

# Central Highlands Regional Council

## Biosecurity Plan 2020-2025

## Document Control

### Release Details

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### Revision History

Version	Issue Date	Amendment details	Author	Authorised by
1.0		Draft	Andrea Hewitt	
2.0		Draft	Jaime-Lee Bullivant	
3.0	12 September 2017	Final	Jaime-Lee Bullivant	Council
4.0	May 2019	final	Brett Keys	Brett Keys

## Executive Summary

The Central Highlands Regional Council local government Biosecurity Plan 2020-2025 has been developed in accordance with the Queensland State Government's requirements under the **Biosecurity Act 2014** section 53 for local governments to have a Biosecurity Plan for biosecurity matter such as pest animals and invasive plants within the local government area.

The aim of the Central Highlands Regional Council Biosecurity Plan is to set strategic direction for this area by prioritising activities and guide all stakeholders in the region to control biosecurity matter for the benefit of the entire community.

Local Governments have legislative power under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act) to ensure prohibited and restricted pest animals and invasive plants are managed within their local government area.

The Biosecurity Plan will ensure that resources are targeted to the highest priority biosecurity management activities and are those most likely to succeed. The Biosecurity Plan also helps build and maintain partnerships with all stakeholders and commitment to biosecurity management in the Central Highlands Regional Council area.

This Biosecurity Plan delivers achievable objectives to ensure all stakeholders within 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 appropriate to ensure regional community priorities are addressed.

This is not Council's plan but a plan for all stakeholders within the Central Highlands Regional Council area.

## Objective Statement

The goal of the Central Highlands Regional Council Biosecurity Plan is:

***'To establish and lead a cooperative and participative environment where government, industry, natural resource management groups and community contribute to the effective control of target plant and animal pests in order to best manage the impact of pests within the Central Highlands Regional Council controlled area'.***

## Acronyms

BQ	Biosecurity Queensland (part of DAF)
CHRC	Central Highlands Regional Council
CPMG	Central Pest Management Group
DAF	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
EHP	Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
NPR	Department of National Parks and Recreation
NRM	Department of Natural Resources and Mines
FBA	Fitzroy Basin Association
LGAQ	Local Government Association of Queensland
SRN	Stock Route Network
WoNS	Weeds of National Significance

## Definitions

Biosecurity Matter	Refer to section 15 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> Biosecurity matter is a living thing other than a human or part of a human, or, a pathogenic agent that can cause disease in a living thing other than a human or a human by transmission of the pathogenic agent from an animal to human; or a disease or a contaminant
Biosecurity risk	Refer to section 16 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> A risk that exists when you deal with any pest, disease or contaminant, something that could carry a pest, disease or contaminants (eg. Animals, plants, soil, equipment - known as carriers).
Biosecurity event	Is an event that has, or may have, a significant harmful effect on human health, social amenity, the economical or the environment and is caused by a pest, disease or contaminant
Environmental Weeds	Environmental weeds are foreign or native plants that become weedy due to inappropriate management, or because they are outside their normal range and invade native ecosystems and adversely affect the survival of indigenous flora and fauna. Whether the species is declared under legislation is irrelevant, it is the damage that it is doing to the native environment that defines it as a native weed
Restricted	Refer to section 21 and 22 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> Biosecurity matter for the time being is established as restricted matter under chapter 2
Pests	Pests in the context of this document refers to plant and animal species that have been declared as pests under legislation by either the Queensland Government or under a Local Law by the Central Highlands Regional Council
Prohibited	Refer to section 19 and 20 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> Biosecurity matter that for the time being is established as being prohibited under chapter 2

## Introduction

### Purpose

This Central Highlands Regional Council Biosecurity Plan 2020-2025 (the Plan) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 53 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act), to establish and promote a cooperative, best practice strategy for the management of biosecurity matter (invasive plants and animals) within the Central Highlands Regional Council local government area.

The Act supports the prevention, eradication and effective management of pest animals and invasive plants by providing for the development of Biosecurity Plans.

The Biosecurity Plan aims to bring together the local government and the community to better manage pest animals and invasive plants within the local government area, targeting the highest priority biosecurity management activities that are those most likely to succeed.

Local Governments are responsible for ensuring invasive biosecurity matter is managed within their local area and in accordance with locally or regionally developed plans, where the local governments and the community are well placed to control biosecurity matter.

Stakeholders involved include the Commonwealth Government, Regional NRM groups, plus the Queensland State Government agencies with responsibility in pest and land management which include Biosecurity Queensland (BQ), the Department of Natural Resource and Mines (NRM), along with other likely partners such as Department of National Parks and Recreation (NPR), Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) and Queensland Rail (QRail).

### Commencement and Duration

This plan is a five-year plan, from 2020-2025. The plan was approved and adopted by the Central Highlands Regional Council on 12 September 2017. The plan was reviewed 2020 and extended to 2025 when a further review will be undertaken. Should amendments be made that impact on this plan further council consultation and endorsement will be sought.

### Community Consultation

The following activities were undertaken with regards to the development of this Biosecurity Plan including:

- Advertisement in local newspapers, Council's website and Facebook page requesting information on local pests of significance.
- Consultation with Rural Services Groups.
- Advertisement in local newspapers, Council's website and Facebook page of the draft Biosecurity Plan.

All information received during the consultation period was reviewed and any actions necessary undertaken.

