 3	Cat's claw creeper
Chinese Celtis / Elm	<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	Restricted category 3	Chinese celtis
Dutchmans Pipe	Non-native <i>Aristolochia</i> species (e.g. <i>A. elegans</i> , <i>A. ringens</i>)	Restricted category 3	Dutchman's pipe
Giant Rat's Tail / Weedy Sporobolus Grasses (east of Kilkivan)	<i>Sporobolus pyramidalis</i> , <i>S. natalensis</i> , <i>S. jacquemontii</i> , <i>S. fertilis</i>	Restricted category 3	Rat's tail grasses
Giant Devils Fig	<i>Solanum chrysotrichum</i>	Not Declared	Giant devil's fig (brisbane.qld.gov.au)
Groundsel bush	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	Restricted category 3	Groundsel bush (daf.qld.gov.au)
Lantana	<i>Lantana camara</i> , <i>L. montevidensis</i>	Restricted category 3	Lantana
Madeira Vine	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	Restricted category 3	Maderia vine
Mother of Millions	" <i>Bryophyllum delagoense</i> (syn. <i>B. tubiflorum</i> , <i>Kalanchoe delagoensis</i>), <i>B. x houghtonii</i> (syn. <i>B. daigremontianum</i> x <i>B. delagoense</i> , <i>K. x houghtonii</i>)"	Restricted category 3	Mother-of-millions
Parthenium (established)	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	Restricted category 3	Parthenium
Paterson's Curse	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Locally significant	NSW WeedWise
Privet	<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i> , <i>L. sinense</i>	Restricted category 3	Small-leaf or Chinese privet
Salvinia	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	Restricted category 3	Salvinia
Sicklepod	<i>Senna obtusifolia</i>	Restricted category 3	Sicklepods
Singapore Daisy	<i>Sphagneticola trilobata</i>	Restricted category 3	Singapore daisy
Slash Pine	<i>Pinus elliottii</i>	Locally significant	Slash pine Business Queensland

Asset Protection: Aim to reduce impact of the invasive plants and animals on economic, environmental and/or social/amenity assets.			
Common name	Scientific name	Schedule	Fact sheet link
Water Hyacinth (flowing waterways)	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Restricted category 3	Water hyacinth
Water Lettuce (flowing waterways)	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	Restricted category 3	Water lettuce (daf.qld.gov.au)
Yellow Bells	<i>Tecoma stans</i>	Restricted category 3	Yellow bells

3.3 Priority invasive animals list and management goals

Table 3. Management Goals for priority invasive animals – Gympie region.

Management Goal: Prevention - Aim to prevent the arrival and establishment of invasive plants and animals.			
Common name	Scientific name	Schedule	Fact sheet link
Barbary Sheep	<i>Ammotragus lervia</i>	Restricted cat. 2,3,4,5,6	Restricted invasive animals of Queensland
Blackbuck Antelope	<i>Antilope cervicapra</i>	Restricted cat. 2,3,4,5,6	Restricted invasive animals of Queensland
Exotic Snakes	<i>Non-native snake species</i>	Prohibited	Prohibited invasive animals of Queensland
Ferret	<i>Mustela furo, M. putorius</i>	Prohibited	Prohibited invasive animals of Queensland
Hog Deer	<i>Axis porcinus</i>	Restricted cat. 2,3,4,5,6	Restricted invasive animals of Queensland
Red-eared Slider Turtle	<i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>	Restricted cat. 2,3,4,5,6	Red-eared slider turtle
Red Fire Ants	<i>Solenopsis invicta</i>	Restricted category 2	National Fire Ant Eradication Program (fireants.org.au)
Sambar Deer	<i>Rusa unicolor (syn. Cervus unicolor)</i>	Restricted cat. 2,3,4,5,6	Restricted invasive animals of Queensland
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Locally significant	Evaluate and modify your pest bird plan - PestSmart
Yellow Crazy Ants	<i>Anoplolepis gracilipes</i>	Restricted category 3	Yellow crazy ants

