



Acknowledgment of Country

Sunshine Coast Council acknowledges the Kabi Kabi people and the Jinibara people as the Traditional Owners of the Sunshine Coast Council local government area. Council recognises the Traditional Owners' continuing cultural, spiritual, social and economic connection to Country.

Council is committed to ongoing communications and consultation with the Traditional Owners and the broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community of the Sunshine Coast in the implementation of the *Sunshine Coast Council Local Government Area Biosecurity Plan 2017*.

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Front cover image, Mary River: Dicker

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Introduction

The *Sunshine Coast Council Biosecurity Implementation Plan 2017* has been developed to outline Council's response to the strategic directions for invasive plant and animal management as outlined in the *Sunshine Coast Council Local Government Area Biosecurity Plan 2017*.

The biosecurity plan identifies 11 strategic actions grouped under six management pathways and is also aligned with the desired outcomes sought in the *Queensland Government Weed and Pest Animal Strategy 2016-2020*.

It is intended to update the implementation plan annually to retain relevance and maintain a current five-year implementation horizon. The plan identifies:

- A delivery and reporting governance framework
- Key groups and branches that contribute to implementation
- Tasks to be delivered against each strategic action

Many of the identified tasks for 2018/19 seek to incorporate the strategic directions into council's existing invasive plant and animal management activities and implemented within existing resources.

Governance Framework

The governance framework in which the *Sunshine Coast Council Biosecurity Implementation Plan* will be delivered uses the council organisational structure, systems and processes and adopts an integrated approach.

An **integrated delivery model** using relevant integrated teams from across groups will complement council's organisational processes.

On an annual basis integrated teams review the collective actions that have been delivered as part of implementation of the Plan to inform reporting. These teams also prioritise tasks for implementation in the following financial year for consideration during the budget development process.

The integrated teams include:

- Integrated Environment team
- Integrated Biosecurity Implementation team

Tracking progress – annual review and reporting of progress towards delivery of the tasks outlined in this implementation plan.

Community involvement – the establishment of an External Biosecurity Implementation Group with community, industry and government stakeholders will ensure the ongoing collaborative implementation and reporting on the *Sunshine Coast Council Local Government Area Biosecurity Plan*.

Guiding Principles for Implementation

The Guiding Principles for delivery as outlined in the *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 (Part B)* has been reflected in this Plan to set the intent for how council and its partners deliver invasive plant and animal management. The principles are to be applied when implementing tasks and making significant decisions. When leading, planning, delivering and monitoring projects the relevant integrated teams and responsible council teams should reference the following check list (*Table 1*) to ensure that the Guiding Principles have been applied.

Table 1: Guiding Principles check list

Guiding principle	How the Principle could be applied – some questions to think about
<p>1. Lead</p> <p>Leading by example, we engage our community, we listen, we make the difficult decisions and inspire, and enable community empowerment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are we leading by example? • Are we setting a good example? • How would a leader approach this challenge? • Have relevant stakeholders been engaged and had their voice heard? • Are we sharing responsibility with the community? • Does the community have the knowledge and capacity to share the responsibility?
<p>2. Connect</p> <p>Connecting, partnering and integrating, we draw on the collective skills, knowledge and strength of our region.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the decision been made through a collaborative and informed process? • Have the collective skills, knowledge and strength of our region been drawn upon? • Could we partner to get a better outcome?
<p>3. Adapt</p> <p>Adapting to change, we make proactive, evidence-based and responsive decisions in a timely manner, informed by changing environmental conditions and community needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we have supportive evidence to make this decision? • Have changing environmental conditions and community needs been considered? • Will this hold us in good stead for the future? • Have we learnt from previous experiences?
<p>4. Balance</p> <p>Balancing the environmental, social, and economic needs of today, without compromising the ability to meet the needs of future generations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have we considered a range of different perspectives? • Can a triple bottom line outcome be delivered? • Will the needs of future generations be compromised?
<p>5. Embrace</p> <p>Embracing change, we boldly respond to the challenges ahead, actively seeking new ideas and opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What new ideas and opportunities can we incorporate? • What are others doing in this space? • Are we sharing information and knowledge? • How can we make this a positive outcome?
<p>6. Create</p> <p>Creating productive partnerships and alliances, we explore and trial innovative approaches and new technologies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we do this differently to get a better outcome? • How can we pilot and trial new approaches and concepts? • Have productive partnerships and alliances been created? • How can new technologies be used?

