City of Ipswich

Ipswich Biosecurity Plan

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City of Ipswich

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Ipswich City Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners as custodians of the land and waters we share. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging, as the keepers of the traditions, customs, cultures and stories of proud peoples.

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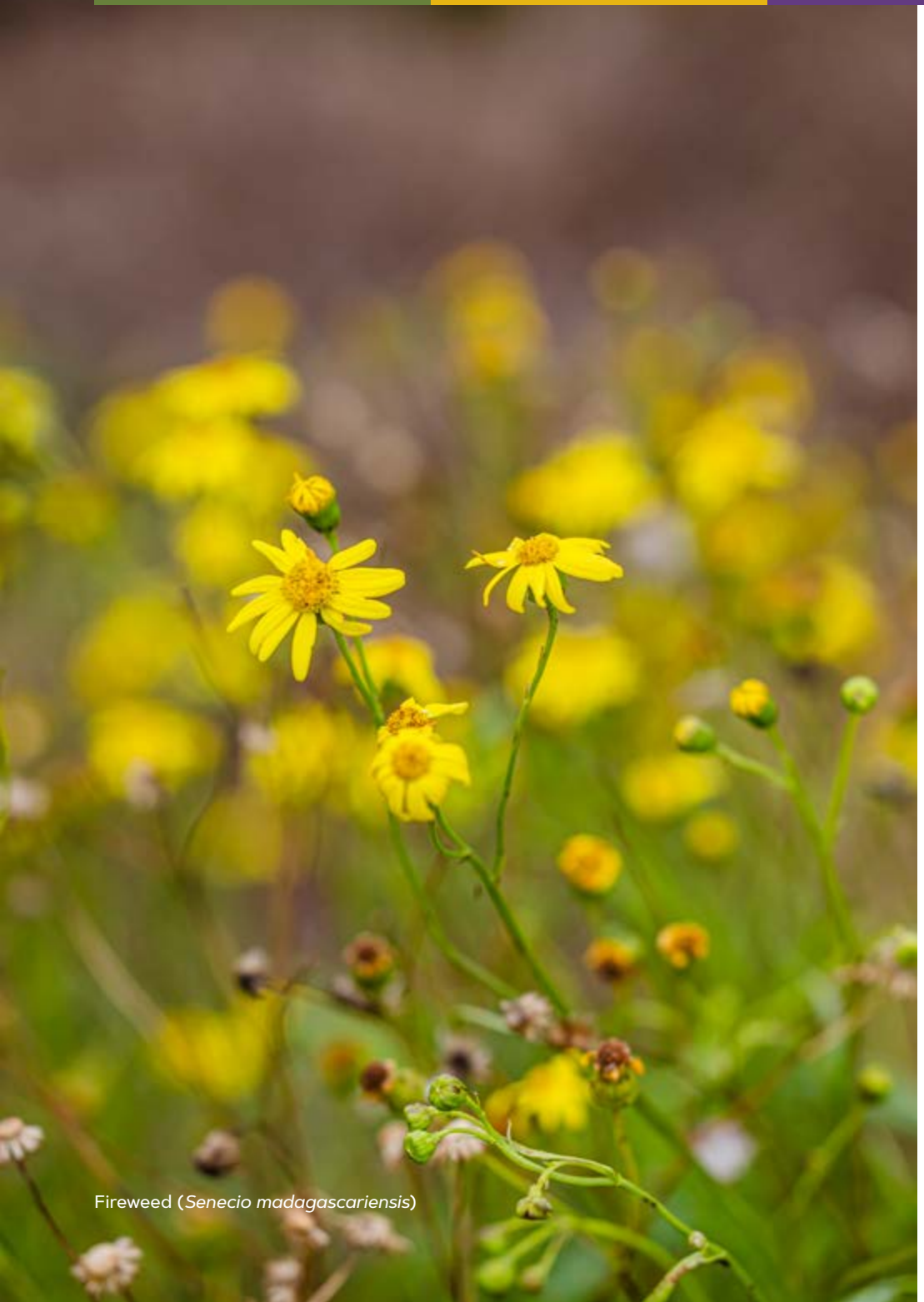

Fireweed (*Senecio madagascariensis*)

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INTRODUCTION

Ipswich is home to a diverse range of ecosystems, including forests, wetlands, and rivers, which support a wide variety of plant and animal species. These diverse ecosystems not only provide significant habitat for native flora and fauna, but also provide important benefits to the Ipswich community. These benefits include ecosystem services such as healthy soils and productive land which supports the economy through agriculture and tourism and provides cultural, spiritual and social connection with nature.

The Ipswich Biosecurity Plan is mandated by the Queensland *Biosecurity Act 2014*, for the purpose of managing biosecurity risks within the Ipswich local government area. Biosecurity matter relates to invasive plants and animals and their risks to the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the region. Because of this, the Ipswich Biosecurity Plan is integrated into Ipswich City Council's (council) Natural Environment Strategy.

The Natural Environment Strategy provides the overarching strategic direction for the natural environment across Ipswich which considers waterways and wetlands, biodiversity and threatened species, Aboriginal cultural heritage and cultural landscape values, urban and rural biodiversity, and sustainable nature-based recreation.

The Ipswich Biosecurity Plan identifies objectives which establishes council's commitment to meeting its General Biosecurity Obligation under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* and achieving the priority objectives within each theme of the Natural Environment Strategy, as they relate to restricted and prohibited matter.

The General Biosecurity Obligation forms the basis of the legal duty that regulates any dealings with restricted and prohibited matter prescribed within the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

SUPPORTING POLICY AND PUBLICATIONS

Theme 3: Natural and Sustainable

Outcome 2: Our natural environment is interconnected across the city. It is managed to balance positive conservation and nature-based recreation outcomes including wildlife habitat protection.

Outcomes of the Natural Environment Strategy:

- Waterways and Wetland Health Improvement
- Biodiversity and Threatened Species Recovery
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and Cultural Landscape Values Recognition
- Urban Biodiversity Enhancement
- Rural Biodiversity Enhancement
- Sustainable Nature-Based Recreation.

RELEVANT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

100+ Invasive weeds of Ipswich

Some of the weeds in this guide are not regulated by the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

BIOSECURITY MANAGEMENT

The *Biosecurity Act*, effective from 1 July 2016, modernised and standardised biosecurity practices in Queensland, replacing multiple Acts and subordinate legislation. It encompasses the management of invasive plant and animal species, now categorised as either 'restricted matter' or 'prohibited matter'. Reporting, distribution, movement, possession, and disposal restrictions apply based on these categories.

Dealing with biosecurity matter includes activities like keeping, breeding, propagating, importing, transporting, and disposing of the matter. Biosecurity risks involve pests, diseases, contaminants, or carriers that may pose a risk of any adverse effect to health, environment, economy, or social amenity.

The General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO) requires individuals and organisations managing biosecurity matter to minimise associated risks and prevent biosecurity events. Landholders and tenants are expected to manage risks related to their business or hobbies. Simple steps like managing pests and diseases, examining animals before transport, and inspecting plants can reduce biosecurity risks.

The GBO emphasises taking reasonable and practical steps based on the likelihood and harm of activities, risks, and available risk reduction methods.