## Scope

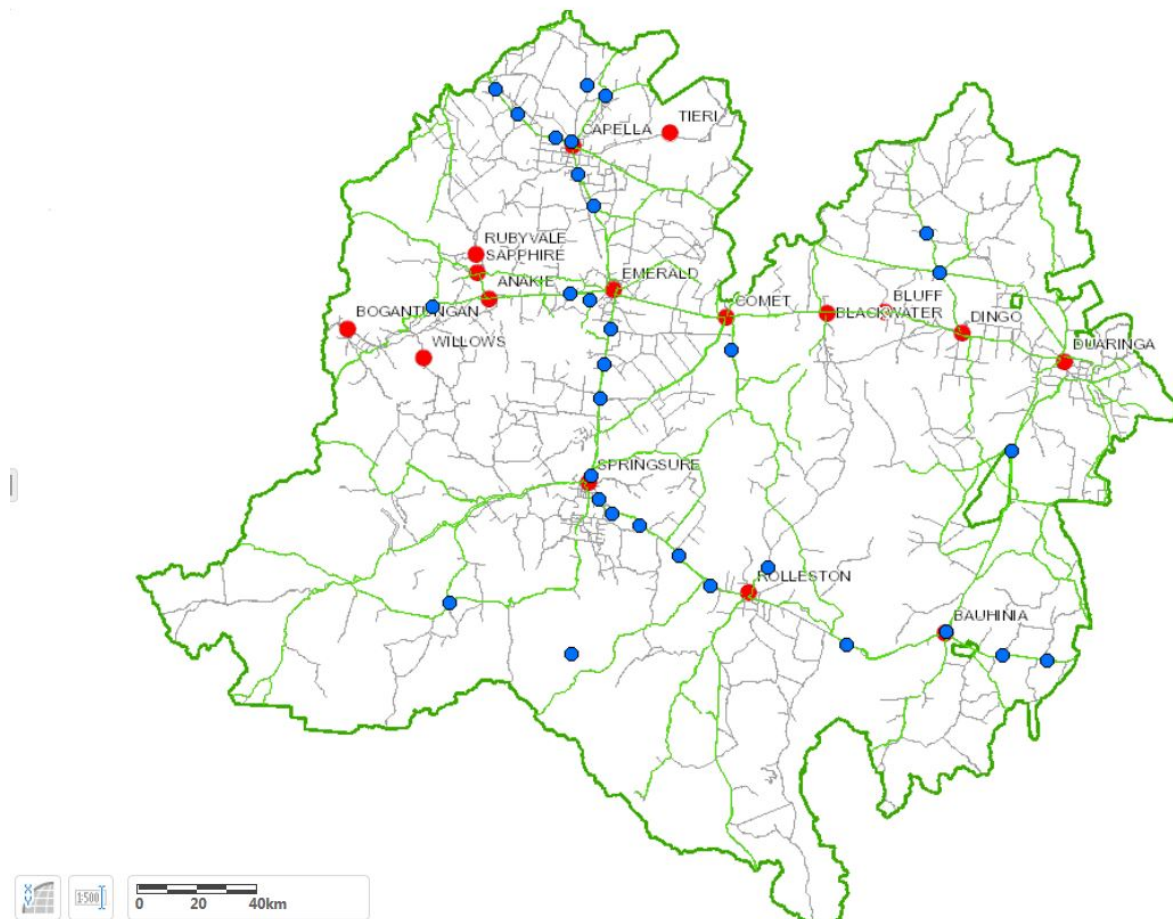
### Region Covered

The CHRC Biosecurity Plan covers all land within the boundaries of the Central Highlands Regional Council, including state owned land. By agreement, land owned by the Australian Government or held by indigenous communities under a Deed of Grant in Trust may also be included.

The Central Highlands Regional Council is one of 73 local government areas in Queensland and covers 3.45% of the state with an area of 59,800 square kilometres.

The Central Highlands has a population of approximately 30,000 and is located just below the Tropic of Capricorn and centred approximately 270 kilometres due west of the city of Rockhampton.

The Council boundaries include the regional business centre of Emerald and the rural townships of Capella and Teiri to the north; Comet, Blackwater, Bluff, Dingo and Duaringa to the east; Springsure, Rolleston and Bauhinia to the South; and Anakie, Sapphire, Rubyvale and The Willows to the west.



## Species considered

The scope of the Biosecurity Plan for Central Highlands Regional Council is to manage risks that are associated with invasive plants and animals. This includes, as defined under the Act, prohibited matter (schedule 1, parts 3 and 4) and restricted matter (schedule 2, part 2).

Under the Act, prohibited and restricted matter will replace the former declared pest classes from the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*.

Prohibited biosecurity matter is illegal and not found in Queensland, restricted matter may be widespread in Queensland, the Act has several restricted categories that apply for particular invasive plants and animals and as such the respective categories must be followed with regards to that particular biosecurity matter.

The prioritisation of biosecurity matter is a key process in planning development and enables management approaches to be tailored to the level of risk by establishing thresholds and local criteria.

## Background

### Why is it important to manage plant and animal pests

Plant (weed) and animal pests have an adverse impact on economic, environmental and social values within the communities of the Central Highlands. The Central Highlands Regional Council is dedicated to limiting the effects within the local government area.

The Council is uniquely positioned to influence pest management across a large area of Central Queensland. It is the Council's good fortune that most of the local government area is not impacted by external catchments entering the region and providing an ideal vector for the introduction of pest plants from infestations outside the region. However, pest plants can readily migrate into, within and out of the Central Highlands region via extensive state-controlled road and council controlled (1,450km) rural road networks spanning the region.

Plant pests that are already present within the CHRC boundary do have the potential to impact on large areas within the region via the extensive Nogo River, Theresa Creek and Comet Creek catchments which then flow into the Mackenzie River and on towards the east coast through the Fitzroy River. In addition, there are a few fencing or natural barriers to the migration of animal pests across and within the CHRC region.

Central Highlands Regional Council must make efficient and effective use of all available resources in order to deliver pest management outcomes that exceed conventional delivery expectations in a resource constrained environment. The Biosecurity Plan takes a risk-based approach to setting priorities for prevention and management of invasive biosecurity matter such as invasive animals and weeds.

This will be achieved by engaging all relevant stakeholders to contribute to coordinated control activities, and the pursuit of strategic efficient and effective control methods for identified target plant and animal pest species.



## Statutory and Planning Framework

### Legislative Environment

The *Biosecurity Act 2014* covers the management of prohibited and restricted biosecurity matter. This in the terms of this Biosecurity Plan relate to invasive plant and animal species.

