

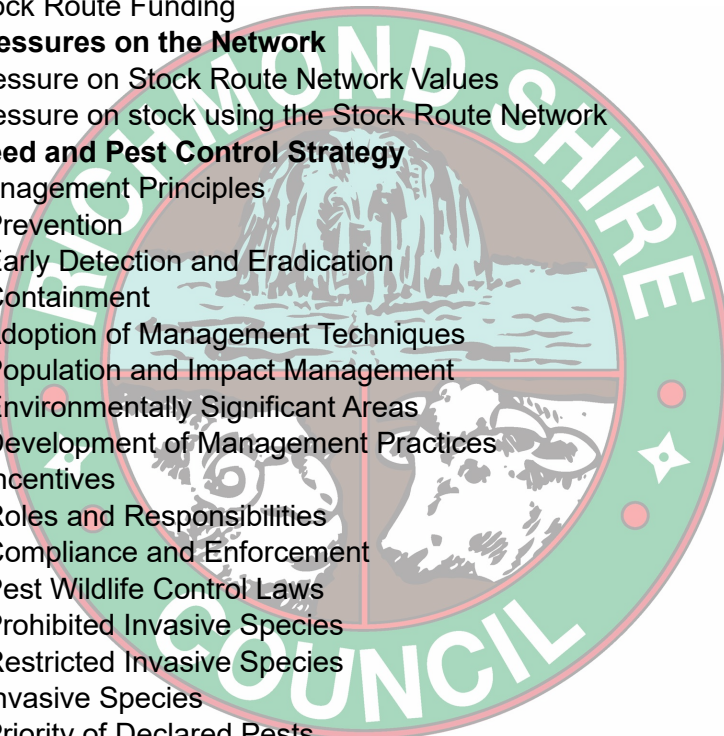
# **RICHMOND SHIRE COUNCIL STOCK ROUTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**



**2024-2029**

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## **1. Introduction**

This plan has been developed to assist in managing the Richmond Shire Council Stock Route Network. The Stock Route Network (SRN) is a contemporary term for the network of stock routes and reserves for travelling stock set aside for the primary purpose of facilitating the movement of stock on hoof throughout Queensland's pastoral districts.

The SRN also supports a range of other activities ranging from use by community groups, other non-pastoral industries, construction of public utilities, recreation, and tourism, and provides emergency fodder in times of drought. The SRN also has significant cultural heritage and environmental values.

The Richmond Shire Stock Route Network consists of approximately 1100 kilometres of stock routes.

### **1.1 Purpose of the Plan**

The purpose of this plan is to provide a useable framework to assist in improving the management of the SRN so that the impacts of stock on the resources, users and values of the SRN are minimised, whilst minimising the impacts from other users of the network on travelling stock. SRN management does not encompass the overall management of the road corridors where the stock routes are located. It is simply the management of impacts from stock and impacts to stock.

Clear and achievable targets and goals have been set out in the plan for sustainable management and use of the SRN within the Richmond Shire.

Implementation of the plan will lead to improvements in services to stakeholders, greater accountability of the Council and more efficient use of available resources. Ultimately, this plan will play a vital role in protecting the production and conservation values of the Richmond Shire Stock Route Network.

The plan will operate as a practical extension of the visionary Statements and goals set out in the Queensland SRN Management Strategy and the Principles for SRN Management, provided for in the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002. The plan will operate in conjunction with the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 and within the parameters of other legislation and policy.

For each component there is a management goal; the indicators and targets for achieving the goals; Council policies for on-going management; the issues for management, and the strategies and actions to address the issues.

### **1.2 Glossary of Terms**

A stock route is defined under the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 as a 'road or route ordinarily used for travelling stock or declared under a regulation as a stock route'.

A reserve for travelling stock is also defined in the Act and these reserves are set aside under the Land Act 1994 for a community purpose that allows for usage for travelling stock.

Council can issue agistment and travel permits over 'relevant land' which is defined in the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 as a stock route, a reserve for travelling stock or a road under local government control.

### 1.3 Scope

The plan deals with the management of the network within the Richmond Shire Council Local Government area and identifies how Council will engage with the community and neighbouring councils in the management of the network.

### 1.4 Objectives

The overriding direction for the objectives of the plan are provided by the principles of stock route network management, as detailed in Section 97 of the Act. These principles are:

- **Public Awareness** – Public awareness and knowledge of the network’s multiple users, environmental values and cultural values must be raised to increase the capacity and willingness of individuals to protect the network;
- **Commitment** – Effective management of the stock route network requires a long-term commitment by the community to management of the network;
- **Consultation and Partnership** – Consultation and partnership arrangements between local communities, industry groups, State Government agencies and Local Governments must be established to achieve a collaborative approach to stock route network management;
- **Management** – The stock route network must be managed – to ensure it remains available for public use; and to maintain and improve the network’s natural resources and travelling stock facilities for the use by travelling stock and for other purposes;
- **Payment for Use** – A person who benefits from using the network must pay a reasonable amount for its use;
- **Planning** – Stock route network management must be consistent at local, regional, and state levels to ensure resources for managing the are used to target management priorities; and
- **Monitoring and Evaluation** – Regular monitoring and evaluation of the network’s natural resources and travelling stock facilities is necessary to improve the stock route management practices.

The principles provide a foundation for the objectives of the plan, which reflect the context of the network in the Richmond Shire Council local government area. The objectives of the plan are to:

- Maintain the network integrity of the stock route network so that travelling stock have unobstructed travel.
- Maintain the pasture on the stock route network so that sustainable grazing of stock within the network is readily available
- Maintain the infrastructure on the stock route so that it is fit-for-purpose for travelling stock.

### 1.5 Classification of Stock Routes

This plan covers a stock route network of 1100.28km of stock routes. These routes are classified as primary, secondary, minor, or inactive routes based on the level of use of the route by travelling stock and have been declared under the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) 2002. The classifications have been derived from statistics obtained from the issue of Stock Route Permits between 1988 and 1997 (Table 2).

Richmond Shire Council has separate classifications for developing operational priorities. The classifications have been determined through frequency of usage and infrastructure on the routes. They are classified as Major, Minor and Unused (see attachment for individual route classifications for the SRN)

### Classification of Stock Route as set under the Act

Classification	Cattle Equivalents Over 5 Year Period
Primary	> 9000 Cattle
Secondary	3000-9000 Cattle
Minor	< 3000 Cattle
Inactive	Local and unrecorded movements

### Total Distance of Routes Route distances within in the Richmond Shire

Total	1108.28km
Primary	0km
Secondary	205.42km
Minor	743.35km
Inactive	159.51km

#### 1.6 Plan Development

This plan has been developed in consideration with the Act, the Regulation, and the current *Queensland Stock Route Network Management Strategy* (the Strategy) and will operate in conjunction with Council's Corporate and Operational Plans, other relevant State and regional plans and natural resource management legislation.

The plan operates as a practical extension to the visionary statements and goals set out in the objectives (see Section 1.4) provided for in the Act.

#### 1.7 Roles and Responsibilities

Under the Act, local governments are responsible for managing the part of the network in its area in accordance with the principles of stock route network management and to control the movement of travelling stock on the part of the stock route network in its area. Specifically, these responsibilities include:

- managing the level of grazing occurring on the network to ensure there is sufficient feed for travelling stock;
- maintaining assets such as water facilities;
- issuing permits for travelling stock;
- issuing permits for short-term agistment and harvesting surplus feed;
- ensuring the network is managed for weeds and fire risk;
- ensuring compliance with permit conditions and responding to complaints of breaches; and
- undertaking capital works to replace assets on the network.

### 1.8 Stakeholder Responsibilities

Key stakeholder responsibilities for implementing this Plan are outlined below: This plan is in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between Biosecurity Queensland, Local Government Association of Queensland, and the Regional Groups Collective as a guide to pest management roles and responsibilities in the local area.

