

**GULF CATCHMENTS BIOSECURITY  
& AGRIBUSINESS INNOVATION**

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## Biosecurity Act 2014

The Biosecurity Act 2014 sets out a legal framework for the management of invasive plants and animals across the state of Queensland. The act includes key (functions, tools and powers) roles and responsibilities shared among stakeholders.

- (s23), All persons who deals with invasive biosecurity matter or a carrier, or carries out an activity that poses or likely to pose a biosecurity risk to a biosecurity consideration, has a General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO) to take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise the risk of adverse impacts to that biosecurity consideration, in compliance with the act. *(reasonably ought to know and take reasonable and practical actions to address biosecurity risk, of biosecurity event to biosecurity consideration)*
- *(Prevent entry, prevent establishment, prevent spread and minimise impacts of established populations)*
- (s48), Local government are responsible for ensuring invasive biosecurity matter is managed within its local government area, in compliance with the act.
- (s53) Local government must have a biosecurity plan in place for the management of invasive biosecurity matter within its local government area.
- Invasive Biosecurity matter includes those listed in Schedule 1 Prohibited Matter (parts 3 & 4) & Schedule 2 Restricted Matter (part 2), categories 1-7.

## Land Protection (Pest & Stock Route Management) Act 2002

- S25 Local governments to have pest management plan
- S26 Requirements of plan
- S27 Preparing draft plan
- S28 Notice of draft plan and consideration of public
- S29 Minister to consider draft plan
- S30 Adopting plan
- S31 Duration of plan
- S32 Implementing plan
- S33 Reviewing and renewing plan
- S34 Amending plan
- S35 Plan to be available for inspection

## Biosecurity Act 2014

**S53 (1) A local government must have a biosecurity plan for invasive biosecurity matter for its local government area.**

(2) The plan may include provision for each of the following—

- (a) achievable objectives under the plan;
- (b) strategies, activities and responsibilities for achieving the objectives;
- (c) strategies to inform the local community about the content of the plan and achievement of its objectives;
- (d) monitoring implementation of the plan and evaluating its effectiveness;
- (e) other matters the local government considers appropriate for management of invasive biosecurity matter for its local government area.

### **S54 Plan to be available for inspection**

**(1) Each local government must keep a copy of its biosecurity plan available for inspection, free of charge, by members of the public at the local government's public office.**

**(2) The plan may be made available in written or electronic form.**

### **S55 Local governments acting concurrently for biosecurity plan**

(1) This part, in requiring each local government to have a biosecurity plan, does not stop 2 or more local governments from acting concurrently to propose and adopt the same biosecurity plan for each of the local governments or to subsequently amend the plan.

(2) Each local government whose biosecurity plan is identical with the biosecurity plan of another local government must implement the plan in its own local government area to the extent the plan relates to that area.

Where to from here.....

**New Act (Biosecurity Act 2014) functions, tools & powers**  
(Everybody has a responsibility; GBO, prohibited, restricted matter)

**No template**

**Reduced services from BQ**  
(Biosecurity plans, regional engagement link & regional programs/extension support)

**Regional Stakeholder Review 2012**  
(Issues & Constraints of stakeholders)



**North West Vision**  
(Regional Strategy)

1. Process to address issues & constraints (Local Government Biosecurity Plans)
2. Critical components in planning
  - Establish local pest group
  - Establish sub/catchment planning (catchment representation, catchment assessment, links to state and national prioritisation, catchment program/GBO monitoring etc)
  - Link assessments with linking pest planning frameworks (national, state, regional and local legislation, strategies, policies, plans and guidelines)
  - Establish LG incentive agreements to meet compliance with the act in a manner which yields the greatest return on biosecurity investments
  - Establishes national priority programs & a effective process to distribute funds and protect investments(tenders, LG sign off on 5 year plans)
3. Establishes a regional communication structure engagement links  
(Catchments > LG pest advisory Group > GCPTF > NWROC)
4. Supports development of the (three key) regional priority programs (including capacity to lobby for regional program funding & co-investment priorities ie incentive agreements & National priority programs or productivity pilot programs)