Policy and planning framework

In addition to the strategic directions set out in the Sunshine Coast Council Local Government Area Biosecurity Plan, the following organisational planning documents will contribute to the vision of the Plan and provide additional information to inform tactical planning. These documents will be further complemented through the development of a range of additional plans, organisational policies and guidelines.

Policy

- *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017*

Planning

- *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014*
- *Environmental Reserve Network Plan*
- *Local Law No. 3 (Community Health and Environment Management) 2011*
- *Declared Pest Plant Management operation Plan 2014-2016*
- *Feral Animal Operational Plan 2014-2016*
- *Feral Deer Operational Plan 2014-2016*
- *Wild Dog Strategy*
- *Wild Dog Baiting Policy*

A range of organisational operational procedures that support the delivery of invasive plant and animal management also exist.

Key council stakeholders

The management of invasive plants and animals is integrated across the organisation with various groups involved. There are six management pathways that this integrated effort can be aligned to, including:

1. **Planning** - planning, policy, local laws, and operational delivery, procurement and internal advocacy
2. **Research and monitoring** - knowledge building, data capture and dissemination, monitoring, evaluating and reporting
3. **Targeted control and on-ground actions** - on-ground rehabilitation, targeted management
4. **Community capacity building** - community incentives, partnerships, assistance and support
5. **Community engagement and education** - advocacy, targeted education, awareness raising
6. **Regulation** - Compliance, emergency response, surveillance, biosecurity programs

Table 2 identifies the range of teams and their contribution across the six invasive plant and animal management pathways.

Table 2. Management pathways for invasive plant and animal management and key council stakeholders.

Group	Branch and team	STRATEGIC PATHWAYS FOR INVASIVE PLANT AND ANIMALS MANAGEMENT					
		Planning	Research and Monitoring	Targeted control and on-ground actions	Community capacity building	Community engagement and education	Regulation
Liveability and Natural Assets	Environment and Sustainability Policy (ESP): • Biodiversity and Waterways	•	•				
	Environmental Operations (EO): • Natural Areas • Community Catchment Partnerships • Coastal Construction, water and planning		•	•	•	•	
Customer Engagement and Planning Services	Customer Response (CR): • Healthy Places • Community contact	•	•		•	•	•
	Strategic Planning (SP): • Planning Scheme Projects	•					
	Development Services (DS): • Engineering and Environmental Assessment	•		•			
	Waste and Resource Management (WRM): • Recovery Diversion and Disposal	•				•	
Built Infrastructure	Parks and Gardens (P&G): • Parks Operation and Arboriculture • Parks Operation and Contracts			•		•	
Business Performance	Procurement and Contracts (P&C): • Procurement Contracts	•					
Office of the Mayor/Office of the CEO	Corporate Governance (CG): • Governance Process and Policy	•					•

Strategic Actions

A suite of strategic actions to manage invasive plants and animals across the Sunshine Coast Council local government area were developed in collaboration with key internal and external community, industry and government stakeholders.

The scope of each strategic action is provided to guide stakeholders in the development of their tailored biosecurity implementation plans to ensure that the tasks undertaken collectively contribute to the delivery of the *Sunshine Coast Council Local Government Area Biosecurity Plan 2017*.

Management Pathways

Six management pathways for invasive plant and animal management

Strategic Actions

Strategic actions, aligned to the six management pathways for invasive plants and animals, contribute significantly to the delivery of the *Sunshine Coast Council Local Government Area Biosecurity Plan 2017* vision.