Stakeholders	Key roles and responsibilities			
	Category 2 Pests	Category 3 Pests	Category 4,5,6 Pests	Further actions
<b>Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Queensland (DAF)</b>	Early detection, destruction of infestations, compliance, statewide planning, mapping, coordination, awareness raising and research	Administer, monitor, record and enforce proper use of 1080	Compliance, statewide planning, awareness raising and research	Research control techniques Support local government planning, extension and education services. National border protection and surveillance, funding support for programs dealing with WoNS.
<b>Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNRME)</b>	Exclude high priority species	Early detection, eradication of isolated, strategic infestations/populations	Early detection, eradication of isolated, strategic infestations/populations	Ensure the conservation of biodiversity, monitor and regulate environmental impact of weed and pest animal management. Promote pest control through Delbessie leasehold land agreements.
<b>Department of Transport and Main Roads</b>	Early detection, destruction of infestations	Destruction and control of infestations	Weed control in environmentally significant areas	Best practice environmental management to prevent spread of weeds.
<b>Department of Health (QH)</b>				Lead role in maintain public health and safety in issues associated with poisons.

<b>Southern Gulf Natural Resource Management (SGNRM)</b>	Assist with the development and implementation of eradication programs	Contribute to regional containment and/or management programs in partnership with relevant stakeholders	Support funding proposals for control programs	Map infestations and information/licensing.
<b>Landholders (LH) (including state landholding agencies)</b>	Early detection, destruction of infestations	Destruction and control of infestations	Weed control in environmentally significant areas	Map infestations and inform BSC, BQ & NGRMG.
<b>Ergon Energy</b>	Early detection, destruction of infestations	Destruction and control of infestations	Weed control in environmentally significant areas	Best practice environmental management to prevent spread of weeds.
<b>QLD Rail</b>	Early detection, destruction of infestations	Destruction and control of infestations	Weed control in environmentally significant areas	Best practice environmental management to prevent spread of weeds.

### 1.9 Integration with Related Planning

Managing pests requires planning and co-ordination at national, state, regional, local, and on-farm levels. Consideration of all these levels of biosecurity planning has been taken in the development of the Richmond Shire Council's Biosecurity Plan.

This plan has been designed to be compatible with:

- The Australian Weed Strategy; Australian Pest Animal Strategy;
- Queensland Weed and Pest Animal Strategy;
- Regional weed and pest animal management and Biosecurity plans;
- Local Government Biosecurity Plans;
- On-Farm Biosecurity Plan

## **2. Stock Route Network**

### **2.1 Overview of Network**

In the Richmond Shire local government area, there is approximately 1100km of stock route, comprising of the following categories; Primary, Secondary, Minor, and Inactive,

Stock Routes are defined in the Act as a 'road or route ordinarily used for travelling stock or declared under a regulation as such'.

The use of the stock route network in the Richmond Shire local government area has varied seasonally. The stock route is available for use by private stock owners or landowners for travel and agistment purposes, however this requires a permit provided by the local government. There are two possible permits to obtain for use of the stock route network these include travel permits and agistment permits, travel permits are required for private use of the stock route network to move stock on foot throughout the network. Agistment permits are required to graze stock temporarily on the network, the main purpose of the permit is to provide short-term relief while longer term strategies are put in place.

In addition to the use of the stock route network for travelling and agistment purposes, the stock route network in the Richmond Shire local government area has a range of additional uses, including:

- Moving stock
- Emergency agistment
- Long term grazing
- Recreation

### **2.2 Stock Route Network Values**

As required by the Act and the Strategy, Council is required to preserve the multi-use values of the network. Within the Richmond Shire Council local government area, the network provides the following values:

- Pastoral
- Cultural heritage
- Environmental/biodiversity
- Grazing and natural resource
- Transport and movement

Regard for these values have been considered in the development of the management activities – Effectiveness of management activities at the protection of the network's values will be considered at the annual review periods, and if necessary, amended to ensure that the network's values are protected.



### 2.3 Inventory of Facilities

The list of facilities that support the network and its operation are identified in the table below, along with its remaining life expectancy and maintenance plan. Facilities are required to be maintained by Council so that the network's primary purpose of stock travel can be achieved. Not all water facilities are listed below as the use of water facilities varies seasonally and situationally.

Asset	Usage	Asset Condition	Lifespan	Annual maintenance and management activities	Funding responsibility
<b>Seasonal Waterhole</b>					
Tweedsmur	Available for use through council permits or landholder agreement.	Slight deterioration, usable condition.	10 – 15 Years, impacted by many variables.	Pest control when suitable, alternate supply of water for dry seasons.	Landholder with support from RSC when in use for stock route.
Mimong	Available for use through council permits or landholder agreement.	Slight deterioration, usable condition.	10 – 15 Years, impacted by many variables.	Pest control when suitable, alternate supply of water for dry seasons.	Landholder with support from RSC when in use for stock route.
<b>Trough</b>					
Essex	Available for use through council permits or landholder agreement.	Well maintained, usable condition.	20 – 30 Years	Weekly check of water supply, fortnightly trough clean.	Landholder with support from RSC when in use for stock route.
Burleigh	Available for use through council permits or landholder agreement.	Well maintained, usable condition.	20 – 30 Years	Weekly check of water supply, fortnightly trough clean.	Landholder with support from RSC when in use for stock route.
<b>Dam</b>					
Nonda Downs	Available for use through council permits or landholder agreement.	Well maintained, usable condition.	15 – 20 Years	Pest control when suitable, intermittent checks of catchment and water quality.	Landholder with support from RSC when in use for stock route.
Coleraine	Available for use through council permits or landholder agreement.	Slight deterioration, usable condition.	15 – 20 Years	Pest control when suitable, intermittent checks of catchment and water quality.	Landholder with support from RSC when in use for stock route.

## **2.4 Stock Route Funding**

Each year, Richmond Shire Council may apply to the Department of Resources for funding to undertake capital maintenance activities on the network. Funding is provided through a competitive process, with local governments 'bidding' for maintenance activities.

These funding programs fall under two categories as listed below:

- Major capital works grants program.
- Minor capital works grants program.

Major capital works grants program can supply funding from \$50,000 up to a maximum of \$250,000 to deliver major capital projects such as building refurbishments, upgrades or improving access to areas.

Minor capital works grants program can supply funding from \$1000 up to a maximum of \$50,000 to undertake minor works such as repairing or maintaining assets or facilities and for the purchase of equipment.

Richmond Shire Council actively seeks the attainment of these fund grants when available to supply proper maintenance and improvement to the shire's stock route network.

## **3. Pressures on the Network**

Affecting the operation of the network, several pressures exist that must be managed. These include pressures on the values of the network as well as pressures on the network itself.

### **3.1 Pressure on Stock Route Network Values**

Identified pressures on the values of the SRN include:

- Fodder - Competition for pasture between landholders and drovers. Drovers seeking to feed stock as opposed to droving to relocate stock,
- Water - Funding arrangements of water infrastructure and maintenance between Local and State government,
- Permits to Occupy (PTO) - Weed eradication, security of tenure, competition for pasture, maintain boundary fences, no agistment allowed on PTO, PTO are not transferable on the SRN,
- Drought Fodder - Grazing between droughts, who and how access is administered (terms of lease),
- Biodiversity - Grazing pressure, weed invasion and feral animals,
- Cultural Heritage - Lack of knowledge of sites and protection measures needed, and
- Historical Sites - Bottle collectors etc., protection of these sites from travelling stock.

### **3.2 Pressure on Stock Using the Stock Route Network**

Identified pressures on the usage of the SRN include:

- Waters may not be adequate for large mobs in hotter parts of the year, where water is not adequate the drover must supply their own,
- Weed infestations on Stock Route,
- Main road crossings, competition for pasture and water from landholders,
- Feral animals, and
- Numbers of stock in the mobs.