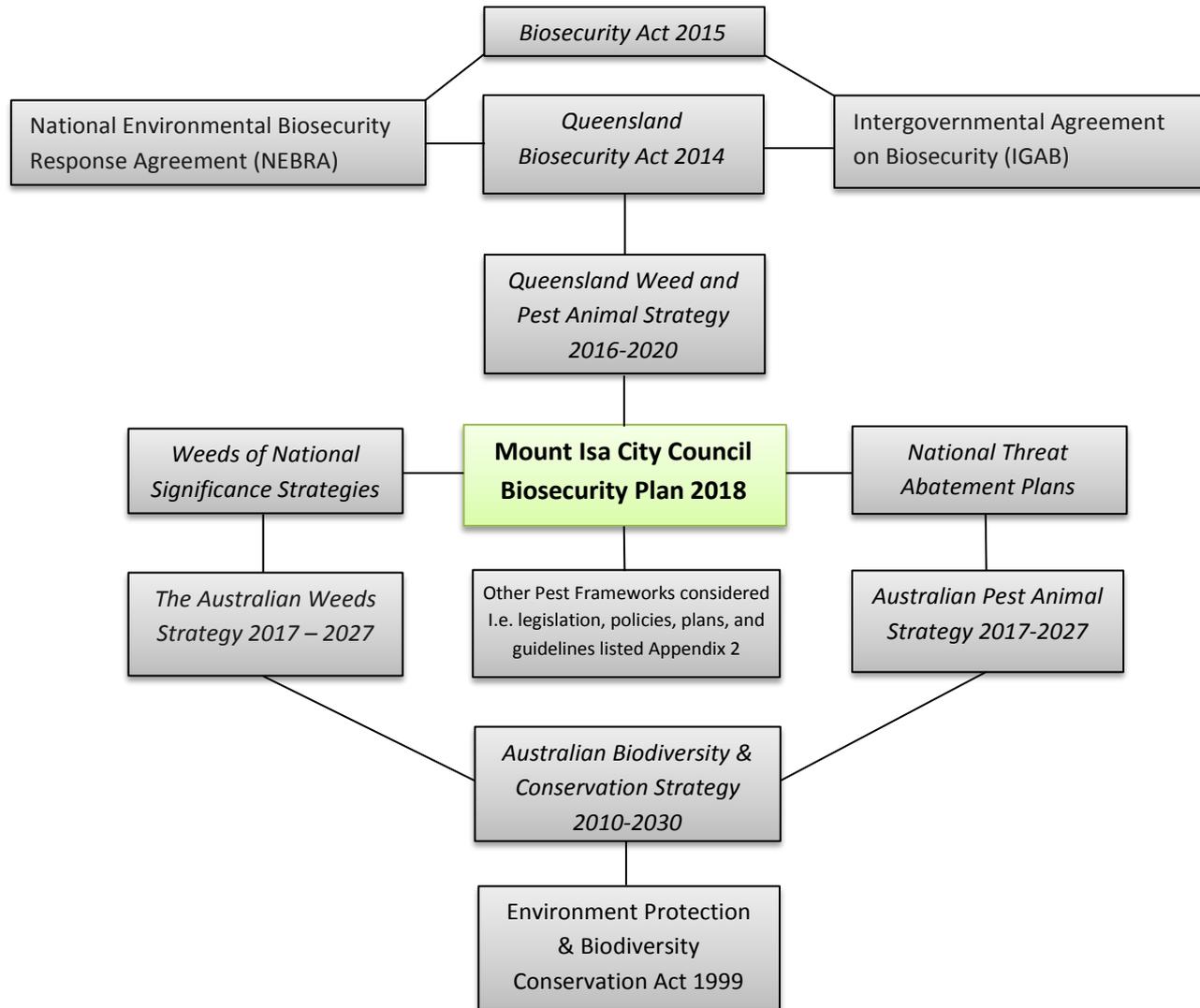
# The Biosecurity Plan

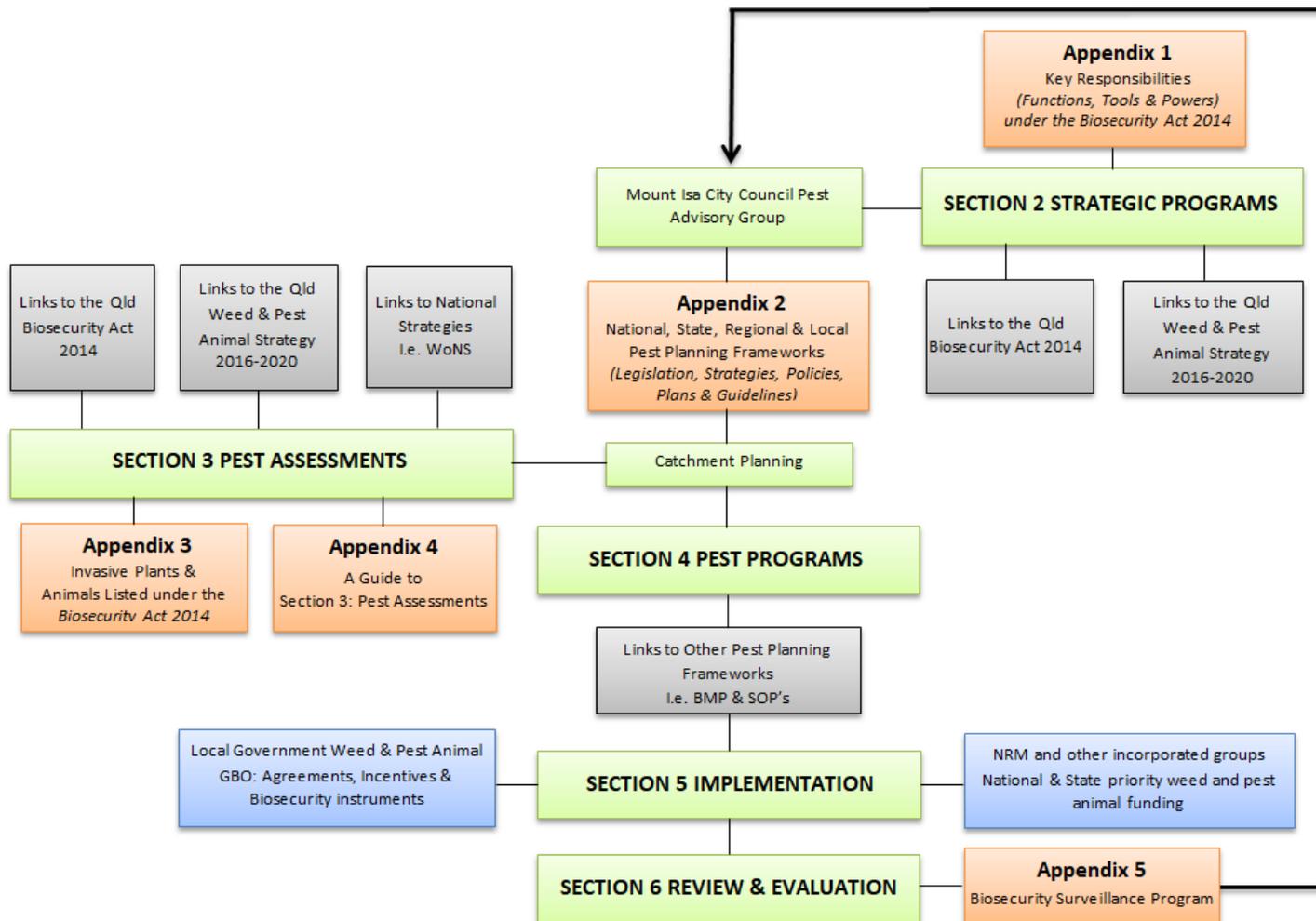
Part A – Planning context & consultation

Part B - Programs

## **LINKING LEGISLATION, STRATEGIES, POLICIES, PLANS & GUIDELINES**

- The *Biosecurity Act 2014* sets out a legal framework for the management of invasive plants and animals across the state of Queensland, although there are various national, state, regional and local pest planning frameworks (Legislation, Strategies, Policies, Plans & Guidelines) which contribute to the management of pests either directly, or indirectly
- Commonwealth and state frameworks illustrated in figure 1 provide the overarching strategic direction and a uniform approach to stakeholder planning, assessments and management of risks and impacts posed by identified invasive biosecurity matter across Queensland.
- Aligning the Biosecurity Plan with overarching national and state planning frameworks will not only ensure consistency with best management practise, it also ensures consistency with commonwealth & state funding criteria.