Eradication: Aim to completely remove the invasive plants and animals from the local government area.			
Common name	Scientific name	Schedule	Fact sheet link
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	Locally significant	Blackbird

Containment: Aim to prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals in the local government area.			
Common name	Scientific name	Schedule	Fact sheet link
European rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	Restricted cat. 3,4,5,6	Rabbit
Feral Fallow Deer	<i>Dama dama</i>	Restricted cat. 3,4,6	Feral fallow deer
Feral Rusa Deer	<i>Rusa timorensis (syn. Cervus timorensis)</i>	Restricted cat. 3,4,6	Feral rusa deer
Feral Goat	<i>Capra hircus</i>	Restricted category 3	Feral goat

Asset Protection: Aim to reduce impact of the invasive plants and animals on economic, environmental and/or social/amenity assets.			
Common name	Scientific name	Schedule	Fact sheet link
European Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Restricted cat. 3,4,6	European red fox (daf.qld.gov.au)
Feral Cat	<i>Felis catus</i>	Restricted cat. 3,4,6	Feral cat (daf.qld.gov.au)
Feral Chital Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	Restricted cat. 3,4,6	Feral chital deer (daf.qld.gov.au)
Wild Horse	<i>Equus caballus</i>	Locally significant	Feral horse Business Queensland
Feral Pig	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	Restricted cat. 3,4,6	Feral pig (daf.qld.gov.au)
Feral Red Deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>	Restricted cat. 3,4,6	Feral red deer (daf.qld.gov.au)
Hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>	Locally significant	Evaluate and modify your hare management plan - PestSmart
Indian Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Locally significant	Evaluate and modify your pest bird plan - PestSmart
Wild Dog	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	Restricted cat. 3,4,6	Wild dog (daf.qld.gov.au)

3.4 Management goal objectives, desired outcomes, reasonable and practical measures

Council expects landholders to identify what invasive species are present on land under their control and manage those species, to achieve the desired outcomes shown in Table 4.

Table 4. Management expectations for invasive plants and animals that pose a risk to the Gympie region.

Management goal: Prevention Aims to prevent the arrival and establishment of invasive plants and animals.	Desired Outcomes	Reasonable and Practical Management Information and Examples
<p>Prevention is the most cost-effective management approach, as there are no costs associated with either invasive species management, or impacts caused by the invasive species.</p> <p>Surveillance is the most important action in this management goal, followed by prompt action if you find a new invasive species. You should report anything new or different to Gympie Regional Council for identification and management advice.</p> <p>Resources need to be focused on the species that are most likely to invade your property – refer to the species listed in Table 2 and 3, which have been assessed as being a higher risk of introduction to the Gympie region. These could enter from neighbouring areas, or via common transport routes.</p> <p>To meet their GBO, land managers must undertake systematic surveillance of the land under their control to detect any new invasive species, and be prepared to take rapid management action should a Prevention species be identified.</p>	<p>Land managers are aware that prevention targets listed in the Plan may be found in the area.</p> <p>The risk of an invasive plants (including reproductive parts of plants) or invasive animals being introduced is reduced.</p> <p>The invasive plant (including reproductive parts of plants) or invasive animal cannot be distributed.</p>	<p>Be aware of prevention targets listed in the Biosecurity Plan, including what they look like, when they might flower and seed or are active, etc.</p> <p>Have unfamiliar plants/animals found on your property, region, or in areas where you are undertaking work, formally identified.</p> <p>Inspect high risk invasion/introduction pathways. E.g., roadsides, stockyards and watering points.</p> <p>Carry out hygiene procedures on vehicles and machinery and clothing etc. E.g., wash down, brush down, visual inspections, quarantine.</p> <p>Spell stock that have been moved from another area. E.g., keep stock in a holding area that can be regularly checked for a period of time.</p> <p>Source stock feed and garden products from areas that are not infested with species from the prevention list and/or request a weed hygiene declaration.</p> <p>Remove harbour that may provide shelter and habitat for invasive animals.</p> <p>No restricted invasive species on the prevention list are grown or propagated, kept, moved, sold, given away or released.</p>