#### 4. Queensland Weed and Pest Animal Strategy

The Queensland Weed and Pest Animal Strategy provides a statewide planning framework to address the impacts of Queensland's current and potential biosecurity issues. The strategy is focused on eight best practice principles for managing weeds and pest animals as shown below. The principles provide a basis for management throughout Queensland and support those in the draft Australian strategies. Attention to all these principles will be critical to the success of Richmond Shire Council's Biosecurity Plan.

##### 4.1 Management Principles for Weeds and Pest Animals

The Queensland Weed and Pest Animal strategy approves the use of six outcomes and objectives as shown below. It also provides several actions for achieving each objective that may be used in preparing a biosecurity plan.

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

##### 4.1.1 Prevention

<b>Strategic Objective:</b> To prevent the introduction of new weeds and pest animals			
<b>Success Criteria:</b> The extent to which the introduction of new pests is prevented.			
<b>Strategic actions:</b>	<b>Success indicators:</b>	<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>When:</b>
Work on preventing weeds and pest animals entering the local area	Number of evaluation strategies implemented.	Relevant Stakeholders	As required
Maintain & promote wash-down facilities in strategic locations.	Number of wash down facilities available and promoted	RSC	Ongoing
Prevent the introduction of weeds along transport corridors, for example, by ensuring that road construction contracts include weed prevention conditions.	Transport corridors with weed seed prevention programs such as; "Come Clean, Go Clean" and weed hygiene declarations.	SRLO, DOW, Department of Main Roads	As required

Adopt weed prevention protocols and support their adoption by other local stakeholders.	Percentage of key stakeholder groups using weed prevention protocols.	SRLO, CEO, SGC, DAF	Ongoing
Promote use of weed hygiene declarations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stock entering stock routes.</li> <li>- Movement of livestock transporters, harvesters, and construction equipment</li> </ul>	Percentage of key stakeholder groups using Weed Hygiene Declarations.	SRLO, DAF, RSC, Industry, Landholders	Ongoing
Provide and promote priority pest species for prevention of entry to the local government area by using published information such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Distribution maps from pest species guidelines</li> <li>- Local pest priorities</li> <li>- Adjoining local government pest priorities</li> <li>- Potential pest species distribution maps</li> <li>- Annual pest assessment maps</li> </ul>	Number of pest species targeted for prevention of entry.	SRLO, DAF, SGC	As required

#### 4.1.2 Early Detection and Eradication

<b>Strategic Objective:</b>			
To prevent the local establishment of new pests			
<b>Success Criteria:</b>			
The extent to which the local establishment of new pests is prevented.			
<b>Strategic actions:</b>	<b>Success indicators:</b>	<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>When:</b>
Prioritise pests for early detection and eradication.	Number of high priority pest species targeted for eradication.	SRLO, DAF, SGC	As required

Implement & promote pest monitoring or survey programs (e.g. An annual survey of roadsides or other critical areas).	Percentage of the local government area covered by such programs.	SRLO, DAF, SGC, Dept of Main Roads, QLD Rail	As required
Develop a rapid response program together with the state government for handling new infestations pests.	Percentage of pest rapid response programs featuring stakeholders' cooperation, and number of key stakeholder groups with roles in these programs.	SRLO, DAF, SGC, Landholders	Ongoing
Develop a rapid response program for handling new infestations of pests not common in the local area.	Percentage of new pest incursions targeted by rapid response programs.	SRLO, DAF, SGC, Landholders	Ongoing
Use of emergency quarantine for infestations of pests when necessary.	Number of quarantine notices issued.	SRLO, DAF, SGC	Ongoing
Establish a monitoring and identification network for weeds and plague pest animals (e.g. Locusts, mice, field rats).	Number of reports of plague pests.	SRLO, DAF, SGC, Landholders, RSC	Ongoing

#### 4.1.3 Containment

##### **Strategic Objective:**

To minimise the spread of weeds and pest animals to new areas.

##### **Success Criteria:**

The extent to which established pests are prevented from spreading.

<b>Strategic actions:</b>	<b>Success indicators:</b>	<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>When:</b>
Target priority pests for containment.	Number of pests targeted for containment	SRLO, DAF, SGC, Landholders	As required
Promote use of washdown facility.	Number of stakeholders using washdown facility.		

#### 4.1.4 Adoption of Management Techniques

<b>Strategic Objective:</b> To adopt and promote best practice in weed and pest animal management.			
<b>Success Criteria:</b> The extent to which practice is adopted.			
<b>Strategic actions:</b>	<b>Success indicators:</b>	<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>When:</b>
Prevent access to refuse sites by pest animals (e.g. Feral pigs)	Number of refuse sites made inaccessible to pest animals.	SRLO, CEO, RSC Landholders	Ongoing
Contribute to developing potential productive uses of pests (e.g. Biomass fuel).	Number of pest species considered for productive uses.	RSC	Ongoing
Distribute best practice publications to relevant stakeholders, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At information outlets (Such as VIC and Shire Office).</li> <li>- As part of pest survey programs</li> <li>- At Richmond Field Days</li> </ul>	Number of outlets for best practice publications	SRLO, DAF, SGC	As required
Adopt timely and effective integrate best practice management for priority pest species that considers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Timing</li> <li>- Integrated techniques</li> <li>- Rehabilitation</li> <li>- Non-target damage</li> <li>- Costs</li> <li>- Prevention</li> <li>- Animal welfare</li> <li>- Workplace health &amp; safety</li> <li>- Monitoring</li> <li>- New research</li> <li>- Operation procedures</li> <li>- Chemical registration requirements</li> </ul>	Percentage of priority pest operations based on best practice.	SRLO, DAF, SGC, Landholders	Ongoing

#### 4.1.5 Population and Impact Management

<b>Strategic Objective:</b> To reduce pest population & impacts			
<b>Success Criteria:</b> The extent to which the populations and impacts of established pests are reduced.			
<b>Strategic actions:</b>	<b>Success indicators:</b>	<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>When:</b>
Distribute biological control agents	Number of different biological control agents distributed.	SRLO, DAF	As required
Maintain problem reduction programs, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Registering and microchipping cats and dogs and</li> <li>- Baiting program</li> <li>- Chemical control programs</li> <li>- Removing waste</li> </ul>	Number of complaints received about problem animals.	RSC	Ongoing
Coordinate plague pest animal management with stakeholders.	Number of complaints received about plague pests	SRLO, DAF, SGC	As required
Coordinate impact reduction programs for established pest animals, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Baiting</li> </ul>	Number of such programs coordinated for established pests, and number of participating land managers.	SRLO	Ongoing

#### 4.1.6 Environmentally Significant Areas

<b>Strategic Objective:</b> To protect environmentally significant areas from weeds.			
<b>Success Criteria:</b> The degree of protection afforded to environmentally significant areas by weed management programs.			
<b>Strategic actions:</b>	<b>Success indicators:</b>	<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>When:</b>
Identify & prioritise environmentally significant areas of weed management.	Number of such areas identified and prioritised for weed management.	SRLO, DAF, SGC, DERM, Landholders	As required

Involve local communities in site-based management of priority weeds in environmentally significant areas.	Number of priority weed management programs implemented for environmentally significant areas.	SRLO, DAF, SGC, DERM, Landholders	Ongoing
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#### 4.1.7 Development of Management Practices

<b>Strategic Objective:</b> To investigate new and improve existing, weed and pest animal management practices.			
<b>Success Criteria:</b> The extent to which local pest management practices are developed and improved.			
<b>Strategic actions:</b>	<b>Success indicators:</b>	<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>When:</b>
Identify inadequacies in existing pest management and adopt practices as required.	Number of improvements recommended.	SRLO, Landholders	Ongoing
Identify areas for future research.	Number of research needs identified.	SRLO, DAF, SGC, Landholders	Ongoing