Tasks

The detailed tasks proposed to contribute to the delivery of the strategic action.

Timeframe

Sets out a five-year timeframe for delivering tasks. This indicates the commencement year and the estimated duration of the task. Actions and tasks will be reviewed and updated annually to remain current.

Cost estimates

The cost associated with delivery of tasks is indicative only. Funding of actions and tasks are subject to council's capital works and operational annual budgetary considerations.

<p>L = Low cost is \$0–\$100,000</p> <p>M = Medium cost is \$101,000–\$500,000</p> <p>H = High cost is \$501,000+</p>
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Table 3: Strategic Actions and Tasks

Actions	Tasks	2018/19	Indicative outer years					Five-year cost estimates Low (\$0-\$100k) Med (\$100k-\$500k) High (\$501k+)
			2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23		
Planning								
1. Integrate the SCC LGA Biosecurity Plan into planning, operational and regulatory instruments and processes. Updating and reflecting the strategic directions of the SCC LGA biosecurity Plan in planning, policy, regulation, project development and delivery and procurement documentation and processes.	1.1 Prepare updated Sunshine Coast Council Planning Scheme provisions including associated policies and guidelines.	•					Low	
	1.2 Prepare updated development application standard conditions.	•					Low	
	1.3 Update <i>Local Law 3 (Community Health and Environment Management) 2011</i> .	•					Low	
	1.4 Review procurement process and embed local biosecurity planning requirements.		•				Low	
	1.5 Review soil and green waste management procedures.		•				Low	
	1.6 Inform the development of the annual Environment Levy Policy and Program	•	•	•	•	•	Low	
	1.7 Implement local biosecurity planning advocacy program across the organisation.	•	•	•	•	•	Low	
	1.8 Review customer request management processes and supporting information.	•					Low	
2. Establish, strengthen and participate in biosecurity planning and communication networks. Building stronger organisational and stakeholder relationships that assist with the delivery of biosecurity management including reporting, identification of emerging issues and opportunities to collaborate.	2.1 Establish and facilitate an External Biosecurity Implementation Reference Group .	•	•	•	•	•	Low	
	2.2 Establish and maintain an Integrated Biosecurity Working Group.	•	•	•	•	•	Low	
	2.3 Participate on the SEQ Pest Advisory Forum.	•	•	•	•	•	Low	
	2.4 Participate on the SEQ Regional Pest Advisory Sub-committee.	•	•	•	•	•	Low	
	2.5 Identify and engage further community, industry and government stakeholders in invasive plant and animal management.	•	•	•	•	•	Low	
	2.6 Coordinate and facilitate a Sunshine Coast Invasive Plants and Animal Management Forum.		•				Low	

Actions	Tasks	2018/19	Indicative outer years				Five-year cost estimates Low (\$0-\$100k) Med (\$100k-\$500k) High (\$501k+)
			2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	
Research and monitoring							
3. Improve our collective understanding of the biology, ecology, impacts and control measures for priority and regional alert invasive plants and animals and emerging issues. Improving our current knowledge of priority invasive species through research, professional development and other education opportunities. Action also seeks to identify and respond to information gaps including potential impacts associated with climate change.	3.1 Contribute to regional research opportunities where relevant.	•	•	•	•	•	Low
	3.2 Deliver updated targeted education opportunities to key internal, community and industry stakeholders.	•	•	•	•	•	Med
	3.3 Contribute to development of Council's research prospectus to include local biosecurity priorities.	•					Low
4. Improve and integrate existing data capture systems and access to and dissemination of this information. Improving the way invasive species data is collected, stored and shared both within and outside organisations.	4.1 Identify and collate a list of data collected by internal and external stakeholders.	•					Low
	4.2 Create and manage strategic corporate information assets (internal data).	•					Low
	4.3 Develop and maintain a user-friendly interface to enable access to current and accurate data (internal data).		•	•	•	•	Low
	4.4 Publish strategic information assets in Open Data (internal data).		•				Low
5. Monitor, evaluate and report on the	5.1 Undertake an annual review of catchment management responses.	•	•	•	•	•	Low