Management goal: Eradication Aims to completely remove the invasive plants and animals from the local government area.	Desired Outcomes	Reasonable and Practical Management Information and Examples
<p>Eradication is the elimination of every individual of a species from an area. Eradication achieves long-term prevention of impacts and does not require on-going investment. It can be costly because of the intensity of management and surveillance work required to be successful, but is cost effective when compared to the impacts and ongoing requirements of other management strategies. Compliance actions (section 3.1.4) will be employed to ensure Eradication management goals are met.</p> <p>To meet their GBO, land managers must destroy every individual on their land and undertake systematic surveillance to detect and destroy any reinvasion. Land managers should be prepared to take rapid and targeted management actions should Eradication management goal species be identified on their land.</p>	<p>Land managers are aware that eradication targets listed in the plan may be found in the area.</p> <p>Targeted surveillance is undertaken to identify existing and new incursions of the eradication targets listed in the Plan.</p> <p>The invasive plant (including reproductive parts of plants) or invasive animal cannot be distributed, is eradicated from the management area and the area is kept free.</p> <p>Council is notified if an eradication target listed in the Plan is found.</p>	<p>All plants and reproductive plant parts are removed, fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed following best practice methods (refer to fact sheet).</p> <p>Delimitation - conduct ongoing detailed surveillance and mapping to locate all populations and determine extent. E.g., checking property on a regular basis for eradication targets and inspect high risk introduction pathways. E.g., roadsides, stockyards and watering points.</p> <p>Ensure that control and disposal methods are approved and do not result in further spread. E.g., Hand pulled Fireweed is bagged and binned, burned or deep buried.</p> <p>No restricted invasive species on the eradication list are grown or propagated, kept, moved, sold, given away or released.</p> <p>The plant (including reproductive parts) or animal you are acquiring is not listed in the Plan.</p> <p>Restricted matter and locally significant species listed as eradication targets in the Plan are reported to the Council on 1300 307 800.</p> <p>Be aware of eradication targets listed in the Biosecurity Plan, including what they look like, when they might flower and seed or are active etc.</p> <p>Unfamiliar plants/animals found on your property/area are formally identified.</p> <p>Carry out hygiene procedures on vehicles and machinery and clothing etc. E.g., wash down, brush down, visual inspections, quarantine, before entering clean area or before leaving infested area.</p> <p>Spell stock that have been moved from another area. E.g., keep stock in a holding area that can be regularly checked.</p> <p>Source stock feed and garden products from areas that are not infested with species from the eradication target list and/or request a weed hygiene declaration.</p> <p>Remove harbour that may be providing shelter and habitat for invasive animals such as rubbish piles.</p>