#### 4.1.8 Incentives

<b>Strategic Objective:</b> To offer incentives to Stakeholders for practicing pest management.			
<b>Success Criteria:</b> The extent to which incentives enhance pest management.			
<b>Strategic actions</b>	<b>Success Indicators</b>	<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>When:</b>
Continue to offer effective existing incentives. Such as cooperative management of declared pests, joint weed projects & aerial baiting.	Number of land managers using existing incentive program.	SRLO, DAF, SGC, Landholders	As required
Assess the effectiveness of existing and potential incentives (and disincentives) for pest management, for example, barter programs and free herbicides.	Number of stakeholders taking up incentive programs.	SRLO, DAF, SGC, Landholders	As appropriate
Revise, or introduce suitable new weed and pest animal incentives.	Introduction of new pest incentives.	SRLO, DAF, SGC	As appropriate



#### 4.1.9 Roles and Responsibilities

<b>Strategic Objectives:</b> Establish roles and responsibilities for weed and pest animal management that are accepted by landholders, community, industry and government.			
<b>Success Criteria:</b> Establish roles and responsibilities for pest management which are accepted by all stakeholders.			
<b>Strategic actions:</b>	<b>Success Criteria:</b>	<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>When:</b>
Establish, through consultation, agreed roles and responsibilities for all stakeholders in the implementation of the program.	Number of stakeholders participating in consultation process.	Stakeholders	Ongoing
Develop actions for all stakeholders in consultation with them and include in annual action plan.	Number of stakeholder actions agreed upon. Number of actions being carried out by nominated stakeholders annually.	Stakeholders	Annually
Promote implementation of the MOU between the relevant Stakeholders.	MOU implemented.	Stakeholders	Ongoing

#### 4.1.10 Compliance and Enforcement

<b>Strategic Objective:</b> Ensure compliance with the Act in weed and pest animal management.			
<b>Success Criteria:</b> Percentage of landholders participating in weed and pest animal management in the shire.			
<b>Strategic actions:</b>	<b>Success indicators:</b>	<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>When:</b>
Enforce compliance when landholders do not take reasonable steps to control pests.	Number of landholders participating in pest management programs in the shire annually.	RSC, DERM	Ongoing
Adopt / refine / implement operation procedures developed by DAF (e.g. seizures, quarantine, confiscation and destruction of declared pests, survey and inspections,)	Number of procedures adopted.	RSC	As required.

## **4.2 Pest (invasive) Wildlife Control Laws**

Landowners are responsible for taking all reasonable and practical steps to minimise the risks associated with invasive wildlife under their control. This is known as the general biosecurity obligation (GBO). Your local government and Biosecurity Queensland provide pest wildlife control support services but may also enforce landowner responsibilities if necessary. Invasive wildlife can be identified within three different categories as shown below.

### **4.2.1 Prohibited Invasive Species**

Prohibited invasive species:

- are not found in Queensland
- would seriously threaten Queensland's primary industries, natural environment, native wildlife, and human and animal welfare
- include all mammals, reptiles, and amphibians except animals native to Australia, 28 animals listed as permitted and those listed as restricted invasive animals.

If you see or find a prohibited species in Queensland, you must report it to Biosecurity Queensland within 24 hours of the sighting. You must take all reasonable and practical steps to minimise the risk of it escaping until you receive advice from an authorised officer.

### **4.2.2 Restricted Invasive Species**

Restricted invasive species:

- are established in Queensland
- seriously threaten Queensland's primary industries, natural environment, native wildlife, and human and animal welfare.

Under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, there are seven categories of restricted matter (i.e. restricted matter may include matter such as plants, animal diseases, noxious fish, insects, pest animals and weeds). Restricted invasive species may fall into one, a combination or all of categories 2 to 6 (listed below).

Under each category, the restricted invasive species has listed restrictions. The specific restriction requirements also apply to a person when dealing with restricted invasive species unless they have a restricted matter permit.

Restricted invasive species categories and restrictions:

- Category 2: the invasive species must be reported within 24 hours to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.
- Category 3: the invasive species must not be distributed either by sale or gift or released into the environment.
- Category 4: the invasive species must not be moved.
- Category 5: the invasive species must not be kept.
- Category 6: the invasive species must not be fed.

### 4.2.3 Invasive Species

Invasive species are not prohibited or restricted invasive species.

Everyone is obligated to take all reasonable and practical steps to minimise the risks associated with invasive species under their control.

### 4.3 Priority of Declared Pests

This section sets out the prioritisation given to all pests in the Richmond local government area based upon threat, distribution, declaration status, achievability of management objectives.

Prioritisation of pests in the Richmond local government area will be given a ranking of high, medium or low priority which will then have corresponding actions.

<b>Classification</b>		
<b>H</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Awareness &amp; education, Control, assist with access for funding for landholders</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Awareness &amp; education and assist landholders in seeking opportunistic funding for control programs in priority areas</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Awareness &amp; education</b>

## 5. Pest Weeds known to Richmond Shire

Common/Scientific name	Declarations	Priority	Actions
<b>Bellyache Bush</b> ( <i>Jatropha Gossypiifolia</i> )	Restricted (Category 3)	High	Raise Public awareness and education about potential problems & control of weed. Immediate treatment of outbreak/signage.
<b>Mesquite</b> ( <i>Prosopis Pallida</i> )	Restricted (Category 3)	High	Raise Public awareness and education about potential problems & control of weed. Immediate treatment of outbreak/signage.
<b>Parthenium</b> ( <i>Parthenium Hysterophorus</i> )	Restricted (Category 3)	High	Raise Public awareness and education about potential problems & control of weed. Immediate treatment of outbreak/signage.
<b>Chinee apple</b> ( <i>Ziziphus Mauritiana</i> )	Restricted (Category 3)	Medium	Raise Public awareness and education about potential problems & control of weed.
<b>Rubbervine</b> ( <i>Cryptostesegia Grandiflore</i> )	Restricted (Category 3)	Medium	Raise Public awareness and education about potential problems & control of weed.
<b>Prickly Acacia</b> ( <i>Acacia Nilotica</i> )	Restricted (Category 3)	Medium	Raise Public awareness and education about potential problems & control of weed.
<b>Mother of millions</b> ( <i>Bryophyllum Spp</i> )	Restricted (Category 3)	Low	Raise public awareness.
<b>Parkinsonia</b> ( <i>Parkinsonia Aculeate</i> )	Restricted (Category 3)	Low	Raise public awareness.
<b>Athel Pine</b> ( <i>Tamarix Aphylla</i> )	Restricted (Category 3)	Low	Raise public awareness.
<b>Coral Cactus</b> ( <i>Opuntia fulgida var. mamillata forma monstrosa, Boxing Glove Cactus</i> )	Restricted (Category 3)	Low	Raise public awareness.
<b>Giant Rat's Tail Grass</b> ( <i>Sporobolus Pyramidalis, Sporpbolus Natalenis, Sporobolus Jacquemontii</i> )	Restricted (Category 3)	Low	Raise public awareness.
<b>Kapok Bush</b> ( <i>Aerva Jaoanica</i> )	NIL	Low	Raise public awareness.

<b>Weed: Bellyache Bush</b>	<b>Strategic Import: High</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3)</b>
<b>Description:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Squat thick-stemmed shrub 2.5 – 4 m tall.</li> <li>• develops from a short, single-stemmed plant with three or four young leaves sprouting from the top</li> <li>• young leaves deeply divided into three rounded lobes and are purple and sticky</li> <li>• older leaves bright green, about 10 cm in diameter, having up to five lobes, the edges covered in coarse, dark brown hairs</li> <li>• flowers small, red with yellow centres</li> <li>• flowers in small clusters throughout the upper part of the plant</li> <li>• seed pods smooth and oval, about the size of a cherry</li> <li>• seed pods 12 mm across, containing three to four seeds about 8 mm long</li> </ul>		
<b>Impact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• out-competes native vegetation</li> <li>• reduces pasture growth</li> <li>• takes over extensive sections of river frontage reducing biodiversity and increasing mustering costs</li> <li>• fruit poisonous to humans and animals</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b> To manage existing infestations & to prevent it from establishing as a weed problem.	<b>Performance Indicator:</b> Management of existing infestations No new reports of Bellyache Bush in Richmond Shire	
<b>Local Distribution:</b> In river systems		
<b>Actions:</b> Opportunistically map infestations throughout shire. Inspect and monitor all infestations on a regular basis. Carry out control works on local government land. Educate the community on Bellyache Bush identification and control methods. Ensure landholders are treating infestations. Assist landholders to seek opportunistic funding for control programs Issue notices to non-compliant landholders, as required.	<b>By Whom:</b> RSC, Landholders RSC, Landholders RSC RSC RSC, DAF, SGC & Landholders RSC RSC	<b>When:</b> When in area Annually Annually As appropriate As appropriate As appropriate
<b>Pest Monitoring Process:</b> SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & DAF carry out project site inspections annually.		
<b>Resources:</b>	<b>Staff:</b> SRLO	<b>Equipment:</b> Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.