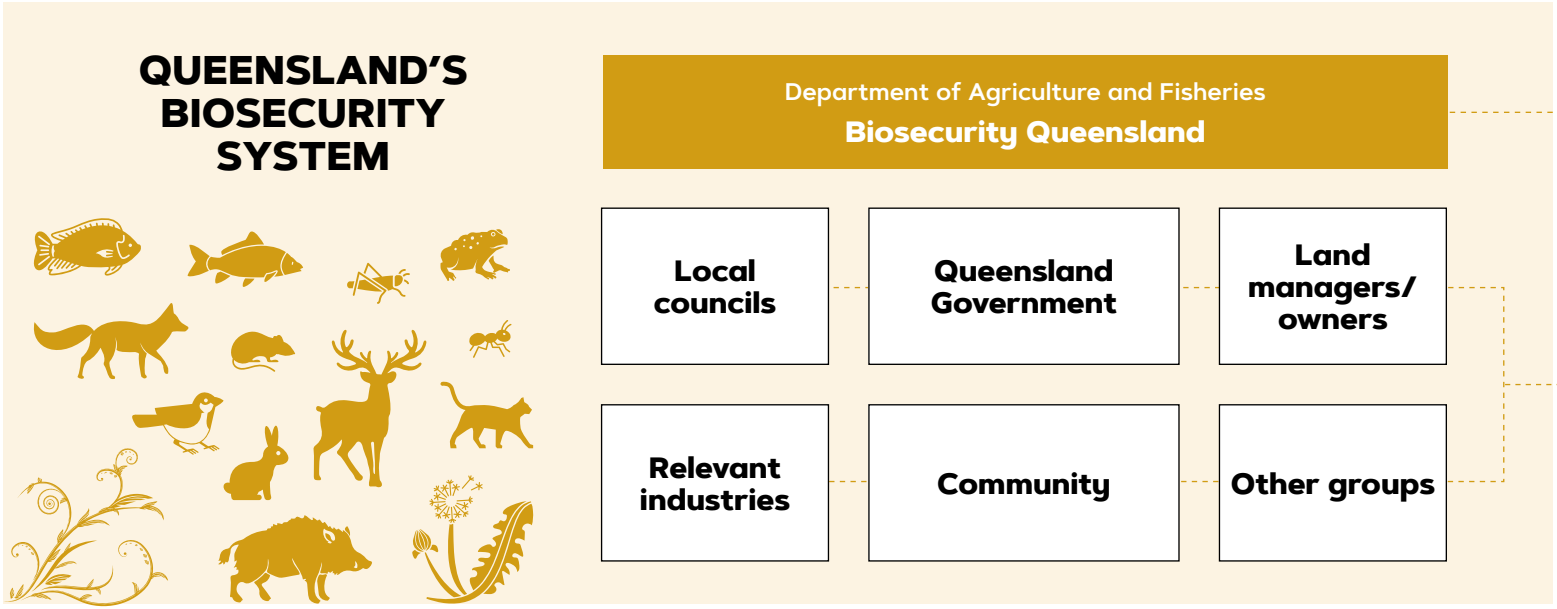
Everyone is responsible for managing biosecurity risks that are:

- under their control; and
- that they know about, or should reasonably be expected to know about.

Under the GBO, individuals and organisations whose activities pose a biosecurity risk must:

- take all reasonable and practical steps to prevent or minimise each biosecurity risk
- minimise the likelihood of causing a 'biosecurity event', and limit the consequences if such an event is caused
- prevent or minimise the harmful effects a risk could have, and not do anything that might make any harmful effects worse.

Queensland's biosecurity system relies on many stakeholders working together effectively to eradicate or reduce the impact of invasive plants and animals.



GENERAL BIOSECURITY OBLIGATION (GBO)

The General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO) is a significant obligation that requires all persons who deal with biosecurity matter or a carrier to take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise the risk.

This obligation was introduced to encourage all relevant parties – individuals, industry and government – to take a proactive role in preventing, managing and addressing biosecurity risks that relate to them. Its scope is broad and the obligation can be applied to animal diseases as easily as it can be applied to invasive plants and animals.

In the context of Biosecurity Plans, the GBO focuses on invasive plants and animals. Specifically, the species that are identified as being restricted and prohibited matter under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. In the simplest terms, the GBO obliges land managers to reduce the impact of invasive plants and animals on the land they own, manage, lease, or visit.

Discharging your General Biosecurity Obligation

Discharging the GBO, in a majority of cases, is not complicated and will have a positive impact on the asset over the long term.

Understanding your property and the species that inhabit your land

Every property in Ipswich is unique, with different features that can influence the species of flora and fauna that either traverse or inhabit your land. Being aware of both the features of your land (particularly the likely entry points for invasive species) and the species that are currently on your property, whether they are invasive or native, is the most important first step to discharging your GBO.

Council provides numerous resources to support landholders to increase their knowledge, for more information visit **Ipswich.qld.gov.au/biosecurity**

Prioritise property management and control programs

This Biosecurity Plan identifies invasive plants and animals that should be prioritised, so that every Ipswich resident can contribute to the outcomes from the Ipswich Natural Environment Strategy. The priority species for each outcome of the Ipswich Natural Environment Strategy are included within this Biosecurity Plan in the Integrated Management Actions section.

Take steps to stop the infestation from increasing in size, abundance or frequency

Taking measures to contain an infestation, reduce its abundance or the frequency of incursion of an invasive species remains the most meaningful starting point for physical control. It is generally considered sound practice to develop a simple plan that outlines the proposed measures and timelines for treatment activities to be undertaken.

These measures represent the containment phase of discharging your GBO. They are measures to prevent the spread of an invasive pest or reduce the density or area of the infestation.

Progressively reduce the size of the infestation or population

To complement the measures already taken to stop the infestation from increasing in size, abundance or frequency; steps should be taken to reduce the size of the infestation, or in the case of transient invasive species (like wild dogs and foxes) reduce the population that is inhabiting or traversing land under your control.

These measures represent the eradication phase of discharging your GBO. The objective is to reduce the size of the infestation to the point where the pest is no longer detected.

Monitor the land under your control for reinfestation

Effective property management, like the GBO, is an on-going concern. The seed from invasive plants may be active in the soil for many years, and territorial invasive animal populations in the landscape will eventually begin extending their range into unoccupied tracts of land. There may also be unique landscape features that provide entry points for reinfestation or for new invasive species to become established.

Undertaking routine monitoring of your property and treating small infestations before they become a larger problem provides the best return on investment.

The ultimate success of invasive plants and animals control programs is measured by the type of plants or animals that replace it.

COUNCIL'S MAIN FUNCTIONS

Council is responsible for species prioritisation and to ensure that invasive species are managed within the local government area. Council drives invasive species management through:

- an overarching strategic direction that provides a vision for our natural areas and natural environment
- by controlling invasive species on council land and through the road network
- by undertaking surveillance and inspections to establish the extent and location of invasive species
- by supporting residents with education and advice in relation to invasive species management
- landholder partnership programs and conservation partnership programs
- regulatory intervention when landholders fail in their general biosecurity obligations.

The main function of each local government is prescribed within s.48 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

Vision for natural areas and natural environment

Ipswich's Natural Environment Policy outlines council's commitment to conserving, protecting, enhancing and restoring the health of the city's natural environment values both on public and private lands for the benefit, use and lifestyle of current and future generations. The Ipswich Biosecurity Plan establishes council's commitment to invasive species management which aids in achieving the objectives of the Natural Environment Policy and Natural Environment Strategy.

Control of invasive species on council's land and the road network

Council takes its obligations on council's land and the road network seriously, and has numerous programs dedicated to responsibly discharging the organisation's general biosecurity obligation, including:

- managing invasive species and improving biodiversity within the natural areas and conservation estates owned or managed by council
- controlling infestations of invasive species on the council controlled road network
- supporting bushcare and catchment groups that aim to restore natural areas within the Ipswich local government area
- engaging with landholders who live adjacent to council owned bushland reserves and conservation estates to educate them on weed dispersal and its impact on these assets.

Surveillance and inspections to establish the extent and location of invasive species

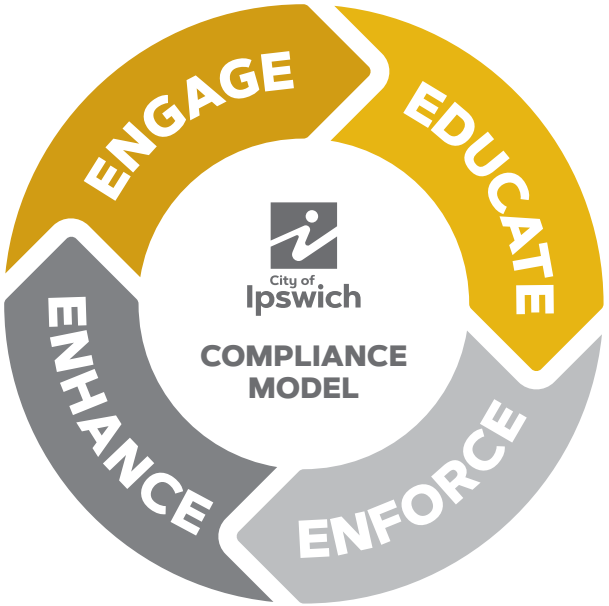
Surveillance and inspections will be undertaken, in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act* and Biosecurity Programs to ensure land managers are aware of their legal duty.