Management goal: Containment Aims to prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals in the local government area.	Desired Outcomes	Reasonable and Practical Management Information and Examples
<p>Containment involves the establishment of zones where proactive and sustained management halts or slows the rate of spread of an invasive species away from the core infestation and prioritises management of outlier populations of invasive species. The aim is to actively restrict where a species grows so that it does not spread to occupy all suitable habitat within its potential range. This is achieved by management of outlier populations that lie outside of the core infestation, whilst also ensuring the core infestation does not increase.</p> <p>Outlier area management is the priority and targets satellite populations outside a core infestation. The management actions are in line with <i>Eradication</i> protocols but are used in an area where on-going reinfestation is unavoidable.</p> <p>Core infestation area management slows the rate of spread and prevents the establishment of new core infestations. The management actions are in line with <i>Asset protection</i> protocols.</p> <p>There are significant strategic benefits associated with focusing limited management resources on outlying infestations rather than core areas and through this mechanism, a relatively small investment of resources can protect large areas from potential invasion.</p> <p>To meet the GBO, land managers must destroy every individual in the outlier area and implement a systematic, strategic surveillance program to detect and destroy reoccurring infestations. In the Core infestation area, land managers should take actions that halt or reduces the reintroduction and establishment of the invasive species to the Outlier area.</p>	<p>Whole of region: The invasive plant (including reproductive parts of plants) or invasive animal is not distributed.</p> <p>Outlier infestation area (where you want to keep it out): Land managers are aware of containment targets in the Plan.</p> <p>Targeted surveillance is undertaken to identify existing and new incursions of the containment targets listed in the Plan.</p> <p>The invasive plant (including reproductive parts of plants) or invasive animal is eradicated from the Outlier management area and the area is kept free.</p> <p>Within CORE infestation area (managed as per Asset protection): Land managers reduce the impact on priority assets.</p> <p>Where invasive plants (including reproductive parts of plants) or invasive animals are present, land managers prevent spread from their land where feasible and reasonable.</p>	<p>WHOLE OF REGION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check that the plant (including reproductive parts) or animal you are acquiring is not listed in the biosecurity plan. • No restricted invasive species on the containment list may be grown or propagated, kept, moved, sold, given away or released. <p>Within OUTLIER AREA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove/kill/cause the destruction of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All individual weed plants or pest animals of the target species that are present in outlier or 'new' areas on your land. - All re-infestations of the target weed or pest animals that have regrown or returned to outlier areas. • Be aware of containment targets listed in the Plan (what they look like, when they might flower and seed or are active etc.) • Have unfamiliar plants/animals found on your property / area formally identified. • Carry out hygiene procedures on vehicles and machinery and clothing etc. E.g., wash down, brush down, visual inspections, quarantine, before entering clean area or before leaving infested area. • Spell stock that have been moved from another area. E.g. keep stock in a holding area that can be regularly checked for a period of time. • Source stock feed and garden products from areas that aren't infested with species from the containment list and/or request a weed hygiene declaration. • Remove harbour that may be providing shelter and habitat for invasive animals. • Delimitation – land manager conducts ongoing surveillance and mapping to determine the location and extent of all populations, and does not allow spread from this area. Inspect high risk invasion/introduction pathways. E.g. roadsides, stockyards and watering points. • Ensure that control and disposal methods are approved and do not result in further spread.

Management goal: Containment Aims to prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals in the local government area.	Desired Outcomes	Reasonable and Practical Management Information and Examples
		<p>Within CORE AREA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land manager identifies priority assets for targeted management and develops a pest management plan. • Manage the invasive plant or animal in accordance with best practice control methods to reduce impacts on productivity, environmental values, amenity or human health. Actions may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - maintaining competitive vegetation/crops/pastures. - implementing a biological control program. - conducting chemical treatment or physical removal/burial of outliers. - getting involved in a pest animal baiting or fencing program. • Infestation is actively managed at the property manager's discretion. • Carry out hygiene procedures on vehicles and machinery. E.g., wash down, brush down, visual inspections before leaving infested areas or before entering clean areas. • Minimise seed spread, e.g., slash to prevent seeding, remove fruit, establish a buffer zone. • Install pest free buffers around Core infestation areas to reduce the spread and impacts to Outlier areas. • Install structures to slow runoff of water containing weed seeds from Core infestation areas into Outlier areas. • Ensure pest animals do not have access to food sources, e.g., fence dead pits, deep bury carcasses, feed grain in hoppers. • Remove/limit access to structures where pest animals harbour, including sheds and rubbish piles.