<b>Weed: Mesquite</b>	<b>Strategic Import: High</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3)</b>
<p>Description:</p> <p>Small branches have smooth, dark-red, or green bark and a zigzag shape. It has fernlike leaves, 1-4 pairs of leaf branches, 6-18 pairs of individual leaflets have dark-green foliage but can vary to bluish-green, paired thorns occur just above each leaf axil.</p> <p>Seed pods are 10-20 cm long, straight to slightly curved, smooth, with slight constrictions between the seeds</p>		
<p>Impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• forms dense impenetrable thickets</li> <li>• out-competes other vegetation quickly invades upland country</li> <li>• interferes with mustering and blocks access to watering places</li> <li>• sharp thorns can injure animals and puncture vehicle tyres</li> </ul>		
<p>Goal:</p> <p>To eradicate existing infestations &amp; to prevent it from establishing as a weed problem.</p>	<p>Performance Indicator:</p> <p>Eradication of existing infestations</p>	
<p>Local Distribution: Widespread.</p>		
<p>Actions:</p> <p>Opportunistically map infestations throughout shire.</p> <p>Inspect and monitor all infestations on a regular basis.</p> <p>Carry out control works on local government land.</p> <p>Educate the community on Mesquite identification and control methods.</p> <p>Ensure landholders are treating infestations.</p> <p>Assist landholders to seek opportunistic funding for control programs</p> <p>Issue notices to non-compliant landholders, as required.</p>	<p>By Whom:</p> <p>RSC, Landholders</p> <p>RSC, Landholders</p> <p>RSC</p> <p>RSC</p> <p>RSC, DAF, SGC &amp; Landholders</p> <p>RSC</p> <p>RSC</p>	<p>When:</p> <p>When in area</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>As appropriate</p> <p>As appropriate</p> <p>As appropriate</p> <p>As appropriate</p>
<p>Pest Monitoring Process: SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments &amp; DAF carry out project site inspections annually.</p>		
<p>Resources:</p>	<p>Staff: SRLO</p>	<p>Equipment: Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.</p>

<b>Weed: Parthenium</b>	<b>Strategic Import: High</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3)</b>
<p><b>Description:</b>  Parthenium weed is an annual herb with a deep tap root and an erect stem that becomes woody with age. As it matures, the plant develops many branches in its top half and may even eventually reach a height of two metres. Leaves are pale green, deeply lobed and covered with fine soft hairs.  Small creamy white flowers occur on the tips of numerous stems. Each flower contains four to five black seeds that are wedge-shaped, two millimetres long with two thin, white scales.</p> <p>With suitable conditions (rain, available moisture, mild temperatures), parthenium weed can grow and produce flowers at any time of the year. In summer, plants can flower and set seed within four weeks of germination, particularly if stressed.</p>		
<p><b>Impact:</b>  Parthenium weed is a vigorous species that colonises weak pastures with sparse ground cover. It will readily colonise disturbed, bare areas along roadsides and heavily stocked areas around yards and watering points. Parthenium weed can also colonise brigalow, gidgee and softwood scrub soils. Its presence reduces the reliability of improved pasture establishment and reduces pasture production potential.  Parthenium weed is also a health problem as contact with the plant or the pollen can cause serious allergic reactions such as dermatitis and hay fever.</p> <p><b>Distribution:</b>  Parthenium weed is capable of growing in most soil types but becomes most dominant in alkaline, clay loam soils. In the Richmond Shire, Parthenium has been found at the Saleyards, Trivalore, Town area, Stawell River entering the Flinders River and behind the 20 Mile Reserve.</p>		
<p><b>Goal:</b>  To eradicate existing infestations to prevent it from spreading into the lower gulf.</p>	<p><b>Performance Indicator:</b>  Treatment and containment of existing infestations and to prevent it from spreading down river and into the lower gulf.  No new reports of Parthenium in Richmond Shire.</p>	
<p><b>Local Distribution:</b> Saleyards, Trivalore, Town area, Stawell and Flinders rivers.</p>		
<p><b>Actions:</b>  Opportunistically map infestations throughout shire.  Inspect and monitor all infestations on a regular basis.  Carry out control works on local government land.  Educate the community on Parthenium identification and control methods.  Ensure landholders are treating infestations.  Assist landholders to seek opportunistic funding for control programs  Issue notices to non-compliant landholders, as required.  Eradicate existing infestations and prevent spreading down river and lower gulf.</p>	<p><b>By Whom:</b>  RSC, Landholders  RSC, Landholders  RSC  RSC  RSC, DAF, SGC &amp; Landholders  RSC  RSC  RSC &amp; Landholders</p>	<p><b>When:</b>  When in area  After significant rainfall  Annually  As appropriate  As appropriate  As appropriate  As appropriate</p>
<p><b>Pest Monitoring Process:</b> SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments &amp; DAF. Carry out project site inspections</p>		
<p><b>Resources:</b></p>	<p>Staff: SRLO</p>	<p>Equipment: Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.</p>

<b>Weed: Rubbervine</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Medium</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3)</b>
<b>Description:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-2 m high and can scramble up to 30 m high in trees</li> <li>• has glossy dark-green leaves, 6-10 cm long by 3-5 cm wide in opposite pairs</li> <li>• stems, leaves and unripe pods exude a white, milky sap when broken or cut</li> <li>• flowers are large and showy with five white to light purple petals arranged in a funnel shape</li> <li>• seed pods are rigid and grow in pairs at the end of a short stalk</li> <li>• pods have a tuft of long, white silky hairs, are 10-12 cm long by 3-4 cm wide and contain up to 450 brown seeds</li> </ul>		
<b>Impact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• invades waterways</li> <li>• smothers riparian vegetation and forms dense thickets</li> <li>• decreases biodiversity and impedes stock and native animal movement</li> <li>• infestations expand outward from waterways, hillsides, and pastures</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b> To manage existing infestations and to prevent it from establishing as a weed problem outside the containment lines.	<b>Performance Indicator:</b> Management of existing infestations No new infestations outside of containment lines within the Shire	
<b>Local Distribution:</b> Riparian areas.		
<b>Actions:</b> Opportunistically map infestations throughout shire. Inspect, monitor all infestations on a regular basis. Carry out control works on local government land. Educate the community on Rubber Vine identification and control methods. Ensure landholders are treating infestations. Assist landholders to seek opportunistic funding for control programs Issue notices to non-compliant landholders, as required.	<b>By Whom:</b> RSC, Landholders RSC, Landholders RSC RSC RSC RSC, Biosecurity QLD, SGC & Landholders RSC	<b>When:</b> When in area Annually Annually As appropriate As appropriate As appropriate As appropriate
<b>Pest Monitoring Process:</b> SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.		
<b>Resources:</b>	<b>Staff:</b> SRLO <b>Equipment:</b> Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.	