Regulatory intervention to ensure residents and visitors are meeting their General Biosecurity Obligation

Council's authorised persons undertake inspections and exercise powers of entry to check compliance with the *Biosecurity Act*, or to undertake compliance action under a surveillance or prevention and control program.

Authorised persons will undertake compliance action in accordance with council's compliance model.

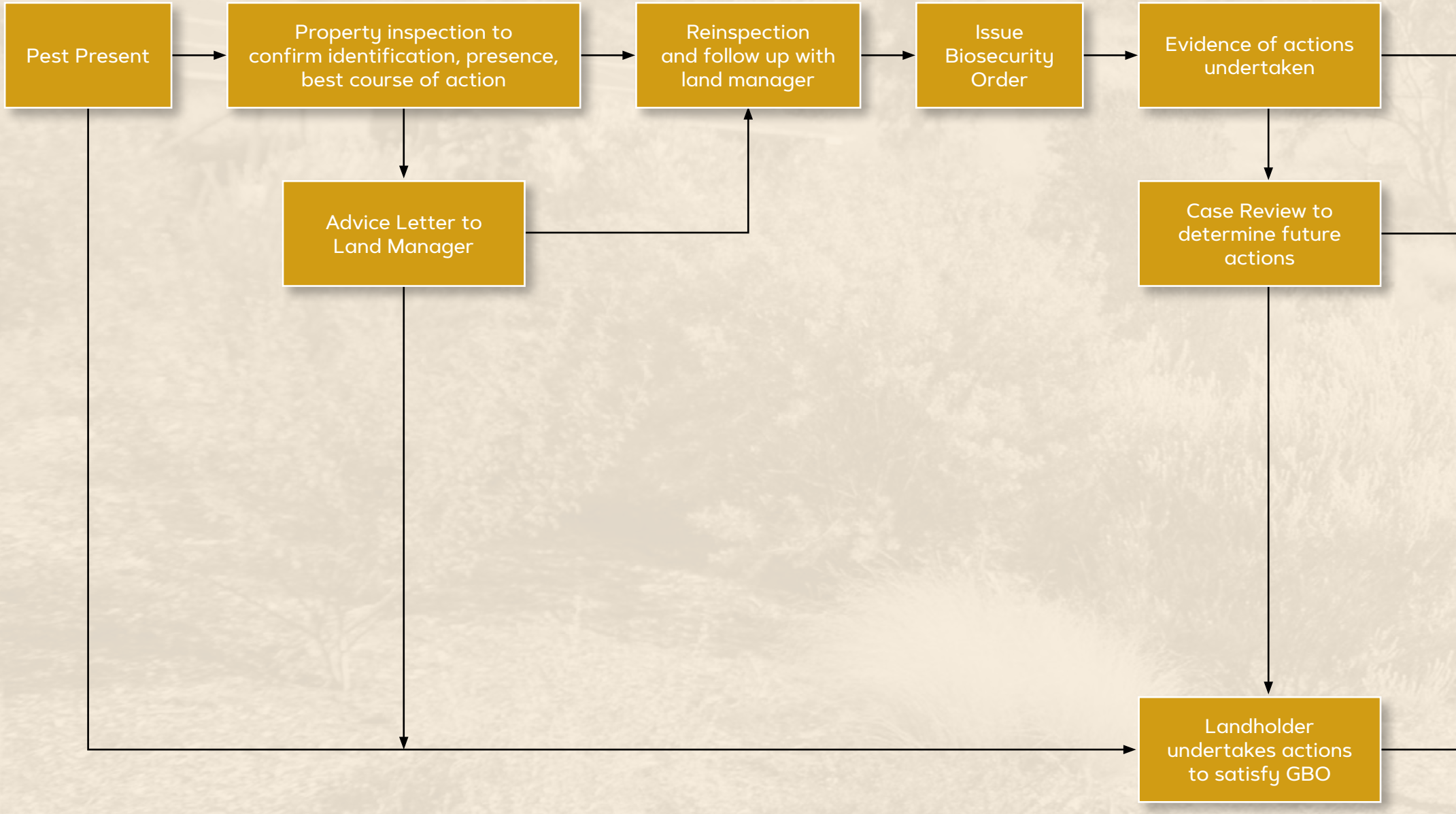
The compliance model is designed to initially increase the community's understanding of their obligations under law, and for council to provide education and support to achieve compliance prior to enforcement action taking place.

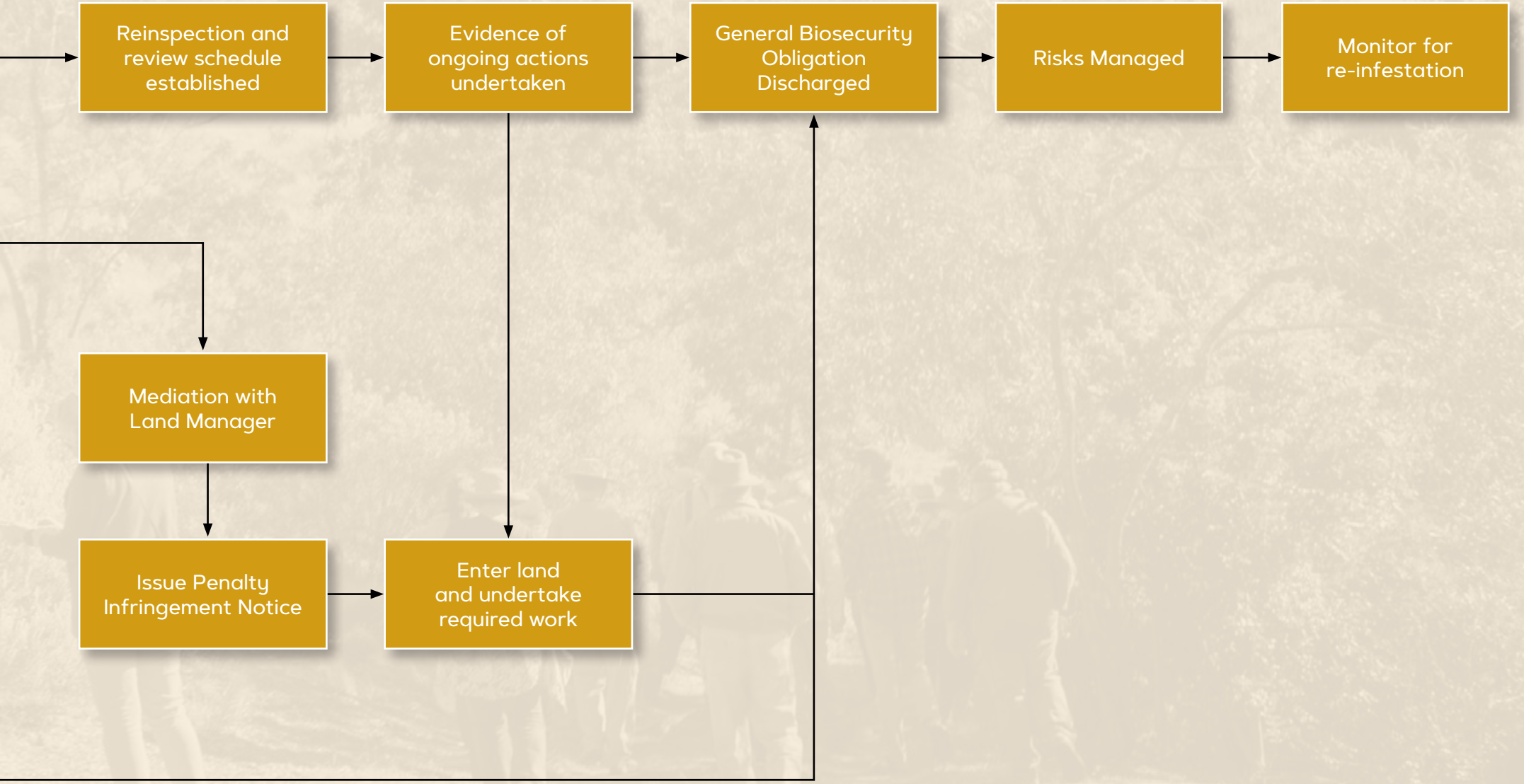


The table below provides a guide as to how the compliance model applies to the GBO.