Management goal: Asset Protection** Aims to reduce impacts from the invasive plants and animals on economic, environmental and/or social amenity assets.	Desired Outcomes	Reasonable and Practical Management Information and Examples
<p>Asset protection management actions reduce the impacts of an established or widespread weed or pest animal to environmental, social or economic assets.</p> <p>Limited resources should be strategically allocated to minimise biosecurity risks that result in the most damaging and costly impacts to the asset being protected.</p> <p>To meet the GBO, land managers should reduce the biosecurity risk and impacts, caused by infestations of widespread invasive species growing on their land, to neighbouring properties AND take actions to protect their own land from infestation by widespread invasive species.</p> <p>**Council may not take compliance actions against landholders with infestations of invasive plants and animals that are listed in Asset Protection, unless indicated by an assessment of biosecurity risk, undertaken by a Council Biosecurity Officer.</p>	<p>Land managers prevent spread from their land where feasible and reasonable.</p> <p>The risk of the invasive plant (including reproductive parts of plants) or invasive animal being introduced to the land/an area is reduced.</p> <p>Land managers reduce the impact of the invasive plants or animals on priority assets.</p> <p>The invasive plant (including reproductive parts of plants) or invasive animal cannot be distributed.</p>	<p>The restricted invasive species is not distributed or disposed of (except in manner approved under regulation). This includes selling trading, giving away or releasing into the environment.</p> <p>Install pest-free buffers to reduce the spread and impacts to neighbouring properties.</p> <p>Install clean vegetation buffers to reduce the spread of pest species from infested neighbouring properties into your property.</p> <p>Install structures to slow runoff of water containing weed seeds both onto and off your property.</p> <p>Only buy clean fodder and landscaping materials/soil.</p> <p>Ensure pest animals do not have access to food sources, e.g., fence dead pits, deep bury carcasses, feed grain in hoppers.</p> <p>Remove/limit access to structures where pest animals harbour, including sheds and rubbish piles.</p> <p>Protect assets from pest animals by utilising fencing, guardian animals, dispersion techniques, etc.</p> <p>Minimise seed spread, e.g., slash to prevent seeding, remove fruit, establish a buffer zone.</p> <p>Quarantine stock that may be leaving an infested area and moving to a clean area. E.g., keep stock in a holding area that can be regularly checked.</p> <p>Carry out hygiene procedures on vehicles and machinery and clothing etc. (e.g., wash down, brush down, visual inspections, quarantine, before entering clean area or before leaving infested area.</p> <p>Source stock feed and garden products from areas that aren't infested with species listed in the Plan and/or request a weed hygiene declaration.</p> <p>Identify priority assets for targeted management and develop a property or pest management plan.</p>

Appendix 1 - Definitions

Authorised person	A local government employee appointed by the CEO as an authorised person under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> , for the local government and its area. E.g., council biosecurity officer (CBO).
Biosecurity considerations	Includes human health, social amenity, the economy and the environment i.e. things which may be negatively impacted by biosecurity matter.
Biosecurity event	An event or potential event that has been, or is likely to be caused by biosecurity matter, and which has had, or may have a <i>significant</i> adverse effect on a biosecurity consideration (s14). These are usually high-risk events such as an outbreak of disease which may have widespread impacts on an industry.
Biosecurity matter	A living thing (other than a human or part of a human), a disease, a pathogenic agent that can cause disease in a living thing other than a human or in a human via transmission of the pathogenic agent from an animal, or a contaminant (biological, chemical and physical) (s15).
Biosecurity risk	Any risk (real or potential) of an adverse effect on a biosecurity consideration caused by: biosecurity matter, dealing with biosecurity matter or a carrier, or carrying out an activity relating to biosecurity matter or a carrier (s16).
Carrier	Any 'thing', dead or alive, biological or inanimate, that is carrying or has the potential to carry biosecurity matter (s17). A 'thing' includes a human.
Contaminant	Anything that may be harmful to animal or plant health or pose the risk of an adverse effect on a biosecurity consideration (s18). Examples include pathogenic bacteria in irrigation water, environmental contaminants including dioxins and residual organochlorine pesticides, heavy metals in fertilisers and animal feed and weed seeds.