## General Biosecurity Obligation

The general biosecurity obligation applies to a **person** who **deals with** biosecurity matter or **a carrier, or carries out an activity**, if the person **knows or ought reasonably to know** that the biosecurity matter, carrier or activity poses or is likely to pose a biosecurity risk. The person has an obligation (a general biosecurity obligation) to take **all reasonable and practical measures** to prevent or minimise the biosecurity risk. Also, the person has an obligation (general biosecurity obligation) to prevent or minimise adverse effects on a biosecurity consideration of the person's dealing with the biosecurity matter or carrier or carrying out the activity; and to minimise the likelihood of causing a biosecurity event, or to limit the consequences of a biosecurity event caused, by dealing with the biosecurity matter or carrier or carrying out the activity; and not to do or omit to do something if the person knows or ought reasonably to know that doing or omitting to do the thing may exacerbate the adverse effects, or potential adverse effects, of the biosecurity matter, carrier or activity on a biosecurity consideration.

- The Queensland Weed & Pest Animal Strategy 2016-2020 (QW&PAS) lists six (6) desired outcomes which are consistent with overarching national frameworks and provide a uniform approach to stakeholder planning and establishing how invasive biosecurity matter (general biosecurity obligations) will be managed among stakeholders, generally.
- The Biosecurity Plan integrates the six (6) Strategic Programs (QW&PAS desired outcomes) to guide and facilitate the pest advisory group through planning and development of agreed, “Reasonable and Practical” stakeholder actions under the six pre-determined, program objectives. (to meet GBO)

<b>Prevention &amp; early intervention</b>	Establishment & spread of weeds & pest animals are prevented.
<b>Monitoring &amp; assessment</b>	Reliable information is the basis for decision-making.
<b>Awareness &amp; education</b>	Stakeholders are informed & knowledgeable, with the capability & capacity to take ownership of weed & pest animal management.
<b>Effective management systems</b>	Integrated systems for successfully managing & reducing/minimising the impacts of weeds & pest animals are developed & widely implemented through risk management
<b>Strategic planning framework &amp; management</b>	Strategic directions are developed and maintained, with an acceptable level of stakeholder ownership, & are informed by risk management.
<b>Commitment, roles &amp; responsibilities</b>	Management of weeds & pest animals is the shared responsibility of land managers, industry, the community & all levels of government. All stakeholders are committed to, & undertake, coordinated management. The cost of this management is borne by the risk creators & those who benefit from the management.

Figure 4 Four steps to the risk assessment



Geographical Assessment				Risk Assessment					Existing National, State & Local Priorities				Threshold	
Invasive Biosecurity Matter	Catchment	Distribution	Density	Potential risk & impact (of entry, establishment or spread) to a Biosecurity Consideration					Current Spread & Impacts	Declaration Status	Restricted Matter Category	State; QW&PAs	National; WoNS & TAP's	Management Objective
				Biodiversity & Riparian Habitats	Aquatic Habitats	Agriculture & Industry	Community & Residential	Culture & Heritage						
Athel pine (Tamarix aphylla)	Leichhardt	Widespread	Occasional	High	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Restricted	3	Asset Protection	High	Containment B
Belly-ache bush (Jatropha gossypifolia)	Leichhardt	Localised	Occasional	High	Low	High	Low	Medium	Low	Restricted	3	Containment Area A;	High	Containment A
Chinese apple (Ziziphus mauritiana)	Georgina	Localised	Occasional	High	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low	Restricted	3	Asset Protection	Low	Containment A
Coral Cactus (Cylindropuntia fulgida)	Leichhardt	Localised	Common	Medium	Low	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	Restricted	3	Containment Area B;	Medium	Containment A
	Georgina	Localised	Occasional	Medium	Low	High	Medium	Medium	Low	Restricted	3	Containment Area B;	Medium	Containment A

**Strategic programs + Pest assessments**

**=**

**Pest programs**

*(Identifies thresholds, GBO's, reasonable and practical programs and actions for agreements and national priorities among stakeholders)*