STATE	RESPONSE
▪ The land manager is unaware of their GBO and of the restricted matter species on land that they deal with. ▪ The land manager is aware of their GBO, although is haphazardly undertaking steps to discharge their obligation.	**Voluntary compliance:** Council can assist with information and planning support so that land managers are aware of the species inhabiting the landscape and what steps need to be taken to discharge their obligation.
▪ The land manager is unaware of their GBO and is not taking any steps to discharge their obligation.	**Assisted compliance:** Raise awareness through education materials and provide technical advice in relation to the specific infestation and how to control the infestation in a way that meets the law.
▪ The land manager is aware of their GBO and is not taking any steps to discharge their obligation.	**Remedial focused enforcement:** Managed by issuing Biosecurity Orders and exercising associated powers to monitor progress and determine levels of compliance. Entry into land to undertake the remedial actions as required (costs passed on to the recipient of the Biosecurity Order).
▪ The land manager is aware of their GBO and their non-compliance is repeated, on-going and/or motivated by profit or material benefit from the non-compliance.	**Enforcement:** Managed through investigation and where offences are detected, and the level of culpability justifies it, infringements and prosecution through the Courts.

COMPLIANCE PROCESS – INVASIVE PLANTS AND ANIMALS




Reinspection and review schedule established
Evidence of ongoing actions undertaken
General Biosecurity Obligation Discharged
Risks Managed
Monitor for re-infestation
Mediation with Land Manager
Issue Penalty Infringement Notice
Enter land and undertake required work

Landholder Conservation Partnership Programs

As part of council's Enviroplan initiative there are a number of partnerships available through the Landholder Conservation Partnership Program. These partnerships encourage and assist Ipswich's landholders to manage, enhance and protect ecosystems in order to conserve flora and fauna on their properties.

Habitat Gardens Partnership

This is an urban partnership designed to help people with smaller blocks to make a positive contribution to Ipswich's environmental outcomes.

Land For Wildlife

Land for Wildlife is an established program supported by many councils that helps private landholders who voluntarily provide and enhance habitat for native wildlife on their properties. It provides recognition for landholders committed to conserving the environment.

Biodiversity Conservation Agreement

The Biodiversity Conservation Agreement is suited for landowners with a commitment to a high level of protection through the Ipswich Planning Scheme zones for intact vegetation.

Corridor Conservation Agreement

The Corridor Conservation Agreement is suited for landowners with a commitment to restoring fragmented landscapes, waterway corridors or small patches of vegetation in strategic locations.

Voluntary Conservation Covenant

The Conservation Covenant is a permanent protection mechanism through the *Land Titles Act* in perpetuity.

Provision of education and advice to land managers

Education and advice are crucial for land managers when controlling invasive plants and animals. Assistance is provided to land managers in the form of workshops and preparation of a property management plan.

This helps land managers identify key threats from invasive species and allows for early detection to employ a more cost-effective and efficient response, preventing the invasive species from spreading and becoming more challenging to manage.

Different invasive species may require different management approaches. Providing education and advice to land managers improves their knowledge and capacity to develop tailored control strategies that suit the specific needs and characteristics of the invasive species on land under their control.

INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

The Biosecurity Plan has been developed to align with the priority objectives of the Natural Environment Strategy. The plan provides a strategic direction for the natural environment across Ipswich and considers waterways and wetlands, biodiversity and threatened species, Aboriginal cultural heritage and cultural landscape values, urban and rural biodiversity, and sustainable nature-based recreation.

The Natural Environment Strategy highlights the vast number of natural environmental values and services which are provided across the Ipswich landscape.

The Natural Environment Strategy and Biosecurity Plan support a coordinated approach between council, the community and private landholders. It is important that all stakeholders work together to manage biosecurity threats and ensure the ecosystem services that the natural environment provides for the Ipswich community, are sustained into the future.

Each priority area provides two measurable objectives and approaches to achieve more resilient landscapes. The Biosecurity Plan, through the Integrated Management Actions, provides a way for land managers to make a positive contribution to each priority area through the control of invasive plants and animals.

Natural Environment Strategy

1. Waterways and wetlands

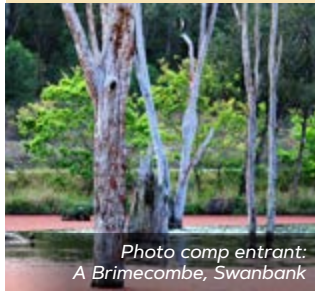


Photo comp entrant: A Brimecombe, Swanbank

2. Biodiversity and threatened species

3. Aboriginal cultural heritage and cultural landscape values

4. Urban biodiversity

Photo comp entrant: S Anderson, In our Backyard

5. Rural biodiversity

Photo comp entrant: S McMahon, Spoonbill Heron

6. Sustainable nature-based recreation

1 | Waterways and wetland health improvement

The Natural Environment Strategy provides two priority objectives to contribute to the waterways and wetland health improvement strategy.

Priority objective 1: Reduce sediment entering our waterways and wetlands

Indicator: *Sediment load reduction (kg/yr) due to council led projects.*

Current state	339,090kg/yr of sediment removed to-date through stormwater offsets projects
Milestone	342,000kg/yr reduction in sediment loads entering waterways and wetlands across Ipswich
Strategy target	345,000kg/yr reduction in sediment loads entering waterways and wetlands across Ipswich

Priority objective 2: Increase extent and condition of vegetation cover around waterways

Indicator: *Riparian extent as measured by the Healthy Land and Water report card. This will be supplemented in the future with council mapping and data of riparian extent and condition as data becomes available.*

Current state	55.2% riparian extent for the Bremer River (HLW Report Card 2021)
Milestone	Improved understanding of ICC riparian extent and condition
Strategy target	>56% riparian extent with improved condition

The achievement of these objectives is threatened by:

- invasive plant species infesting areas resulting in a monoculture that reduces understory, exposes soils and increases erosion
- undesirable groundcover species with shallow roots that suppress the growth of natives, creating unstable creek banks and impacts water quality
- invasive climbing vines that bring down canopy trees, which reduces bank stability and impacts water quality.

INVASIVE PLANTS AND ANIMALS	THINGS EXACERBATING ADVERSE IMPACTS
▪ Annual ragweed *(Ambrosia artemisiifolia)* ▪ Asparagus fern *(Asparagus aethiopicus, A. africanus* and *A. plumosus)* ▪ Asparagus fern *(Asparagus scandens)* ▪ Balloon vine *(Cardiospermum grandiflorum)* ▪ Bridal creeper *(Asparagus asparagoides)* ▪ Bridal veil *(Asparagus declinatus)* ▪ Broad-leaved pepper tree *(Schinus terebinthifolius)* ▪ Castor Oil Plant *(Ricinus communis)** ▪ Cat's claw creeper *(Dolichandra unguis-cati)* ▪ Chinese celtis *(Celtis sinensis)* ▪ European fox *(Vulpes vulpes)* ▪ European rabbit *(Oryctolagus cuniculus)* ▪ Feral pig *(Sus scrofa)* ▪ Glycine *(Neonotonia wightii)** ▪ Giant devil's fig *(Solanum chrysotrichum)** ▪ Leucaena *(Leucaena leucocephala)** ▪ Madeira vine *(Anredera cordifolia)* ▪ Mexican petunia *(Ruellia simplex)* ▪ Salvinia *(Salvinia molesta)* ▪ Singapore daisy *(Sphagneticola trilobata syn. Wedelia trilobata)* ▪ Taro *(Colocasia esculenta)* ▪ Water hyacinth *(Eichhornia crassipes)* ▪ Water lettuce *(Pistia stratiotes).*	▪ Lack of education and awareness ▪ Inaccessible areas that are infested ▪ Insufficient weed hygiene practices ▪ Removal of riparian vegetation ▪ Degradation of riparian corridor ▪ Livestock moving weeds in and out of riparian zone and waterways ▪ Native revegetation not a priority for land managers.