The Act, under section 53 requires that the local government must have a biosecurity plan for invasive biosecurity matter for the local area and may include provisions for each of the following -

- Achievable objectives under the plan;
- Strategies, activities and responsibilities for achieving the objectives;
- Strategies to inform the local community about the content of the plan and achievement of its objectives;
- Monitoring implementation of the plan and evaluating its effectiveness;
- Other matters the local government considers appropriate for management of invasive biosecurity matter for its local government area.

The Plan once adopted must be available for inspection, free of charge, by members of the public at the local government's public office and may be made available in written or electronic form.

### General Biosecurity obligation

Section 23 of the Act outlines the General Biosecurity Obligation where all Queenslanders have a General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO) for managing biosecurity risks that are under their control and that they know about or should reasonably be expected to know about.

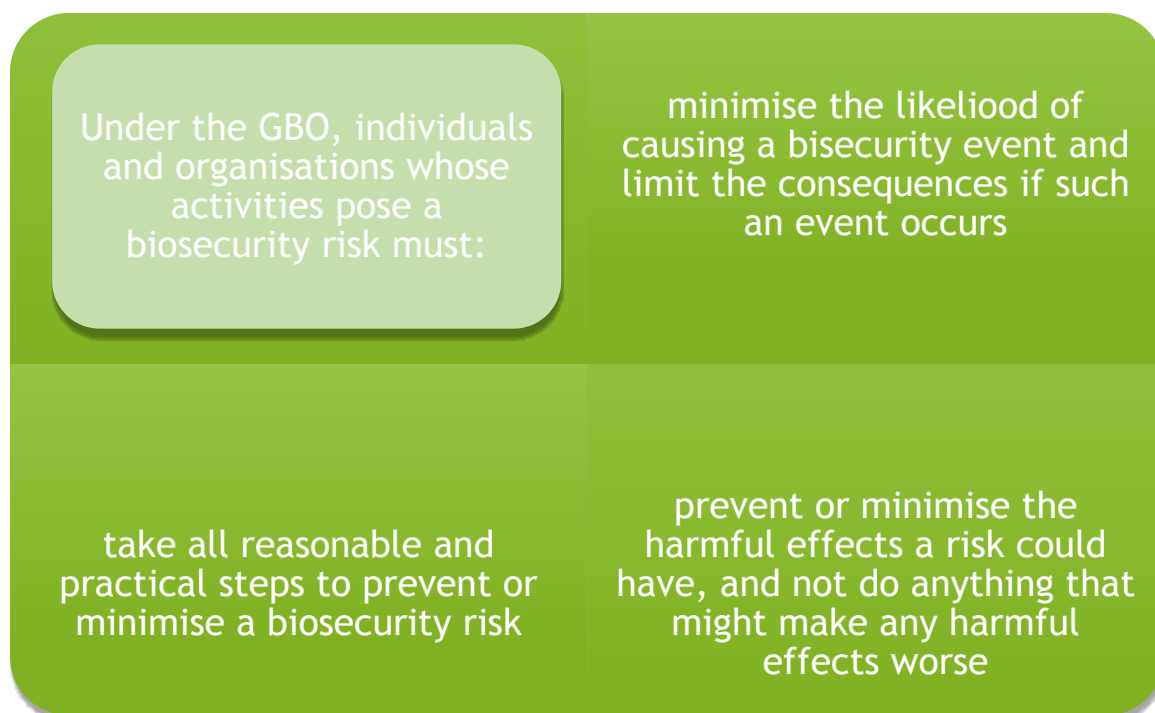


Figure 1 General Biosecurity Obligation

## Strategic links to other legislation and planning processes

When preparing a Biosecurity Plan in accordance with the Act, local governments must ensure that the plan does not breach the requirements of the legislation.

Legislation that local governments must consider include the:

- *Vegetation Management Act 1999*  
permits for clearing native vegetation to control weeds
- *Nature Conservation Act 1992*  
protection of dingoes in conservation area
- *Water Act 2000*  
the impact of management activities in watercourses
- *Environmental Protection Act 1994*  
the release of contaminants when undertaking pest management actions
- *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994* and *Land Title Act 1994*  
managing road reserves that extend beyond identified state-controlled roads
- *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*  
providing seized pest animal with appropriate food, shelter and water
- *Health Act 1937*  
1080 poisons licensing, reporting and record keeping
- *Agricultural Chemicals Distribution Control Act 1966*  
commercial licensing, reporting and record keeping

## Stakeholder Responsibilities

The following table outlines the responsibilities of involved in strategic and operational pest management activities within the Central Highlands Regional Council area:

Stakeholder / Agency	Roles and Responsibilities
Central Highlands Regional Council - (CHRC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Control of pests on council controlled land;</li> <li>To support community, landholders and stakeholders in any relevant pest management activities conducted on land within the CHRC area;</li> <li>Lead and coordinate stakeholder engagement in pest management activities within the CHRC area; and</li> <li>Make available 1080 poison baiting services to landholders within the CHRC area</li> </ul>
Local Government Association of Queensland Incorporated - (LGAQ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To facilitate the drafting and review of the Memorandum of Understanding between Biosecurity Queensland, LGAQ and the Queensland Natural Resource Management Groups Collective for invasive weed and pest animal management throughout Queensland</li> </ul>
Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) through Biosecurity Queensland (BQ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support, planning and technical advice to all stakeholders involved in pest management within the CHRC area;</li> <li>Coordinating control of prohibited biosecurity matter detected within the CHRC area;</li> <li>As per roles and responsibilities outlined within the Memorandum of Understanding between BQ under the old Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation, LGAQ and the Queensland Natural Resource Management Groups Collective</li> </ul>
Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Control of pests on state controlled (main) roads within CHRC area;</li> <li>To engage in any relevant pest management activities conducted on land under their control within the CHRC area</li> </ul>
Department of Natural resources and Mines (NRM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Control of pests on unallocated state land and other land controlled by the Department within the CHRC area; and</li> <li>To engage in any relevant pest management activities conducted on land under their control within the CHRC area.</li> </ul>
Department of National Parks and Recreation (NPR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Controlling pests in National Parks and State Forests within the CHRC area</li> <li>To engage in any relevant pest management activities conducted on land under their control within the CHRC area</li> </ul>
Queensland Rail (QR) or QR National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Controlling pests on rail corridors and railway controlled land within the CHRC area</li> <li>To engage in any relevant pest management activities conduct on land under their control within the CHRC area</li> </ul>
SunWater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Controlling pests within irrigation channels and Sunwater controlled land within the CHRC area</li> <li>To engage in any relevant pest management activities conducted on land under their control within the CHRC area</li> </ul>
Landholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet their GBO with respect to biosecurity matter on their land.</li> </ul>