<b>Weed: Chinee Apple</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Medium</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3)</b>
<b>Description:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a large shrub or small spreading tree up to 8 m high and 10 m in canopy diameter</li> <li>• densely branched</li> <li>• form thorny thickets along waterways</li> <li>• zig-zagged shaped branches have a leaf and thorn at each angle</li> <li>• leaves rounded, growing on alternating sides of branches, glossy green above and almost white underneath</li> <li>• unpleasant smelling greenish-white flowers small and inconspicuous</li> <li>• edible fruits similar to a cherry but pale yellow or orange when ripe</li> </ul>		
<b>Impact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• creates impenetrable thickets</li> <li>• hampers stock management</li> <li>• reduces pasture production and accessibility</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b>  To manage existing infestations & to prevent it from establishing as a weed problem.	<b>Performance Indicator:</b>  Management of existing infestations	
<b>Local Distribution:</b> Silver hills area, Boree Park, Flinders River, Town Common, Woolgar and Middle Park.		
<b>Actions:</b>  Opportunistically map infestations throughout shire. Inspect and monitor all infestations on a regular basis. Carry out control works on local government land. Educate the community on Chinee apple identification and control methods. Ensure landholders are treating infestations. Assist landholders to seek opportunistic funding for control programs Issue notices to non-compliant landholders, as required.	<b>By Whom:</b>  RSC, Landholders  RSC, Landholders  RSC  RSC  RSC, DAF, SGC & Landholders  RSC  RSC	<b>When:</b>  When in area  Annually  Annually  As appropriate  As appropriate  As appropriate  As appropriate
<b>Pest Monitoring Process:</b> SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & DAF. Carry out project site inspections annually.		
<b>Resources:</b>	<b>Staff:</b> SRLO	<b>Equipment:</b> Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.

<b>Weed: Parkinsonia</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Low</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3)</b>
<b>Description:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>grows up to 10 m tall</li> <li>branches are slender, zig-zagged and have sharp spines</li> <li>leaves have a short, spine-tipped stalk</li> <li>leaf branches are 20-40 cm long</li> <li>flowers are yellow, fragrant, five-petaled, each on a long, slender drooping stalk</li> <li>seed pods are pencil-like, 5-10 cm long and constricted between seeds</li> <li>seeds are oval, about 15 mm long, have a thick and extremely hard coat remaining viable until favourable conditions occur</li> </ul>		
<b>Impact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>forms dense, often impenetrable, thorny thickets along watercourses and bore drains</li> <li>restricts stock access to drinking water and makes mustering virtually impossible</li> <li>provides a harbour for feral pigs, which predate on livestock, damage crops, and seriously degrade the environment</li> <li>flooded country is particularly susceptible to invasion from floating seeds</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b> To manage existing infestations & to prevent it from establishing as a weed problem.	<b>Performance Indicator:</b> Management of existing infestations No new reports of Parkinsonia in Richmond Shire	
Local Distribution: Widespread.		
<b>Actions:</b> Opportunistically map infestations throughout shire. Inspect and monitor all infestations on a regular basis. Carry out control works on local government land. Educate the community on Parkinsonia identification and control methods. Ensure landholders are treating infestations. Assist landholders to seek opportunistic funding for control programs Issue notices to non-compliant landholders, as required.	<b>By Whom:</b> RSC, Landholders  RSC, Landholders  RSC  RSC  RSC, Biosecurity QLD, SGC & Landholders  RSC  RSC	<b>When:</b> When in area  Annually  Annually  As appropriate  As appropriate  As appropriate  As appropriate
<b>Pest Monitoring Process:</b> SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.		
<b>Resources:</b>	Staff: Stock Route Lands Officer Equipment: Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.	

<b>Weed: Prickly Acacia</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Medium</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3)</b>
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Description:

- a thorny shrub or small tree which grows up to 5 m, occasionally up to 10 m
- has pairs of stout thorns generally around 1-5 cm long
- golden-yellow ball-shaped flowers that grow on stems from leaf joints with 2-6 flowers per group
- has fern-like leaves, 4-10 pairs of leaf branches, 10-20 pairs of narrow green leaflets on each branch
- pods are flat, 10-15 cm with narrow constrictions between seeds and are greyish when ripe
- bark on saplings has a tinge of orange and/or green, and older trees have dark, rough bark

Impact:

- forms dense thorny thickets interfering with mustering, movement of stock and access to water
- decreases pastures and out-competes for water
- degrades soil by facilitating erosion
- threatens biodiversity through transformation of natural grasslands into thorny scrub and woodland

Goal: To manage existing infestations & to reduce the threat to the lower gulf.	Performance Indicator: Management of existing infestations & reduce the threat to the lower gulf.
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Local Distribution: Widespread.

<p>Actions:</p> <p>Opportunistically map infestations throughout shire.</p> <p>Inspect, monitor all infestations on a regular basis.</p> <p>Carry out control works on local government land.</p> <p>Educate the community on Prickly Acacia identification and control methods.</p> <p>Ensure landholders are treating infestations.</p> <p>Assist landholders to seek opportunistic funding for control programs</p> <p>Issue notices to non-compliant landholders, as required.</p> <p>Encourage best practice in long and short distance movement of stock by encouraging wash-down awareness activities &amp; education &amp; stock hygiene management practices.</p>	<p>By Whom:</p> <p>RSC, Landholders</p> <p>RSC, Landholders</p> <p>RSC</p> <p>RSC</p> <p>RSC, Biosecurity QLD, SGC, Landholders,</p> <p>RSC</p> <p>RSC</p>	<p>When:</p> <p>When in area</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>Annually</p> <p>As appropriate</p> <p>As appropriate</p> <p>As appropriate</p> <p>As appropriate</p>
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Pest Monitoring Process: SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.

Resources: Staff - SRLO  
Equipment – Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.

<b>Weed: Athel Pine</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Low</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3)</b>
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**Description:**

- spreading tree up to 15 m
- pendulous, jointed branches
- immature trees have light grey trunks and stems
- mature trees have a thick, rough, dark grey to black bark, grey-brown stems and can be up to 1 m in diameter
- dull green leaves resemble pine tree needles
- small pinkish-white flowers without stalks
- flowers grow on 30-40 mm long spikes
- bell-shaped fruit with a hairy tuft
- fruit contains numerous small cylindrical seeds
- seeds have tuft of fine hairs to assist dispersal
- strong woody roots deep in the soil

**Impact:**

- affects pastoral industry by forming dense stands along inland rivers
- consumes water more quickly than native plants, thereby reducing the number and quality of waterholes
- concentrates and excretes salt, causing ground beneath it to become salty, excluding salt-sensitive plants
- changes river flow patterns
- causes overland flooding and bank erosion
- reduces cultural and aesthetic value of affected land

**Goal:**

To eradicate existing infestations & to prevent it from establishing as a weed problem.

**Performance Indicator:**

Eradication of existing infestation s

**Local Distribution:** Urban yards & some rural properties.

**Actions:**

Opportunistically map infestations throughout shire.  
Inspect and monitor all infestations on a regular basis.  
Carry out control works on local government land.  
Educate the community on Athel Pine identification and control methods.  
Ensure landholders are treating infestations.  
Assist landholders to seek opportunistic funding for control programs  
Issue notices to non-compliant landholders, as required.

**By Whom:**

RSC, Landholders  
RSC, Landholders  
RSC  
RSC  
RSC, Biosecurity QLD, SGC & Landholders  
RSC  
RSC

**When:**

When in area  
Annually  
Annually  
As appropriate  
As appropriate  
As appropriate  
As appropriate

**Pest Monitoring Process:** SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.

**Resources:** Staff - SRLO

Equipment - Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.