** Not restricted or prohibited matter*

2 | Biodiversity and threatened species recovery

The Natural Environment Strategy provides two priority objectives to contribute to the recovery of a biodiversity and threatened species.

Priority objective 1: Increased protection and restoration of natural habitat areas across Ipswich

Indicator: *Extent of natural habitat area which is protected.*

Current state	10,493ha of natural habitat areas protected
Milestone	Improved understanding of protected area condition through assessments
Strategy target	11,500ha of natural habitat areas protected across Ipswich

Priority objective 2: Increase in ecological corridor land protected and restored across Ipswich

Indicator: *Area of mapped corridors (including riparian, urban habitat and ecological corridor areas) which has had restoration works undertaken.*

Current state	11,018ha of ecological corridors protected
Milestone	Improved understanding of protected area condition through assessments
Strategy target	Restoration of over 400ha of ecological corridor area each year

The achievement of these objectives is threatened by:

- invasive plants and animals that are competing with native species
- land clearing for agricultural production, development, and lifestyle purposes
- natural disasters (flood, fire, extreme heat and frost)
- fragmentation of ecological corridors
- tree aversion within the urban scale
- opportunistic exotic species benefitting from changes to climate.

INVASIVE PLANTS AND ANIMALS

- Asparagus fern *(Asparagus scandens)*
- Asparagus fern *(Asparagus aethiopicus, A. Africanus* and *A.plumosus)*
- Balloon vine *(Cardiospermum grandiflorum)*
- Camphor laurel *(Cinnamomum camphora)*
- Cat *(Felis catus* and *Prionailurus bengalensis x Felis catus)*, other than a domestic cat
- Cat's claw creeper *(Dolichandra unguis-cati)*
- Dog *(Canis lupus familiaris)*, other than a domestic dog
- European fox *(Vulpes vulpes)*
- European rabbit *(Oryctolagus cuniculus)*
- Feral pig *(Sus scrofa)*
- Feral red deer *(Cervus elaphus)*
- Fireweed *(Senecio madagascariensis)*
- Lantana: common lantana *(Lantana camara)*
- Lantana: Creeping lantana *(Lantana montevidensis)*
- Madeira vine *(Anredera cordifolia)*
- Mother of millions *(Bryophyllum delagoense syn. B. tubiflorum, Kalanchoe delagoensis)*
- Prickly pears: Common pest pear, spiny pest pear *(O. Stricta syn. O. Inermis)*
- Rat's tail grasses: American rat's tail grass *(Sporobolus jacquemontii)*
- Rat's tail grasses: Giant rat's tail grass *(S. Pyramidalis* and *S. Natalensis)*
- Singapore daisy *(Sphagneticola trilobata syn. Wedelia trilobata)*
- Yellow bells *(Tecoma stans)*.

THINGS EXACERBATING ADVERSE IMPACTS

- Lack of education and awareness
- Invasion from the upper catchment
- Inappropriate fire regimes
- Ineffective prevention and treatment of Myrtle rust *(Puccinia psidii)*
- Introduction of pest species
- Poor land management practices
- Fragmentation of habitat.

3 | Aboriginal cultural heritage and cultural landscape values recognition

The Natural Environment Strategy provides two priority objectives to recognise Aboriginal cultural heritage and cultural landscape values.

Priority objective 1: Improved recognition of Aboriginal cultural heritage and cultural landscape values across Ipswich's natural areas

Indicator: *Combination of datasets including number of cultural interpretive signage in council natural areas, Aboriginal cultural events and number of cultural heritage assessments and cultural landscape investigations undertaken as part of council projects in natural areas.*

Current state	First cultural landscape investigation and reporting being undertaken for White Rock - Spring Mountain Conservation Estate
Milestone	Interpretive signage developed to communicate cultural heritage and cultural landscape values within council owned and managed land
Strategy target	Cultural landscape investigation and reporting across Ipswich region, in locations of known cultural significance (conservation estates and reserves)

Priority objective 2: Increased use of Aboriginal ecological knowledge in the management of Ipswich's natural environment

Indicator: *Combination of datasets including training for local First Nations businesses and/or persons in Aboriginal ecological knowledge approaches and delivery of land management by Traditional Owners.*

Current state	Funding received to support First Nations businesses fire management capacity building and training and to deliver cultural burning techniques and programs
Milestone	First Nations businesses and/or persons engaged to undertake land management using traditional ecological approaches
Strategy target	Local First Nations businesses and/or persons leading the management of council owned or managed land that contains Aboriginal cultural heritage and/or cultural landscape values

The achievement of these objectives is threatened by:

- changes to the familiarity of the landscape due to invasive plants and animals
- the loss of culturally significant and important species
- a decline in spiritual/cultural connection to the land and wildlife
- a reduction in the effectiveness of ecological management practices due to invasive plants and animals increasing the intensity of fires.

INVASIVE PLANTS AND ANIMALS	THINGS EXACERBATING ADVERSE IMPACTS
▪ African boxthorn *(Lycium ferocissimum)* ▪ Blackberry *(Rubus anglocandicans, Rubus fruticosus aggregate)* ▪ Cat *(Felis catus* and *Prionailurus bengalensis x Felis catus)*, other than a domestic cat ▪ Chilean needle grass *(Nassella neesiana)* ▪ European fox *(Vulpes vulpes)* ▪ European rabbit *(Oryctolagus cuniculus)* ▪ Feral red deer *(Cervus elaphus)* ▪ Feral pig *(Sus scrofa)* ▪ Feral red deer *(Cervus elaphus)* ▪ Kudzu *(Pueraria montana var. lobata syn. P. lobata, P. triloba* other than in the Torres Strait Islands) ▪ Lantana, common lantana *(Lantana camara)* ▪ Parkinsonia *(Parkinsonia aculeata)* ▪ Prickly acacia *(Vachellia nilotica)*.	▪ Lack of understanding around cultural 'cool burn' practices ▪ Misuse of fire regimes to control invasive species ▪ Introduction and establishment of fire-resistant species ▪ Native vegetation protection not prioritised.

4 | Urban biodiversity enhancement

The Natural Environment Strategy provides two priority objectives to enhance urban biodiversity.

Priority objective 1: Increased native canopy in urban areas

Indicator: *% canopy cover in the urban footprint (above 2m) and use of local native species in council urban greening projects within priority urban habitat area nodes and corridors.*

Current state	27% canopy cover in urban footprint
Milestone	Improved understanding of urban canopy biodiversity values
Strategy target	Local native planting used for all urban greening projects in priority urban habitat areas and corridors

Priority objective 2: Increase the extent and condition of protected urban habitat corridors

Indicator: *Area of urban habitat corridors protected and enhanced through restoration works.*

Current state	759ha of urban habitat corridors protected
Milestone	Improved understanding of protected area condition through assessments
Strategy target	Restoration of over 10ha of urban habitat corridor area each year

The achievement of these objectives is threatened by:

- weed incursion and spread through garden escapees
- perception of vegetation causing damage to built assets
- feral and domestic animals attacking/predating on native species
- land clearing in the upper catchment increasing water velocity causing physical impacts to downstream and transportation of weed propagules.

INVASIVE PLANTS AND ANIMALS	THINGS EXACERBATING ADVERSE IMPACTS
▪ Asparagus fern *(Asparagus scandens)* ▪ Asparagus fern *(Asparagus aethiopicus, A. Africanus* and *A.plumosus)* ▪ Balloon vine *(Cardiospermum grandiflorum)* ▪ Cat *(Felis catus* and *Prionailurus bengalensis x Felis catus),* other than a domestic cat ▪ Cat's claw creeper *(Dolichandra unguis-cati)* ▪ Chinese celtis *(Celtis sinensis)* ▪ Cocos palm *(Syagrus romanzoffiana)** ▪ Common myna *(Acridotheres tristis)** ▪ European fox *(Vulpes vulpes)* ▪ Fireweed *(Senecio madagascariensis)* ▪ Mother of millions *(Bryophyllum delagoense syn. B. tubiflorum, Kalanchoe delagoensis)* ▪ Leucaena *(Leucaena leucocephala)** ▪ Privets: — broad-leaf privet, tree privet *(Ligustrum lucidum)* — small-leaf privet, Chinese privet *(L. sinense).* ▪ Red imported fire ant *(Solenopsis invicta)* ▪ Singapore daisy *(Sphagneticola trilobata syn. Wedelia trilobata).*	▪ Lack of education and awareness ▪ Perception that this use is incompatible with conservation ▪ Native vegetation protection and revegetation not prioritised ▪ Landscaping materials that contain mulched restricted matter.