Actions	Tasks	2018/19	Indicative outer years				Five-year cost estimates Low (\$0-\$100k) Med (\$100k-\$500k) High (\$501k+)
			2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	
effectiveness of catchment management programs and new threats. Improving our understanding of changes in the extent of invasive species to inform surveillance and management programs and ensure their effectiveness in delivering both short and long term outcomes.	5.2 Undertake routine monitoring of priority invasive animals, including analysis of outcomes of control work for deer, feral dog, fox, feral cat and indicator species.	•	•	•	•	•	Low
	5.3 Assist Department of Agriculture and Fisheries – Biosecurity Queensland with priority invasive plant surveillance programs.	•	•	•	•	•	Low
Targeted control and on-ground actions							
6. Prevent and respond to the entry of regional alert invasive plants and animals into Sunshine Coast local government area. Development and implementation of strategic education, partnership, compliance, and collaborative on-ground projects and initiatives that target regional alert species at the local government borders.	6.1 Implement local biosecurity planning advocacy program for targeted industries.	•					Low
	6.2 Identify and scope collaborative local government border protection initiatives.	•					Low

Actions	Tasks	2018/19	Indicative outer years				Five-year cost estimates Low (\$0-\$100k) Med (\$100k-\$500k) High (\$501k+)
			2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	
7. Reduce the extent and spread of priority invasive plants and animals across the Sunshine Coast. Development and implementation of compliance and collaborative on-ground management projects and initiatives that target priority invasive plants and animals at a catchment scale	7.1 Identify and scope and where possible collaborate to deliver targeted catchment management initiatives.	•					Low
	Community capacity building						
8. Develop incentives that support and assist the community to work towards the catchment management responses. Improving existing and developing new incentives that provide tools and resources to support the community target Priority Invasive Plants and Animals.	8.1 Review council's existing community incentives and support and investigate other local government area's incentive and support programs.	•					Low
	8.2 Develop and trial a strategic invasive plant and animal management incentives and support program.		•				Low

Actions	Tasks	2018/19	Indicative outer years				Five-year cost estimates Low (\$0-\$100k) Med (\$100k-\$500k) High (\$501k+)
			2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	
9. Strengthen biosecurity partnerships with not-for-profit community, industry and specialist groups. Recognising and strengthening existing formal and non- formal partnerships and developing new partnership opportunities to collaboratively deliver on biosecurity management priorities.	9.1 Develop and trial a community biosecurity catchment partnership and champions program.			•			Med
Community engagement and education							
10. Increase community awareness of priority invasive plants and animals, regional and catchment alert species, and other invasive plants and animals in general. Educating the community and identifying opportunities to develop targeted awareness campaigns that promote the General Biosecurity Obligation and priority invasive plants and animals.	10.1 Develop and implement a Biosecurity Plan communication strategy.	•					Low

Actions	Tasks	2018/19	Indicative outer years				Five-year cost estimates Low (\$0-\$100k) Med (\$100k-\$500k) High (\$501k+)
			2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	
Regulation							
11. Develop and implement compliance procedures, policies and programs that support the implementation of the Biosecurity Plan. Reviewing and updating local laws, development compliance processes, and biosecurity orders, including education on these matters.	11.1 Review and update operational strategies, policies and procedures.	•					Low
	11.2 Inform annual biosecurity surveillance and control programs.	•	•	•	•	•	Low

Tracking progress

Monitoring and tracking our progress are critical to ensure the effectiveness of the Biosecurity Plan. A number of measures have been prepared as part of the Biosecurity Plan to enable regular and meaningful reporting which will be undertaken in partnership with stakeholders.

The integrated Biosecurity Implementation Team, with representation from key council stakeholders will meet on a regular basis to discuss current activities and assist with reporting on the outcomes delivered under this implementation plan by the organisation.