<p>Deal with</p>	<p>Deal with, biosecurity matter or a carrier, includes any of the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) keep or possess, whether intentionally or otherwise, the biosecurity matter or carrier; (b) conduct experiments with the biosecurity matter or carrier; (c) produce or manufacture the biosecurity matter or carrier; (d) breed the biosecurity matter or carrier; (e) propagate the biosecurity matter or carrier; (f) use the biosecurity matter or carrier in the course of manufacturing a thing that is not the biosecurity matter or carrier; (g) grow, raise, feed or culture the biosecurity matter or carrier; (h) distribute the biosecurity matter or carrier; (i) import the biosecurity matter or carrier; (j) transport the biosecurity matter or carrier; (k) dispose of the biosecurity matter or carrier; <p>Buy, supply or use the biosecurity matter or carrier for the purposes of, or in the course of, a dealing mentioned in any of paragraphs (a) to (k).</p>
<p>General Biosecurity Obligation</p>	<p>Under the GBO, everyone is responsible for managing biosecurity risks that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • under their control and • that they know about or should reasonably be expected to know about. <p>Individuals and organisations whose activities pose a biosecurity risk must take all reasonable and practical steps to prevent or minimise each biosecurity risk by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimising the likelihood of causing a 'biosecurity event' and limit the consequences if such an event is caused. • preventing or minimising the harmful effects a risk could have, and not do anything that might make any harmful effects worse.
<p>Invasive biosecurity matter</p>	<p>Invasive plants and animals (weeds and pest animals) listed as prohibited matter in schedule 1, parts 3 and 4; restricted matter in schedule 2, part 2; or listed in a regulation or emergency prohibited matter declaration (a temporary measure prior to listing as restricted or prohibited matter in the Act).</p>



Prohibited matter	Biosecurity matter that is not currently present in Queensland and is prohibited because there are reasonable grounds to believe that it may have a significant adverse effect on a biosecurity consideration if it did enter Queensland (ss19 and 20). Prohibited matter is listed in schedule 1 of the Act and schedule 1, part 1 of the Regulation.
Reasonable and practical measures	The term 'reasonable and practical measures' is used throughout the legislation to include all the mitigation measures (actions or inactions) that a person would reasonably be expected to undertake to prevent or minimise a biosecurity risk in a particular circumstance.
Restricted matter	Biosecurity matter that is already present in Queensland and may have an adverse effect on a biosecurity consideration if restrictions are not imposed (ss21 and 22). Restricted matter is listed in schedule 2 of the Act and schedule 1, part 2 of the Regulation. Restricted matter is assigned category numbers from 1-7 based on its characteristics and the risks it poses.



Appendix 2 - Biosecurity Act categories

Categories 1 and 2 have specific urgent reporting requirements, whether or not they are in a person's possession. Categories 3, 4, 5 and 7 relate to the requirements for restricted matter that is in a person's possession.

Category 1 – must be reported to an inspector	This requires immediate containment or eradication to minimise the risk of spread. It must be reported to a Biosecurity Queensland inspector within 24 hours of an individual becoming aware of its presence (s42).
Category 2 – must be reported to an authorised officer	This category includes a range of plant and fish species that pose a significant biosecurity. Category 2 restricted matter must be reported to an authorised officer (i.e. an inspector or an authorised person) within 24 hours of an individual becoming aware of its presence (s42).
Category 3 – not to be distributed or disposed	This restricted matter includes all invasive animals and plants where deliberate distribution, or disposal is a key source of spread. These species must not be given as a gift, sold, traded, or released into the environment while still 'alive' unless the distribution or disposal is provided for in a regulation or under a permit (s43 of the Act and chapter 2, part 3 of the Regulation). Note: 'alive' includes viable propagules (seeds or spores) or vegetative material from which the plant could grow.
Category 4 – not to be moved	This restricted matter includes specific invasive plants and animals that must not be moved from their site of origin to ensure they are not spread into other areas of the State (s45 (a)). This includes viable propagules or vegetative material from which the plant could re-grow.
Category 5 – not to be kept	This restricted matter cannot be possessed or kept under a person's control. This category includes invasive species that have a high pest potential and capacity to impact heavily on the environment. There are exemptions for seized items, where the restricted matter is being held for identification purposes or under permit (s45 (b)).
Category 6 – not to be fed	Category 6 restricted matter cannot be fed unless held under a restricted matter permit or for the purposes of poison baiting. This includes invasive animals and noxious fish which are not owned by a person. The intention of this prohibition is to discourage population growth (s45 (c)).
Category 7 – must be killed	Category 7 restricted matter must be killed as soon as practicable and disposed of in a way described under a regulation. This is currently intended for the management of noxious fish (s44 of the Act and chapter 2, part 3 of the Regulation).



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