** Not restricted or prohibited matter*

5 | Rural biodiversity enhancement

The Natural Environment Strategy provides two priority objectives to enhance rural biodiversity.

Priority objective 1: Restoration and protection of rural ecological corridors

Indicator: *Area of ecological corridors on rural lands that have had restoration works undertaken.*

Current state	10,082ha of ecological corridors across rural landscapes with high level protection
Milestone	Increase understanding of extent and requirements for rural ecological corridors
Strategy target	Restoration of over 390ha of ecological corridor area each year

Priority objective 2: Restoration and protection of functional floodplains on rural land

Indicator: *Rural floodplain extent and area of this protected and/or restored through re-engagement or revegetation works.*

Current state	135ha of rural floodplain protected
Milestone	Improved understanding of floodplain condition and function
Strategy target	50ha of rural floodplain restored

The achievement of these objectives is threatened by:

- conflicting land management practices and objectives (production vs conservation)
- increases in soil salinity due to irrigation
- historic and ongoing land clearing associated with changes in use
- incursion of invasive plant and animal species across broad ranges and creek systems.

INVASIVE PLANTS AND ANIMALS	THINGS EXACERBATING ADVERSE IMPACTS
▪ African lovegrass *(Eragrostis curvula)* ▪ Annual ragweed *(Ambrosia artemisiifolia)* ▪ Dog *(Canis lupus familiaris)*, other than a domestic dog ▪ European rabbit *(Oryctolagus cuniculus)* ▪ Feral pig *(Sus scrofa)* ▪ Feral red deer *(Cervus elaphus)* ▪ Fireweed *(Senecio madagascariensis)* ▪ Harrisia cactus *(Harrisia martinii, H. Tortuosa* and *H. Pomanensis syn. Cereus pomanensis)* ▪ Honey locust *(Gleditsia triacanthos including cultivars* and varieties) ▪ Lantana: common lantana *(Lantana camara)* ▪ Lantana: Creeping lantana *(Lantana montevidensis)* ▪ Mother of millions *(Bryophyllum delagoense syn. B. Tubiflorum, Kalanchoe delagoensis)* ▪ Mother of millions hybrid *(Bryophyllum x houghtonii)* ▪ Parthenium *(Parthenium hysterophorus)* ▪ Prickly acacia *(Vachellia nilotica)* ▪ Prickly pears: Common pest pear, spiny pest pear *(O. Stricta syn. O. Inermis)* ▪ Rat's tail grasses: American rat's tail grass *(Sporobolus jacquemontii)* ▪ Rat's tail grasses: Giant rat's tail grass *(S. Pyramidalis* and *S. Natalensis)* ▪ Salvinia *(Salvinia molesta)* ▪ Water hyacinth *(Eichhornia crassipes).*	▪ Lack of education and awareness ▪ Degradation of riparian corridor ▪ Livestock moving weeds in and out of riparian zone and waterways ▪ Native revegetation not a priority for land managers ▪ Insufficient weed hygiene practices ▪ Poor management of road reserves adjacent to rural land.

6 Sustainable nature-based recreation

The Natural Environment Strategy provides two priority objectives to ensure sustainable nature-based recreation.

Priority objective 1: Increase in sustainable nature-based recreation opportunities across Ipswich

Indicator: *Combination of trail lengths, trail heads, canoe launch and other nature-based recreational facilities which have been designed to protect the sites natural and cultural values.*

Current state	129km of trails provided
Milestone	Improved understanding of condition, threats and appropriate recreation activities and facilities that protect site values
Strategy target	Recreation infrastructure manages increased nature-based activities and protects the sites natural, cultural heritage and cultural landscape values

Priority objective 2: Increased community participation in nature-based activities

Indicator: *Visitation rates and participation rates in experience nature events.*

Current state	Over 155,000 visitors across White Rock, Mount Flinders, Castle Hill and Hillview natural area estates in 2021
Milestone	Improved understanding of visitation and participation rates in nature-based events and activities
Strategy target	5% increase in participation in nature-based activities across Ipswich

The achievement of these objectives is threatened by:

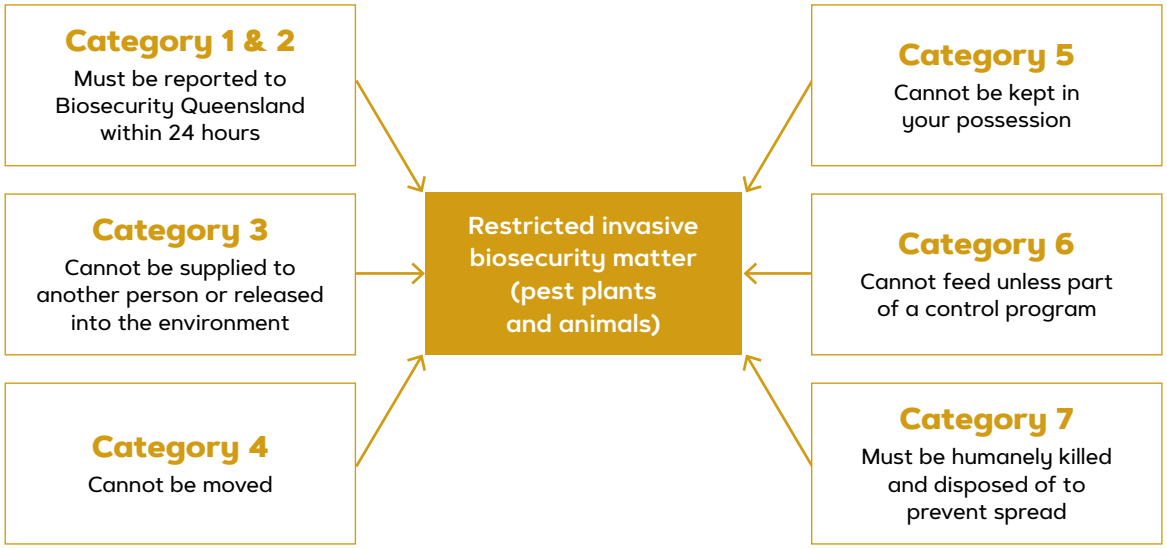
- invasive plants and animals which can reduce access to and enjoyment of nature-based recreation
- increased management costs associated with infested or degraded sites
- increased nature-based conservation will increase the risk of weed incursion for operators
- invasive plants reduce tourism through a loss of amenity across the region.

INVASIVE PLANTS AND ANIMALS	THINGS EXACERBATING ADVERSE IMPACTS
▪ Annual ragweed *(Ambrosia artemisiifolia)* ▪ Cat's claw creeper *(Dolichandra unguis-cati)* ▪ Chinese celtis *(Celtis sinensis)* ▪ Dog *(Canis lupus familiaris)*, other than a domestic dog ▪ Feral pig *(Sus scrofa)* ▪ Groundsel bush *(Baccharis halimifolia)* ▪ Lantana: common lantana *(Lantana camara)* ▪ Lantana: creeping lantana *(Lantana montevidensis)* ▪ Mother of millions *(Bryophyllum delagoense syn. B. Tubiflorum, Kalanchoe delagoensis)* ▪ Mother of millions hybrid *(Bryophyllum x houghtonii)* ▪ Water hyacinth *(Eichhornia crassipes)* ▪ Red imported fire ant *(Solenopsis invicta)* ▪ Salvinia *(Salvinia molesta).*	▪ Lack of education and awareness ▪ Inaccessible areas that are infested ▪ Prioritisation of control in areas that don't directly contribute to the nature-based activity ▪ Inappropriate management of visitor actions in environmentally or culturally significant areas/sites.