<b>Weed: Coral Cactus</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Low</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3)</b>
<b>Description:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a short to medium cactus with unusually shaped segments.</li> <li>• stems – Stems widen to form unusual shapes, strongly tuberculate, coloured light green.</li> <li>• areoles with two to six spines, each measuring 1-2.5 cm long</li> <li>• not known to flower or fruit.</li> </ul>		
<b>Impact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reproduce and are spread via segments breaking off the main plant &amp; transported by stock &amp; wildlife.</li> <li>• Spread at an alarming rate.</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b> To eradicate existing infestations & to prevent it from establishing as a weed problem.	<b>Performance Indicator:</b> Eradication of existing infestations	
<b>Local Distribution:</b> Some rural properties.		
<b>Actions:</b> Opportunistically map infestations throughout shire. Inspect and monitor all infestations on a regular basis. Carry out control works on local government land. Educate the community on Coral Cactus identification and control methods. Ensure landholders are treating infestations. Assist landholders to seek opportunistic funding for control programs Issue notices to non-compliant landholders, as required.	<b>By Whom:</b> RSC, Landholders  RSC, Landholders  RSC  RSC  RSC, Biosecurity QLD, SGC & Landholders  RSC  RSC	<b>When:</b> When in area  Annually  Annually  As appropriate  As appropriate  As appropriate  As appropriate
<b>Pest Monitoring Process:</b> SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.		
<b>Resources:</b> Staff - SRLO Equipment - Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.		

<b>Weed: Giant Rat's Tail Grass</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Low</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3)</b>
<p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• very similar in appearance to other <i>Sporobolus</i> grasses</li> <li>• grows to a height of 0.6-1.7 m</li> <li>• seed head is up to 45 cm long and 3 cm wide</li> <li>• seed heads change shape from a 'rat's tail' when young to an elongated pyramid shape when mature</li> <li>• unlike Parramatta grass and giant Parramatta grass, GRT does not develop sooty spike on its seed heads</li> </ul>		
<p>Impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• quickly dominates pastures, particularly after overgrazing or soil disturbance</li> <li>• causes losses in carrying capacity and decreases production by up to 80%</li> <li>• loosens teeth of cattle and horses while grazing</li> </ul>		
<p>Goal: To eradicate existing infestations should it be found.</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Eradication of existing infestation s</p>	
<p>Local Distribution: Nil</p>		
<p>Actions: Opportunistically map infestations throughout shire. Inspect, monitor all infestations on a regular basis. Carry out control works on local government land. Educate the community on Giant Rats Tail identification and control methods. Ensure landholders are treating infestations. Assist landholders to seek opportunistic funding for control programs Issue notices to non-compliant landholders, as required.</p>	<p>By Whom: RSC, Landholders  RSC, Landholders  RSC  RSC  RSC, Biosecurity QLD, SGC &amp; Landholders  RSC  RSC</p>	<p>When: When in area  Annually  Annually  As appropriate  As appropriate  As appropriate  As appropriate</p>
<p>Pest Monitoring Process: SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments &amp; Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.</p>		
<p>Resources: Staff - Stock Route Lands Officer Equipment - Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.</p>		

<b>Weed: Kapok Bush</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Low</b>	<b>Declaration: NIL</b>
<b>Description:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• shrubby perennial herb to 1.6m high</li> <li>• Leaves linear to narrow-ovate</li> <li>• 2-7 cm long, 0.3-1.2 cm wide</li> <li>• bluish-green to whitish hairy – star like hair on stems</li> <li>• Fruit an inflated capsule, seeds rounded (red-brown, shiny)</li> </ul>		
<b>Impact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Widespread over Northern graze lands</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b> To manage existing infestations & to prevent it from establishing as a weed problem.	<b>Performance Indicator:</b> Management of existing infestations	
<b>Local Distribution: Widespread.</b>		
<b>Actions:</b> Opportunistically map infestations throughout shire. Inspect and monitor all infestations on a regular basis. Carry out control works on local government land. Educate the community on Kapok Bush identification and control methods.	<b>By Whom:</b> RSC, Landholders  RSC, Landholders  RSC  RSC	<b>When:</b> When in area  Annually  Annually  As appropriate
<b>Pest Monitoring Process:</b> SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.		
<b>Resources:</b> Staff - SRLO Equipment - Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.		

#### 4.5 Pest Animals Known to Richmond Shire

<b>Feral Cats</b> <i>(Felis Catus)</i>	Restricted (Category 3, 4, 6)	High	Raise Public awareness and education about potential problems & control of pests. Immediate treatment of outbreak/signage.
<b>Wild Dogs</b> <i>(Canis Lupus Dingo)</i>	Restricted (Category 3, 4, 5, 6)	High	Raise Public awareness and education about potential problems & control of pests. Immediate treatment of outbreak/signage.
<b>Feral Pig</b> <i>(Sus Seroffa)</i>	Restricted (Category 3, 4, 5, 6)	Medium	Raise Public awareness and education about potential problems & control of pest.
<b>Fox</b> <i>(Vulpes Vulpes)</i>	Restricted (Category 3, 4, 5, 6)	Low	Raise public awareness.
<b>Migratory Locusts</b> <i>(Locusta Migratoria)</i>	Nil	Low	Raise public awareness.
<b>Rabbit</b> <i>(Oryctolagus Cuniculus)</i>	Restricted (Category 3, 4, 5, 6)	Low	Raise public awareness.
<b>Spur Throated Locusts</b> <i>(Austracras Guttulosa)</i>	Nil	Low	Raise public awareness.



<b>Pest: Feral Cats</b>	<b>Strategic Import: High</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3, 4, 6)</b>
<p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• similar appearance to a domestic cat; however, under ideal conditions will have increased muscle development, particularly around the head, neck, and shoulders</li> <li>• males can weigh between 3-6 kg, females 2-4 kg</li> <li>• predominantly short-haired</li> <li>• coat colours range from ginger, tabby, tortoiseshell to grey and black</li> <li>• most active at night, with peak hunting activity soon after sunset and just before sunrise</li> <li>• has a distinctive green eye sheen under spotlight</li> </ul>		
<p>Impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• opportunistic predator of small mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects and even fish</li> <li>• particularly harmful in island situations, having caused the extinction of several species</li> <li>• competes for prey with native predatory species such as quolls, eagles, hawks, and reptiles</li> <li>• contains a parasite that is particularly harmful to marsupials, causing blindness, respiratory disorders, paralysis, and loss of offspring</li> <li>• can also carry rabies, should this disease enter Australia</li> </ul>		
<p>Goal: To manage existing population &amp; to prevent it from establishing as a pest problem.</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Reduce impact of existing population.</p>	
<p>Local Distribution: Widespread.</p>		
<p>Actions: Carry out control works on local government land.</p> <p>Educate the community on Feral cat identification and control methods.</p> <p>Encourage landholders to manage pest through Local Government bounty.</p>	<p>By Whom: RSC</p> <p>RSC</p> <p>RSC</p>	<p>When: As appropriate</p> <p>As appropriate</p> <p>As appropriate</p>
<p>Pest Monitoring Process: SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments &amp; Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.</p>		
<p>Resources: Staff - SRLO Equipment - Poison, traps, shooting</p>		

<b>Pest: Wild Dogs</b>	<b>Strategic Import: High</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3, 4, 5, 6)</b>
<p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• predominantly red, ginger, and sandy-yellow, though dingoes can also be pure white, black, and tan or solid black</li> <li>• adults reach up to 60 cm in height</li> <li>• heavily boned skull and larger teeth than domestic dogs</li> <li>• females weigh about 12 kg and males 15 kg</li> <li>• naturally lean with large ears pricked and a white tip on their tails</li> </ul>		
<p>Impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• can carry diseases such as distemper and parvovirus as well as parasites</li> <li>• can harass and kill large numbers of livestock without feeding on the carcasses</li> <li>• could pose serious risk if rabies was introduced into Australia</li> </ul>		
<p>Goal: To manage existing population &amp; to prevent it from establishing as a pest problem.</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Reduce impact of existing population.</p>	
<p>Local Distribution: Throughout shire, more numerous in the ridge forest to the north.</p>		
<p>Actions:</p> <p>Carry out control works on local government land.</p> <p>Educate the community on Wild Dog s identification and control methods.</p> <p>Encourage landholders to participate in the 1080 baiting program and the Local Government Bounty.</p>	<p>By Whom:</p> <p>RSC</p> <p>RSC</p> <p>RSC</p>	<p>When:</p> <p>As appropriate</p> <p>As appropriate</p> <p>As appropriate</p>
<p>Pest Monitoring Process: SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments &amp; Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.</p>		
<p>Resource: Staff - SRLO Equipment - Poison, traps, shooting</p>		