Ergon Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controlling biosecurity matter along power lines within the CHRC area</li> <li>• To engage in any relevant pest management activities conducted on land under their control within the CHRC area</li> </ul>
Queensland Fire and Rescue Services (QFRS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide support for pest and stock route management activities involving hazard reduction and weed control burns</li> </ul>
Capricorn Pest Management Group (CPMG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with Council on pest management activities that impact on the eastern sector (Duaranga and Bauhinia area) of the CHRC area.</li> <li>• CHRC are not a member of CPMG.</li> </ul>



## Development, Implementation and Review

### Development

Central Highlands Regional Council reports to an overarching reference group. Please refer to the Terms of Reference for each of these groups for specific information regarding this function. Local representation is invited to participate in, and resolution of issues is encouraged at these reference group meetings.

The role of the reference groups is two-fold: firstly it is an opportunity for the community to bring matters of pest and stock route management to the attention of Council; and secondly, for the Council to disseminate its intentions, current pest management activities and successful outcomes to the wider community.

Stakeholder and community consultation on the draft plan was conducted through this reference group.

### Review

Central Highlands Regional Council once the Biosecurity Plan is implemented will undertake yearly reviews on the Biosecurity Plan. This will include information on (but not limited to):

- Successful projects with regards to management of Biosecurity Matter; and
- Projects planned for the upcoming year.

The review is to occur yearly from the date of adoption.

### Pest Management Projects

The following list comprises Central Highlands Regional Council main projects relating to the management of Biosecurity Matter. The list is not exclusive and does not take into consideration projects that are undertaken by stakeholders within the region.

#### → 2019/2020

- Funding from State Government for communities combatting pests and weeds during drought - targeting mother of millions and priority pests throughout the region; and
- Nogo Revival - Hymenachne control and eradication project.

## Risk based approach

### Elements of assessing risk

The risk-based approach is consistent with the Ac and is an important step in setting priorities for prevention and spread of invasive plants and animals. Preventing the introduction and expansion will greatly reduce the risk and costs and any further negative impacts.

Prioritising invasive species involves gathering information about a particular species and building a profile and then go through the process of ranking the species current and potential impact or consequence and in the instances of potentially invasive species that could invade an area, the likelihood of entry, establishment or spread of species whilst also considering the agricultural, environmental and social impacts.

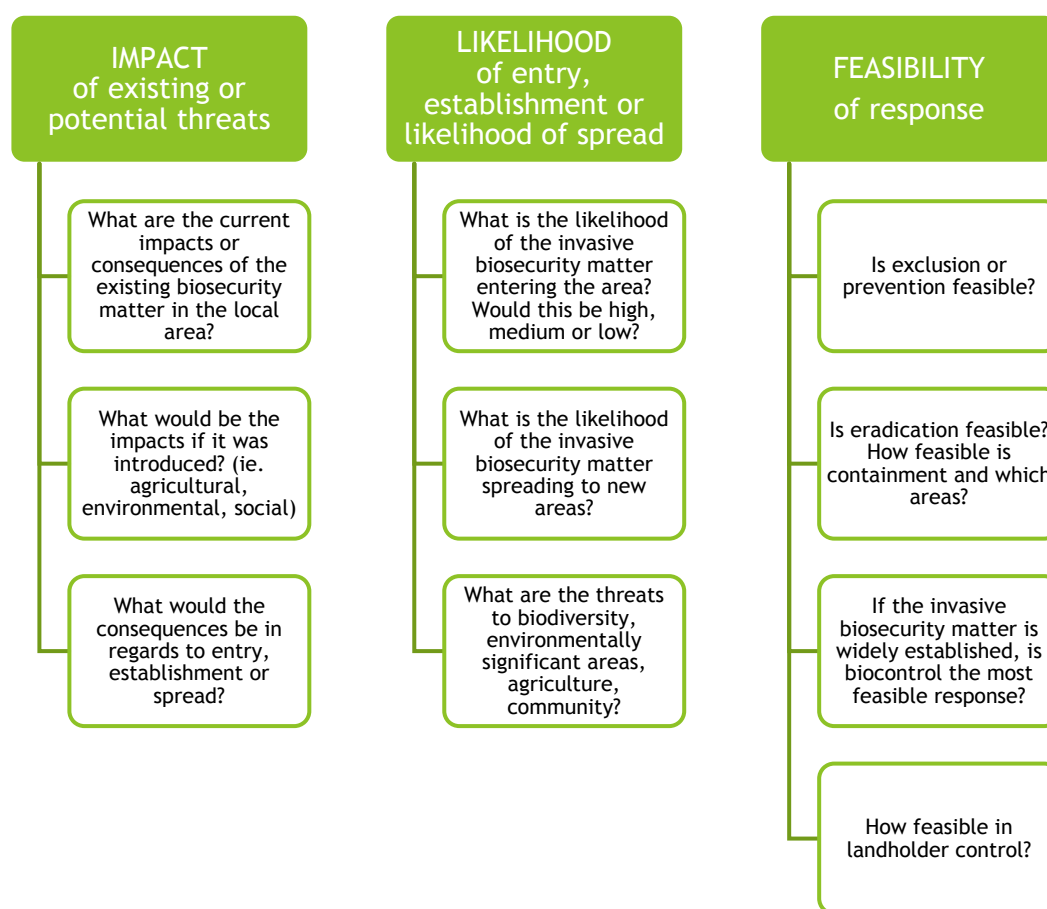


Figure 2: Key elements of assessing invasive biosecurity matter risk

## Prioritisation process

Central Highlands Regional Council has Rural Services Groups (RSG) that are run each year.