GENERAL MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

The General Biosecurity Obligation applies to anyone who deals with invasive plants and animals that meet the definition of restricted and prohibited matter provided by the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. Unless restricted and prohibited matter is held under permit, it must be managed according to the category(s) it has been assigned and in accordance with chapter 2, part 3 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

These categories form the basis of the general management actions of this plan. However, managing according to the category alone will not discharge the general biosecurity obligation. To comply with the *Biosecurity Act*, you must take all reasonable and practical measures reduce the adverse effects.



RESTRICTED MATTER	CATEGORY NUMBERS
INVASIVE PLANTS	
African boxthorn *(Lycium ferocissimum)*	3
African fountain grass *(Cenchrus setaceum)*	3
African tulip tree *(Spathodea campanulata)*	3
Alligator weed *(Alternanthera philoxeroides)*	3
Annual ragweed *(Ambrosia artemisiifolia)*	3
Asparagus fern *(Asparagus aethiopicus, A. africanus and A. plumosus)*	3
Asparagus fern *(Asparagus scandens)*	3
Athel pine *(Tamarix aphylla)*	3
Badhara bush *(Gmelina elliptica)*	3
Balloon vine *(Cardiospermum grandiflorum)*	3

RESTRICTED MATTER	CATEGORY NUMBERS
Belly-ache bush *(Jatropha gossypiifolia and hybrids)*	3
Bitou bush *(Chrysanthemoides monilifera ssp. rotundifolia)*	2, 3, 4, 5
Blackberry *(Rubus anglocandicans, Rubus fruticosus aggregate)*	3
Boneseed *(Chrysanthemoides monilifera ssp. monilifera)*	2, 3, 4, 5
Bridal creeper *(Asparagus asparagoides)*	2, 3, 4, 5
Bridal veil *(Asparagus declinatus)*	3
Broad-leaved pepper tree *(Schinus terebinthifolius)*	3
Cabomba *(Cabomba caroliniana)*	3
Camphor laurel *(Cinnamomum camphora)*	3
Candyleaf *(Stevia ovata)*	3
Cane cactus *(Austrocylindropuntia cylindrica)*	3





RESTRICTED MATTER	CATEGORY NUMBERS
Cat's claw creeper *(Dolichandra unguis-cati)*	3
Chilean needle grass *(Nassella neesiana)*	3
Chinee apple *(Ziziphus mauritiana)*	3
Chinese celtis *(Celtis sinensis)*	3
Cholla cacti with the following names:	
▪ Coral cactus *(Cylindropuntia fulgida)*	3
▪ Devil's rope pear *(C. imbricata)*	3
▪ Hudson pear *(Cylindropuntia rosea* and *C. tunicata)*	2, 3, 4, 5
▪ Jumping cholla *(C. prolifera)*	2, 3, 4, 5
▪ Snake cactus *(C. spinosior)*	3
Dutchman's pipe *(Aristolochia spp.* other than native species)	3
Elephant ear vine *(Argyreia nervosa)*	3
Eve's pin cactus *(Austrocylindropuntia subulata)*	3
Fireweed *(Senecio madagascariensis)*	3
Flax-leaf broom *(Genista linifolia)*	3
Gamba grass *(Andropogon gayanus)*	3
Giant sensitive plant *(Mimosa diplotricha var. diplotricha)*	3
Gorse *(Ulex europaeus)*	3
Groundsel bush *(Baccharis halimifolia)*	3

RESTRICTED MATTER	CATEGORY NUMBERS
Harrisia cactus *(Harrisia martinii, H. tortuosa* and *H. pomanensis syn. Cereus pomanensis)*	3
Harungana *(Harungana madagascariensis)*	3
Honey locust *(Gleditsia triacanthos* including cultivars and varieties)	3
Hygrophila *(Hygrophila costata)*	3
Hymenachne or olive hymenachne *(Hymenachne amplexicaulis* and hybrids)	3
Koster's curse *(Clidemia hirta)*	2, 3, 4, 5
Kudzu *(Pueraria montana var. lobata syn. P. lobata, P. triloba* other than in the Torres Strait Islands)	3
Lantanas:	
▪ Creeping lantana *(Lantana montevidensis)*	3
▪ Lantana, common lantana *(Lantana camara)*	3
Limnocharis, yellow burrhead *(Limnocharis flava)*	2, 3, 4, 5
Madeira vine *(Anredera cordifolia)*	3
Madras thorn *(Pithecellobium dulce)*	2, 3, 4, 5
Mesquites:	
▪ Honey mesquite *(Prosopis glandulosa)*	3
▪ Mesquite or algarroba *(Prosopis pallida)*	3
▪ Quilpie mesquite *(Prosopis velutina)*	3






RESTRICTED MATTER	CATEGORY NUMBERS
Mexican bean tree *(Cecropia pachystachya, C. palmata* and *C. peltata)*	2, 3, 4, 5
Mexican feather grass *(Nassella tenuissima)*	2, 3, 4, 5
Miconia with the following names:	
▪ *Miconia calvescens*	2, 3, 4, 5
▪ *M. cionotricha*	2, 3, 4, 5
▪ *M. nervosa*	2, 3, 4, 5
▪ *M. racemosa*	2, 3, 4, 5
Mikania vine *(Mikania micrantha)*	2, 3, 4, 5
Mimosa pigra *(Mimosa pigra)*	2, 3, 4, 5
Montpellier broom *(Genista monspessulana)*	3
Mother of millions *(Bryophyllum delagoense syn. B. tubiflorum, Kalanchoe delagoensis)*	3
Mother of millions hybrid *(Bryophyllum x houghtonii)*	3
Ornamental gingers:	
▪ Kahili ginger *(Hedychium gardnerianum)*	3
▪ White ginger *(H. coronarium)*	3
▪ Yellow ginger *(H. flavescens)*	3
Parkinsonia *(Parkinsonia aculeata)*	3
Parthenium *(Parthenium hysterophorus)*	3

RESTRICTED MATTER	CATEGORY NUMBERS
Pond apple *(Annona glabra)*	3
Prickly acacia *(Vachellia nilotica)*	3
Prickly pears:	
▪ Bunny ears *(Opuntia microdasys)*	2, 3, 4, 5
▪ Common pest pear, spiny pest pear *(O. stricta syn. O. inermis)*	3
▪ Drooping tree pear *(O. monacantha syn. O. vulgaris)*	3
▪ Prickly pear *(O. elata)*	2, 3, 4, 5
▪ Tiger pear *(O. aurantiaca)*	3
▪ Velvety tree pear *(O. tomentosa)*	3
▪ Westwood pear *(O. streptacantha)*	3
Privets:	
▪ Broad-leaf privet, tree privet *(Ligustrum lucidum)*	3
▪ Small-leaf privet, Chinese privet *(L. sinense)*	3
Rat's tail grasses:	
▪ American rat's tail grass *(Sporobolus jacquemontii)*	3
▪ Giant Parramatta grass *(S. fertilis)*	3
▪ Giant rat's tail grass *(S. pyramidalis and S. natalensis)*	3

RESTRICTED MATTER	CATEGORY NUMBERS
Rubber vines:	
▪ Ornamental rubber vine *(Cryptostegia madagascariensis)*	3
▪ Rubber vine *(C. grandiflora)*	3
Sagittaria *(Sagittaria platyphylla)*	3
Salvinia *(Salvinia molesta)*	3
Scotch broom *(Cytisus scoparius)*	3
Senegal tea *(Gymnocoronis spilanthoides)*	3
Siam weed with the following names:	
▪ *Chromolaena odorata*	3
▪ *C. squalida*	3
Sicklepods:	
▪ Foetid cassia *(Senna tora)*	3
▪ Hairy cassia *(S. hirsuta)*	3
▪ Sicklepod *(S. obtusifolia)*	3
Silver-leaf nightshade *(Solanum elaeagnifolium)*	3
Singapore daisy *(Sphagneticola trilobata syn. Wedelia trilobata)*	3
Telegraph weed *(Heterotheca grandiflora)*	3
Thunbergia *(Thunbergia grandiflora syn. T. laurifolia)*	3
Tobacco weed *(Elephantopus mollis)*	3
Water hyacinth *(Eichhornia crassipes)*	3
Water lettuce *(Pistia stratiotes)*	3
Water mimosa *(Neptunia oleracea and N. Plena)*	2, 3, 4, 5
Willows (all *Salix spp.* other than *S. babylonica, S. x calodendron* and *S. x reichardtii)*	3