<b>Pest: Feral Pigs</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Medium</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3, 4, 5, 6)</b>
<b>Description:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• smaller, leaner, and more muscular than domestic pigs with well-developed shoulders and necks and smaller, shorter hindquarters</li> <li>• sparse, coarse hair</li> <li>• longer, larger snouts and tusks, straighter tails, smaller mostly pricked ears, and much narrower backs than domestic pigs</li> <li>• mostly black, buff-coloured or spotted black and white</li> <li>• juveniles may be striped</li> <li>• old boars (razorbacks) have massive heads and shoulders and a raised, prominent backbone</li> <li>• generally shy and nocturnal</li> </ul>		
<b>Impact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• can damage almost all crops from sowing to harvest</li> <li>• feeds on seed, grain, fruit, and vegetable crops</li> <li>• lamb predation</li> <li>• damages pastures by grazing and rooting</li> <li>• can also spread weeds</li> <li>• can carry many diseases and parasites</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b> To manage existing population & to prevent it from establishing as a pest problem.	<b>Performance Indicator:</b> Reduce impact of existing population.	
<b>Local Distribution:</b> Widespread.		
<b>Actions:</b> Carry out control works on local government land.  Educate the community on Feral Pig identification and control methods.  Council provides a Wild Dog & Pig baiting program.	<b>By Whom:</b> RSC  RSC  RSC	<b>When:</b> As appropriate  As appropriate  As appropriate
<b>Pest Monitoring Process:</b> SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.		
<b>Recourses:</b> Staff - SRLO Equipment - Poison, traps, shooting		

<b>Pest: Fox</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Low</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3, 4, 5, 6)</b>
<b>Description:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• muzzle is pointed</li> <li>• flattened and slender skull</li> <li>• has large ears and long bushy tail</li> <li>• adult male foxes weigh around 6 kg, with females closer to 5 kg</li> </ul>		
<b>Impact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• considered the greatest threat to the long-term survival of many small marsupial species in Australia</li> <li>• preys on small or young animals, lambs, poultry, and livestock despite an abundance of food</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b> To manage existing population & to prevent it from establishing as a pest problem.	<b>Performance Indicator:</b> Reduce impact of existing population.	
<b>Local Distribution: Widespread.</b>		
<b>Actions:</b> Carry out control works on local government land.  Educate the community on Fox identification and control methods.	<b>By Whom:</b> RSC  RSC	<b>When:</b> As appropriate  As appropriate
<b>Pest Monitoring Process:</b> SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.		
<b>Staff:</b> SRLO	<b>Equipment:</b> Poison, traps, shooting	

<b>Pest: Migratory Locusts</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Low</b>	<b>Declaration: Nil</b>
<b>Description:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>grows to about 14-60 mm in length</li> <li>is straw coloured when gregarious (swarming)</li> <li>hind wings have no markings, but may be faintly greenish yellow</li> <li>mandibles (jaws) are dark purple to black</li> <li>hopper bands can be a striking black and tan colour</li> <li>adult flight is strong and steady, with the slight green wing tinge visible</li> </ul>		
<b>Impact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>damages sorghum, sugarcane, forage, and wheat crops</li> <li>losses can be avoided by planting less susceptible crops such as sunflower, chickpea, safflower, and cotton</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b> To monitor and report infestations.	<b>Performance Indicator:</b> Number reported to Biosecurity QLD	
<b>Local Distribution:</b> Seasonal fluctuating populations.		
<b>Actions:</b>  Educate the community on Migratory Locusts identification and control methods.  Report sightings to Biosecurity QLD and Australian Plaque Locust Commission	<b>By Whom:</b>  RSC  RSC	<b>When:</b>  As appropriate  As appropriate
<b>Pest Monitoring Process:</b> SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.		
<b>Staff:</b> SRLO	<b>Equipment:</b> Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.	

<b>Pest: Rabbit</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Low</b>	<b>Declaration: Restricted (Category 3, 4, 5, 6)</b>
<b>Description:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• usually grey brown with a pale belly; black or ginger can also be common</li> <li>• has long hind legs and short front legs</li> <li>• has long ears and large eyes</li> <li>• usually weighing about 1.3-2.3 kg</li> </ul>		
<b>Impact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• competes with native animals for food and burrow space</li> <li>• grazing and burrowing leads to soil erosion and silting of aquatic ecosystems</li> <li>• may ringbark trees in search of moisture during times of drought</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b> To manage existing population & to prevent it from establishing as a pest problem.	<b>Performance Indicator:</b> Reduce impact of existing population.	
<b>Local Distribution:</b> Low populations scattered throughout shire.		
<b>Actions:</b> Carry out control works on local government land.  Educate the community on Rabbit identification and control methods.	<b>By Whom:</b> RSC  RSC	<b>When:</b> As appropriate  As appropriate
<b>Pest Monitoring Process:</b> SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.		
<b>Resources:</b> Staff - SRLO Equipment – Poison, traps, shooting		

<b>Pest: Spur Throated Locusts</b>	<b>Strategic Import: Low</b>	<b>Declaration: Nil</b>
<b>Description:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adults are 50-80 mm in length with slim pale brown bodies and longitudinal white stripes</li> <li>nymphs and adults have a conspicuous spur between the front legs</li> <li>hoppers are green on hatching, developing a black stripe down the middle of their back</li> <li>as they mature, colour may change to light brown</li> <li>has a strong darting flight that ends with the locust plunging into the grass</li> <li>hind wings are colourless or with a slight blue tinge</li> <li>hind legs bear two rows of dark tipped white spines</li> </ul>		
<b>Impact:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>forms dense swarms that feed on summer crops, pastures, and trees</li> <li>hoppers also cause significant crop damage, particularly in seedling sorghum</li> <li>eggs are not laid in egg beds, but scattered throughout an area</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b> To monitor and report infestations.	<b>Performance Indicator:</b> Number reported to Biosecurity QLD.	
<b>Local Distribution:</b> Seasonal fluctuating populations.		
<b>Actions:</b> Educate the community on Spur Throated Locusts identification and control methods.	<b>By Whom:</b> RSC	<b>When:</b> As appropriate
Report sightings to Biosecurity QLD and Australian Plaque Locust Commission	RSC	As appropriate
<b>Pest Monitoring Process:</b> SRLO with Southern Gulf Catchments & Biosecurity QLD carry out project site inspections annually.		
<b>Resource:</b> Staff - SRLO Equipment - Toyota tray back, quad bike with spray tank, quick spray unit.		

## **5 Conclusion**

Council is committed to the eradication and control of pest plants and animals in the Richmond Shire and will continue to work with landholders and key stakeholders to achieve the outcomes identified in this Biosecurity Plan.

Community consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the Richmond Shire Community Engagement Policy prior to the Draft Plan being submitted to DEEDI (DPI) for a state interest check.

### **Resources list websites**

<http://www.pestanimalmanagementqld.com.au>

<https://www.apvma.gov.au/>

<http://www.weeds.org.au>

### **Contacts**

#### **Chief Executive Officer**

Richmond Shire Council  
P O Box 18  
RICHMOND QLD 4822  
Phone: (07) 4719 3377

#### **Rural Lands Officer**

Richmond Shire Council  
Phone: 0429 680 229

#### **Exotic Plant Pest Hotline**

1800 084 881

#### **Department of Agriculture & Fisheries**

Phone: 13 25 23

#### **Department of Environment and Heritage Protection**

For dingo related enquiries during office hours, 8am – 4pm, phone (07) 5486 9966  
After Hours, phone 1300 130 372

#### **Southern Gulf Catchments**

Phone: 07 4743 1888  
Free call 1800 676 242  
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