RSG meetings are held to identify any issues with regards to rural services particularly in relation to pest management and stock routes.

The RSGs will be used to assess invasive biosecurity matter risk.

The prioritisation process should develop a list of invasive biosecurity matter (sources from Schedules 1 and 2 of the Act), other locally significant biosecurity matter that may be present in the area and matter that is not present in the area but may pose a significant risk. The following risk matrix was used in determining the ranking and prioritisation of the listed biosecurity matter:

LIKELIHOOD		CONSEQUENCE				
		Insignificant (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Major (4)	Extreme (5)
	Almost Certain (5)	LOW	MEDIUM	SIGNIFICANT	HIGH	HIGH
	Likely (4)	LOW	MEDIUM	SIGNIFICANT	SIGNIFICANT	HIGH
	Neutral (3)	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	SIGNIFICANT	SIGNIFICANT
	Unlikely (2)	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	SIGNIFICANT
	Rare (1)	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM

## Principles of Pest Management

The principles and strategies for managing pests within the Queensland Weed and Pest Animal Strategy 2016-20 are considered core elements of biosecurity planning.

The 8 principles of pest management are outlined within the strategy are considered with the development of this Biosecurity Plan.

Essential Link	Description	
Principals of Pest Management	Integration	Pest management is an integral part of managing natural resources and agriculture systems
	Public Awareness	Public awareness and knowledge of pests must be raised to increase the capacity and willingness of individuals to manage pests
	Commitment	Effective pest management requires a long-term commitment to pest management by the community, industry groups and government entities
	Consultation and Partnership	Consultation and partnerships arrangements between local communities, industry groups, State government agencies and local governments must be established to achieve a collaborative approach to pest management
	Planning	Pest management planning must be consistent at local, regional, State and national levels to ensure resources target priorities for pest management identified at each level
	Prevention	Preventative pest management is achieved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Preventing the spread of pests and viable parts of pests, especially by human activities; and</li> <li>(b) Early detection and intervention to control pests</li> </ul>
	Best Practice	Pest management must be based on ecologically and socially responsible pest management practices that protect the environment and the productive capacity of natural resources
	Improvement	Research about pests, and regular monitoring and evaluations of pest control activities, is necessary to improve pest management practices



## Pest Specific Management Programs

### Priority Pest Species

This part of the plan sets out the Council's program for biosecurity matter identified as high priority within the Council area.

### Overview

In the development of this plan, Council undertook a prioritisation process for the management of pest species that are present in the council area and are legislated either under the Act or within Council's Local Law, or a deemed to pose a significant risk to the region.

The management of these species has be prioritised in order using the risk matrix in figure 1 and the impact of existing or potential threats, likelihood of entry, establishment or spread and feasibility of a response.

In addition to this, additional factors have been considered in prioritising a particular plant species including:

- Current status under the Act;
- Prevalence and distribution within the Council area;
- Potential adverse impact on the region of not controlling the pest;
- Threat status of the species; and
- Beneficial impact of spending money now to control the best (eg. Weed present in small numbers meaning a small amount of money and effort the weed may be eradicated).

The following achievable objectives categories have been set and applied to each pest species with consideration given for the current downturn in the region's economic outlook:

1. Exclusion: from entering Council area;
2. Destruction: of isolated, strategic infestations or populations;
3. Containment: within specified areas;
4. Control: broad scale control with chemical, biological and trapping; and
5. Monitoring: ongoing survey and assessment of distribution, prevalence and risk

## Strategic program

### DESIRED OUTCOMES, strategic objectives AND ACTIONS

The strategic objectives of this Plan are to ensure:

1. Stakeholders are informed, knowledgeable, have ownership and control of their plant and animal pests management responsibilities.
2. Reliable information is made available to all stakeholders as a basis for the decision making process required to implement the plan and achieve the desired outcomes.
3. Strategic directions are established, supported multilateral (agreed), maintained, and owned by all stakeholders.
4. All stakeholders are committed and contribute to the coordinated management of plant and animal pests.
5. Introduction, spread, and establishment of new plant and animal pests is diligently inhibited (averted).
6. Integrated systems for managing the impacts of established plant and animal pests are developed and widely implemented.

These strategic objectives are examined in further detail in the following sections.

## Awareness, Education and Training

<b>Desired outcome 1: To ensure stakeholders are informed, knowledgeable and have ownership of pest plant &amp; pest animal management.</b>			
<b>Applied Principles:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Public Awareness</i> - Public awareness and knowledge of pests must be raised to increase the capacity and willingness of individuals to manage pests.</li> </ul>			
<b>Issues</b>	<b>Strategic Objective</b>	<b>Strategic Action</b>	<b>Success Indicators</b>
<b>Awareness</b>	<i>To increase community, industry, agribusiness and government awareness of pests and their impacts</i>	Organising awareness activities (e.g. local Landcare days, public meetings, etc.) on pest issues and provide advice to stakeholders	Number of promotional and educational events held and attended to promote pest management
		Development of periodic media releases to increase awareness in the local communities	Number of media releases published and circulated in the area
<b>Education and Training</b>	<i>To enhance stakeholder knowledge of pest impacts and improve skills in pest management</i>	Increased stakeholder awareness/ownership of pest plant and animal management through delivery of promotional activities and extension/educational material	Number of promotional and educational activities undertaken to build community skills to deal with pests
			Resources allocated for the purposes of delivering promotional/educational material
		Accredited training of Council's Ranger Services officers	Nationally accredited competency based training (weed & vertebrate pests, wash down certification)