RESTRICTED MATTER	CATEGORY NUMBERS
Yellow bells *(Tecoma stans)*	3
Yellow oleander, Captain Cook tree *(Cascabela thevetia syn. Thevetia peruviana)*	3
INVASIVE ANIMALS	
Barbary sheep *(Ammotragus lervia)*	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Blackbuck antelope *(Antilope cervicapra)*	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Cat *(Felis catus* and *Prionailurus bengalensis x Felis catus)*, other than a domestic cat	3, 4, 6
Dingo *(Canis lupus dingo)*	3, 4, 5, 6
Dog *(Canis lupus familiaris)*, other than a domestic dog	3, 4, 6
European fox *(Vulpes vulpes)*	3, 4, 5, 6
European rabbit *(Oryctolagus cuniculus)*	3, 4, 5, 6
Feral chital *(axis)* deer *(Axis axis)*	3, 4, 6
Feral fallow deer *(Dama dama)*	3, 4, 6
Feral goat *(Capra hircus)*	3, 4, 6
Feral pig *(Sus scrofa)*	3, 4, 6
Feral red deer *(Cervus elaphus)*	3, 4, 6
Hog deer *(Axis porcinus)*	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Red-eared slider turtle *(Trachemys scripta elegans)*	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Reral rusa deer *(Rusa timorensis, syn. Cervus timorensis)*	3, 4, 6
Sambar deer *(Rusa unicolor, syn. Cervus unicolor)*	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
TRAMP ANTS	
Yellow crazy ant *(Anoplolepis gracilipes)*	3

PROHIBITED MATTER	REQUIRED ACTION
INVASIVE PLANTS	
Acacias non-indigenous to Australia *(Acaciella spp., Mariosousa spp., Senegalia spp.* and *Vachellia spp.* other than *Vachellia nilotica, Vachellia farnesiana)*	If you become aware of prohibited matter or you believe, or ought to reasonably believe, that something is prohibited matter, you need to: ▪ report it to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 within 24 hours, unless you are aware that it has already been reported ▪ take all reasonable steps to minimise the risks of the prohibited matter and not make the situation worse.
Anchored water hyacinth *(Eichhornia azurea)*	
Annual thunbergia *(Thunbergia annua)*	
Bitterweed *(Helenium amarum)*	
Candleberry myrtle *(Morella faya)*	
Cholla cactus *(Cylindropuntia spp.* and hybrids other than *C. fulgida, C. imbricata, C. prolifera, C. rosea, C. spinosior* and *C. tunicata)*	
Christ's thorn *(Ziziphus spina-christi)*	
Eurasian water milfoil *(Myriophyllum spicatum)*	
Fanworts *(Cabomba spp.* other than *C. caroliniana)*	
Floating water chestnuts *(Trapa spp.)*	
Harrisia cactus *(Harrisia spp. syn. Eriocereus spp.* other than *H. martinii, H. tortuosa* and *H. pomanensis syn. Cereus pomanensis)*	
Honey locust *(Gleditsia spp.* other than *G. triacanthos)*	
Horsetails *(Equisetum spp.)*	
Kochia *(Bassia scoparia syn. Kochia scoparia)*	
Lagarosiphon *(Lagarosiphon major)*	
Mesquites (all *Prosopis spp.* and hybrids other than *P. glandulosa, P. pallida* and *P. velutina)*	
Mexican bean tree (all *Cecropia spp.* other than *C. pachystachya, C. palmata* and *C. peltata)*	
Miconia *(Miconia spp.* other than *M. calvescens, M. cionotricha, M. nervosa* and *M. racemosa)*	
Mikania *(Mikania spp.* other than *M. micrantha)*	

PROHIBITED MATTER	REQUIRED ACTION
Peruvian primrose bush *(Ludwigia peruviana)*	
Prickly pear *(Opuntia spp.* other than *O. aurantiaca, O. elata, O. ficus-indica, O. microdasys, O. monacantha, O. stricta, O. streptacantha* and *O. tomentosa)*	
Red sesbania *(Sesbania punicea)*	
Salvinias *(Salvinia spp.* other than *S. molesta)*	
Serrated tussock *(Nassella trichotoma)*	
Siam weed *(Chromolaena spp.* other than *C. odorata* and *C. squalida)*	
Spiked pepper *(Piper aduncum)*	
Tropical soda apple *(Solanum viarum)*	
Water soldiers *(Stratiotes aloides)*	
Witch weeds *(Striga spp.* other than native species)	

PROHIBITED MATTER	REQUIRED ACTION
INVASIVE ANIMALS	
All amphibians, mammals and reptiles other than the following:	If you become aware of prohibited matter or you believe, or ought to reasonably believe, that something is prohibited matter, you need to: ▪ report it to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 within 24 hours, unless you are aware that it has already been reported ▪ take all reasonable steps to minimise the risks of the prohibited matter and not make the situation worse.
Amphibians, mammals and reptiles that are restricted matter	
Amphibians, mammals and reptiles indigenous to Australia, including marine mammals of the orders Cetacea, Pinnipedia and Sirenia	
▪ Alpaca *(Lama pacos)*	
▪ Asian house gecko *(Hemidactylus frenatus)*	
▪ Axolotl *(Ambystoma mexicanum)*	
▪ Bison or American buffalo *(Bison bison)*	
▪ Black rat *(Rattus rattus)*	
▪ Camel *(Camelus dromedarius)*	
▪ Cane toad *(Rhinella marina syn. Bufo marinus)*	
▪ Cat *(Felis catus* and *Prionailurus bengalensis x Felis catus)*	
▪ Cattle *(Bos spp.)*	
▪ Chital *(axis)* deer *(Axis axis)*	
▪ Dog *(Canis lupus familiaris)*	
▪ Donkey *(Equus asinus)*	
▪ European hare *(Lepus europaeus)*	
▪ Fallow deer *(Dama dama)*	
▪ Goat *(Capra hircus)*	
▪ Guanicoe *(Lama guanicoe)*	
▪ Guinea pig *(Cavia porcellus)*	
▪ Horse *(Equus caballus)*	
▪ House mouse *(Mus musculus)*	

PROHIBITED MATTER	REQUIRED ACTION
▪ Llama *(Lama glama)*	
▪ Mule *(Equus caballus x Equus asinus)*	
▪ Pig *(Sus scrofa)*	
▪ Red deer *(Cervus elaphus)*	
▪ Rusa deer *(Rusa timorensis syn. Cervus timorensis)*	
▪ Sewer rat *(Rattus norvegicus)*	
▪ Sheep *(Ovis aries)*	
▪ Water buffalo *(Bubalus bubalis)*	

BIOSECURITY PROGRAMS

In accordance with the Act, the Chief Executive will grant approval for surveillance, prevention, and control programs aimed at ensuring compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. These biosecurity programs will assess the measures taken by the public, including landowners, managers, and state agencies, in order to mitigate biosecurity risks posed by pest plants and animals.

The authorisation for the program will include the following details:

- the specific biosecurity matter addressed by the program
- the purpose behind implementing the program
- the program's commencement date
- the duration for which the program will be executed
- clearly defined criteria for selecting and inspecting locations
- a description of the geographical area where the selected places are situated
- the powers that an authorised officer may exercise during the program
- the obligations that may be imposed on occupiers of the affected places.

Council will publish the authorisation of the biosecurity program on its website, limiting its validity to a reasonable period necessary to achieve the program's objectives.

Surveillance program

Council will undertake a surveillance program for the following purposes:

- monitoring the community's level of compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2014* in relation to restricted matter (invasive plants and animals)
- confirming the presence, or finding out the extent of the presence, or absence of restricted matter within the local government area
- monitoring the effectiveness of measures taken in response to a biosecurity risk.

Prevention and control program

Council will undertake a prevention and control program for the following purposes:

- preventing the entry, establishment or spread of biosecurity matter in the local government area
- managing, reducing and eradicating any biosecurity matter in the local government area that could pose a significant biosecurity risk.

City of Ipswich

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