			Participation in relevant local government training workshops, conferences and forums, offered by DAF
			Renewal (two yearly) of 1080 approval certification
		Provide technical knowledge and advise to assist landholders in the development of property pest management plans	Improved pest management planning at property level.
<b>Issues</b>	<b>Strategic Objective</b>	<b>Strategic Action</b>	<b>Success Indicators</b>
<b>Availability of Information</b>	<i>To ensure information about weeds and pest animals is available to all stakeholders</i>	Availability of CHRC LGPMP at Council offices.	CHRC LGPMP available to the public at Emerald, Capella, Springsure, Duinga & Blackwater Offices
		Availability of DSC LGPMP on Council's website.	CHRC LGPMP available to the public on Council's and CPMG's website.
		Availability of Urban district mapping at Council offices	Make urban district maps available to the public at Emerald, Capella, Springsure, Duinga and Blackwater offices for inspection, for destruction of particular dogs
		Investigate publishing Fact-sheets for pest species declared under Local Law	Dissemination of information to all relevant stakeholders for pests declared under Local Law, when required

## Commitment, Consultation and Partnership

<b>Desired outcome 2: To ensure all stakeholders are committed to and undertake coordinated management of pest plants &amp; pest animals.</b>			
<b>Applied Principles:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Commitment</i> - Effective pest management requires a long term commitment to pest management by the community, industry groups and government entities.</li> <li><i>Consultation and Partnership</i> - Consultation and partnership arrangements between local communities, industry groups, state government agencies and local governments must be established to achieve a collaborative approach to pest management.</li> </ul>			
<b>Issues</b>	<b>Strategic Objective</b>	<b>Strategic Action</b>	<b>Success Indicators</b>
<b>Long term commitment</b>	<i>To establish long-term stakeholder commitment to weed and pest animal management</i>	Stakeholders identified and invited to participate in CHRC, SRNM and PM Planning activities	Each stakeholder provides operational representation to each CHRC, SRNM & PMP meeting
		Demonstrated full commitment of all stakeholders at meetings and through operational activities	Full stakeholder representation at each CHRCC, SRNM and PMP meetings
		Building partnerships and maintaining strong relationships with all stakeholders	Regularly liaise with key stakeholders to maintain continued stakeholder representation
			On-going commitment towards implementation of state, regional & local strategies

			Representation at LG SRNM and PMP meetings for neighbouring local government areas
<b>Compliance and enforcement</b>	<i>To ensure compliance with the Act in weed and pest animal management.</i>	Develop protocols and management strategies, to ensure consistency with legislative requirements, for on ground operational activities	Implement and incorporate strategies during on-ground operational activities
		Develop a register for pest control and entry notices	Maintain record of pest control and entry notices issued
		Investigate, record and monitor non-compliance issues under the legislation	Enforce the provisions of the legislation if required

## Improvement

Desired outcome 3: To ensure reliable information is available as a basis for decision-making.			
Applied Principles:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Improvement</i> - Research about pests, and regular monitoring and evaluation of pest control activities, is necessary to improve pest management practices.</li> </ul>			
Issues	Strategic Objective	Strategic Action	Success Indicators
Data collection and assessment	<i>To collect, use and make available data relevant to weed and animal pests</i>	Survey and mapping of pest distributions & populations throughout the CHRC area	Number of projects undertaken
		Contribute local pest data to NRM annual pest assessments (state-wide mapping)	Dissemination of local pest data to state & regional mapping
		Facilitate information sharing between all stakeholders	Coordinated distribution of research information to all stakeholders
		Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of control activities	Improved efficiencies resulting from review of data collected and monitoring

<b>Pest biology and pest impacts</b>	<i>To further the understanding of the biology, ecology and impacts of weed and animal pests</i>	Consideration given to pest behaviour, impacts and control costs	Number surveys performed and recorded
		Consultation with stakeholders to determine the local impacts of animal and plant pests.	Number of plant and animal pests and associated impacts identified
			Identified areas for future research
			Dissemination of information to all relevant stakeholders



## Planning and Integration

<b>Desired outcome 4:</b> To ensure strategic directions on all pest management issues are established, maintained and owned by all stakeholders.			
<b>Applied Principles:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Planning</i> - Pest management planning must be consistent at local, regional, State and National levels to ensure resources target priorities for pest management identified at each level.</li> <li>• <i>Integration</i> - Pest management is an integral part of managing natural resources and agricultural systems.</li> </ul>			
Issues	Strategic Objective	Strategic Action	Success Indicators
<b>Planning</b>	<i>To create a planning framework for weed and animal pest management</i>	To ensure consistency between CHRC's APMP & other pest management plans including CPMG	Plant and animal pest strategies at a local level are integrated and incumbent of management planning at regional, state & national levels
		Involvement of other state government agencies, such as: DNRM, DEHP, FBA, QR, Main Roads, DAF, and CPMG in pest management planning with the Council	Quantity and quality of stakeholder contribution and representation to the development of CHRC's APMP
		Review the annual action plan three months prior to the end of the financial year	Annual action plans reviewed annually in March.
			Any adopted changes made to the plan will be forwarded to DAF for consideration

Issues	Strategic Objective	Strategic Action	Success Indicators
<b>Strategy management and coordination</b>	<i>To implement, evaluate and review integrated weed and animal pest strategies</i>	Review and complete a new LGAPMP three months prior to the expiry of the existing plan	CHRC's APMP reviewed every four years in March
		Implement actions for priority plant & animal pest management	Improved outcomes resulting from the evaluation and review of operational plant & animal pest strategies & actions
<b>Resources</b>	<i>To efficiently and adequately resource weed and animal pest management</i>	Adequately resource pest management actions and allocate resources according to pest priorities	Increased resources expended on operational pest management activities and the development and implementation of best management practices
		Contribute to the state government fund for pest management research and plague pest control	Contributions made annually
		Share resources and knowledge with other stakeholders	Participation in FBA Neighbourhood Catchment Sub-Region Prioritisations

**Holistic management**

*To integrate pest management planning with other government, property, community and industry planning*

Weed and animal pest management is integrated and consistent between other relevant plans

Improved outcomes due to integrated approach

## Prevention, eradication and containment

Desired outcome 5: To prevent the introduction, spread of distribution and establishment of pest plant & pest animal species.			
Applied Principles:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Prevention</i> - Preventative pest management is achieved by -               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preventing the spread of pests, and viable parts of pests, especially by human activity; and</li> <li>2. Early detection and intervention to control pests.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>			
Issues	Strategic Objective	Strategic Action	Success Indicators
Prevention	<i>To prevent the introduction of new weed and animal pests</i>	Promote weed prevention protocols and their adoption by local stakeholders	Increase in the adoption of prevention protocols
		Promote the use of weed hygiene declarations or written statements	Number of stakeholders and user groups using hygiene declarations or written statements
		Promote the use of local wash-down facilities (public and private)	Early control and prevention of spread of priority pest species
		Ensure contractual Work Agreements contain weed prevention conditions	Number of contracts containing weed prevention conditions
		Number of locations of priority pest species identified, monitored and treated	Number of strategies established and implemented

<b>Early detection and control measures implemented</b>	<i>To prevent local establishment of new pests</i>	Prioritise pests for early detection and prevention	Number of potential pests identified and prioritised
		Implement and promote pest monitoring and survey programs	Number of pest monitoring and survey programs undertaken
		Develop response program for handling new infestations of pests	Number of target species identified and control methods implemented
<b>Containment</b>	<i>To minimise the spread of weed and animal pests to new areas</i>	Target priority pests for containment	Number of pests identified and prioritised
		Containment and management of localised weeds and animal pests to core infestations	Evaluation and review for weed and animal strategies and operational actions currently exists

## Effective integrated systems

**Desired outcome 6: To ensure integrated systems for managing the impacts of established pest plants & pest animals are developed and widely implemented.**

### Applied Principles:

- *Best Practice* - Pest management must be based on ecologically and socially responsible pest management practices that protect the environment and the productive capacity of natural resources.
- *Improvement* - Research about pests, and regular monitoring and evaluation of pest control activities, is necessary to improve pest management practices.
- *Commitment* - Effective pest management requires a long term commitment to pest management by the community, industry groups and government entities.

Issues	Strategic Objective	Strategic Action	Success Indicators
<b>Adoption of management techniques</b>	<i>To adopt and promote best practice in weed and animal pest management</i>	Pest management planning to incorporate best practice principles and integrated techniques	Integrated best practice management utilised in pest operations and updated practices adopted
		Ensure best practice publications are made available for distribution to all stakeholders	Number of best practice publications distributed to stakeholders
		Training and development for officers in best management practice techniques	Number of best management practice techniques implemented by officers

<b>Population and impact management</b>	<i>To reduce pest populations and impacts</i>	Coordinate strategic impact reduction programs under the principles of nil-tenure	Number of strategic baiting centres coordinated
			Increased stakeholder attendance and participation
		Encourage State agencies with large land holdings to participate in strategic programs with adjoining rural land owners	
		Distribute biological control agents	Number of release programs undertaken
<b>Environmentally significant areas</b>	<i>To protect environmentally significant areas from weed pests</i>	Identify environmentally significant areas	Number of areas identified and prioritised for management
		Prioritise weed management for environmentally significant areas	Collaborate with stakeholders to identify priority environmentally significant areas
<b>Development of management practices</b>	<i>Existing weed and animal pest management practices</i>	Identify inadequacies in existing pest management practices	Number of inadequacies identified and improvements recommended and implemented
<b>Incentives</b>	<i>To offer incentives to stakeholders for practicing pest management</i>	Assess potential incentives for stakeholders for pest management	Number of incentives identified

		Promote resource sharing by stakeholders	Involvement from community groups and individual stakeholders for pest management initiatives
			Established roles and responsibilities for pest weed and animal management that are accepted by landowners, community, industry and Government



## Management Priorities

Management priorities for Local and State Government invasive animals and plants within the Central Highlands Regional Council area.

This Biosecurity Plan is not going to include specific information pertaining to each of the listed species - for more information pertaining to the pest species listed, please refer to the Biosecurity Queensland website: [www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au)

**Table 1: Management priorities for pest plants within the Central Highlands Regional Council area**

Priority order	Risk Level	Common Name/ ( <i>Scientific Name</i> )	Restricted/ Prohibited/ Local Law	Threats (potential and actual)	Distribution and Prevalence	Objective
1	High	Hudson Pear ( <i>Cylindropuntia rosea</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on recreation values and human and animal health - HIGH</li> </ul>	Isolated to one location and low number of detections	Eradication
1	High	Bunny Ears ( <i>Opuntia microdasys</i> , <i>Opuntia rufida</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on recreation values - HIGH</li> </ul>	Isolated to one location and low number of detections	Eradication
2	High	Thunbergia / Laurel Clock Vine ( <i>Thunbergia laurifolia</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts native vegetation and ecosystems - HIGH</li> </ul>	Isolated to one area and low numbers of detections	Eradication
1	High	Mexican Feather Grass ( <i>Nasella tenuissima</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on native grasses and grass ecosystem - HIGH</li> </ul>	Past isolated occurrence in one area and no known remaining detections	Eradication
1	High	Weedy sporobolus grasses ( <i>Sporobolus pyramidalis</i> , <i>Sporobolus natalensis</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on native grasses and grass ecosystems and agricultural production values - HIGH</li> </ul>	Isolated to less than ten known locations and low to medium density	Containment & Control
2	Medium	Prickly Acacia ( <i>Acacia nilotica</i> )	Restricted & WONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems and agricultural production values - HIGH</li> </ul>	Widespread across the northern and western regions in low densities	Control
2	High	Bellyache Bush ( <i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i> )	Restricted & WONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems</li> </ul>	Frequent occurrence in low density infestations	Containment & Control

				and agricultural production values - HIGH		
1	High	Mesquite ( <i>Prosopis spp</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Isolated to one location and low number detections	Eradication
3	Medium	Willows Cactus ( <i>Cereus uruguayanus</i> )	Locally Declared	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems and on recreational values - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Infestation located at Willows in high density, reports of isolated infestations at low densities	Control and Containment
1	High	Sword Pear ( <i>Acanthocereus pentagonus</i> , <i>Acanthocereus tetragonus</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on recreation values and native vegetation and ecosystems - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrences in low densities	Control & Containment
5	Low	Athel Pine ( <i>Tamarix aphylla</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Isolated to one area with infestation	Monitoring & Containment
2	High	Chinee Apple ( <i>Zizphus mauritiana</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on recreation values and human and animal health - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrences in low densities	Control & Containment
3	Medium	Parkinsonia ( <i>Parkinsonia aculeate</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual impacts on native vegetation an ecosystems and agricultural production values - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Widespread in low to high densities	Control
2	High	Harrisia Cactus ( <i>Eriocereus species</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual impacts on recreational values - HIGH</li> <li>Actual impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems, and agricultural production values - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Widespread in low to medium densities	Control & Containment
5	Low	Salvinia ( <i>Salvinia molesta</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Previous known infestations eradicated, monitoring for new infestations	Monitoring
3	Medium	Hymenachne ( <i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on recreation values - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrence in medium densities	Control

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual impacts on native vegetation and ecosystem - MEDIUM</li> </ul>		
5	Low	Water Lettuce ( <i>Pistia stratiotes</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential Impacts on native vegetation and aquatic systems - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrence in medium densities	Monitoring
5	Low	Rubber vine ( <i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrence in medium densities	Control
2	High	Thunbergia ( <i>Thunbergia grandiflora</i> )		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrence in medium densities	Destruction
3	Low	Parthenium ( <i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on recreation values and human and animal health - HIGH</li> <li>Actual impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - HIGH</li> <li>Actual impacts on agricultural production - HIGH</li> </ul>	Widespread occurrence in low to high densities - endemic across many areas of the region	Strategic Control & Strategic Containment
5	Low	Feral Leucaena ( <i>Leucaena leucocpcephala</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Widespread occurrence in low to high densities	Control and Containment
3	High	Mother-of-millions ( <i>Bryphyllum species</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on agricultural production values - LOW</li> </ul>	Frequent occurrences in low densities	Control & Containment
1	High	Coral Cactus ( <i>Cylindropuntia fulgida</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on agricultural production values - LOW</li> <li>Potential impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrences in medium densities	Eradication
4	Low	Sisal ( <i>Various species</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - LOW</li> </ul>	Frequent occurrences in low to medium densities	Monitoring & Strategic Control

3	Medium	Lantana ( <i>Lantana camara</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actual impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - MEDIUM</li> <li>• Potential impacts on agricultural production values - MEDIUM</li> <li>• Potential impacts on recreation values - LOW</li> </ul>	Frequent occurrences in low to medium densities	Strategic Control
4	Low	African Love Grass ( <i>Eragrostis curvula</i> )	Locally Significant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - LOW</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrence in low densities	Strategic Control
1	High	Tiger Pear ( <i>O. aurantiaca</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential impacts on recreation values and human and animal health - HIGH</li> <li>• Actual impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - HIGH</li> <li>• Actual impacts on agricultural production - HIGH</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrence in low densities	Eradication
5	Medium	Prickly Pear ( <i>o. elata</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential impacts medium</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrence in low densities	Monitoring
5	Medium	Westwood Pear ( <i>o. streptacantha</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential impacts medium</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrence in low densities	Monitoring

**Table 2: Management priorities for vertebrate pests within the Central Highlands Regional Council area**

Priority (category and order)		Common name and ( <i>Scientific name</i> )	Restricted / Prohibited / Local Laws	Threats (potential and actual)	Distribution and Prevalence	Objective
1	Medium	Wild Dog Dingo ( <i>Canis familiaris</i> ) ( <i>Canis familiaris dingo</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual impacts on agricultural production values - HIGH</li> <li>Actual impacts on native fauna - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Widespread occurrence in low to medium densities	Control
1	Medium	Feral Pig ( <i>Sus scrofa</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual impacts on agricultural production values - MEDIUM</li> <li>Actual impacts on native vegetation and ecosystems - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Widespread occurrence in low to medium densities	Control
3	Medium	Feral Cat ( <i>Felis catus</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual impacts on native fauna - HIGH</li> </ul>	Widespread occurrence in low to medium densities	Control in urban areas and monitor elsewhere
3	Medium	Fox ( <i>Vulpes vulpes</i> )	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual impacts on native fauna - MEDIUM</li> <li>Actual impacts on agricultural production values - LOW</li> </ul>	Widespread occurrence in low to medium densities	Control

1	High	<p>Feral Deer (<i>Various species</i>)</p> <p>Chital deer (<i>Axis axis</i>)</p> <p>Rusa deer (<i>Cervus timorensis</i>)</p> <p>Red deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>)</p> <p>Fallow deer (<i>Dama dama</i>)</p>	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actual impacts on native flora and ecosystems - LOW</li> <li>• Potential impacts on agricultural production values - LOW</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrence in low densities	Monitoring
3	Medium	<p>Rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)</p>	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actual impacts on native flora and ecosystems - LOW</li> <li>• Potential impacts on agricultural production values - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Widespread occurrence in low to medium densities	Control

1	High	Australian Plague Locust Migratory Locust Spur-Throated Locust <i>(Chorotoicetus terminifera)</i> <i>(Locusta migratoria)</i> <i>(Austracris guttulosa)</i>	Restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential impacts on agricultural production values - HIGH</li> </ul>	Widespread occurrence in low to high densities	Control
5	Low	Common Starling <i>(Sturnus vulgaris)</i>	Locally Significant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential impacts on native fauna and ecosystems - MEDIUM</li> <li>• Potential impacts on agricultural production values - LOW</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrence in low densities	Monitoring
1	High	Common or Indian myna <i>(Acridotheres tristis)</i>	Locally Significant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential impacts on native fauna and ecosystems - MEDIUM</li> </ul>	Isolated occurrence in low densities	Monitoring & Control