

Title of Policy	SMRC Biosecurity Compliance – Council Activities, Vehicles and Machinery		
Responsible Department	Biosecurity (Weeds)	Document Register ID	250.2018.483.1
Policy Owner	Manager Biosecurity	Review Date	6 September 2021
Date of Council Meeting	6 September 2018	Resolution Number	308/18
Legislation, Australian Standards, Code of Practice	<p><i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i></p> <p>Section 22 Biosecurity duty—dealings with biosecurity matter and carriers</p> <p><i>Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.</i></p>		
Aim	<p>To ensure Council’s compliance with the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> thereby minimising the spread of weeds by Council activities including the movement and operation of vehicles and machinery. All staff and contractors who operate vehicles and machinery will implement this policy and relevant subordinate procedures. All staff involved in the purchase or movement of construction materials for Council works will adhere to this Policy.</p>		

1 Introduction

The movement of operational vehicles, machinery and construction material is a contributing factor in the spread of weeds (biosecurity matter) throughout the Snowy Monaro Region. This Policy represents Council’s commitment to minimise biosecurity impacts resulting from its routine operations. Under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* Council has an obligation to *ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.*

1.1 Plant Hygiene

Subordinate to this Policy is Council’s Vehicle and Machinery Hygiene procedure which details the process whereby Council’s operational vehicles are maintained and operated in a manner that complies with this Policy and the requirements of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

1.2 Works Planning

Biosecurity risk mitigation measures are incorporated into Council’s Program of Works to minimise the risk of weed spread during routine activities. Consultation between management, staff and contractors ensures that practical work patterns and practices are developed and implemented to minimise the risk of weed spread from high weed incidence areas to low weed incidence areas. External contractors must adhere to Council’s Biosecurity Compliance Policy and adopt practices consistent with all relevant subordinate procedures.

1.3 Material Hygiene

Council preferentially sources construction/maintenance materials from local sources and contractors to prevent the introduction of new weed incursions into the Snowy Monaro region.

Extraction sites are established throughout the Snowy Monaro region. In order for Council to discharge its General Biosecurity Duty, local materials are utilised where possible to prevent the spread of weeds throughout the region. In situations where materials must be transported and utilised contrary to this practice, Transport Infrastructure (Operations) staff consult directly with Biosecurity (Weeds) staff prior to the transportation of any material to identify appropriate remediation measures.

Extraction sites are monitored annually and an effective weed control program established within, and at each entrance to, the site to ensure that all priority weeds are effectively managed.

Council will not source material from an extraction site unless an effective weed control program is documented and implemented for local priority weeds.

1.4 Education Program

Council maintains an internal training program for all staff and contractors to ensure compliance with its biosecurity and hygiene requirements.

1.5 Council Resources

Council provides adequate resources to ensure this Policy is enacted and that effective vehicle and machinery hygiene practices are implemented Council wide.

Documentation

List the name and document reference number of any other document referred to in this document, including any related policies and procedures

250.2016.207.1 Noxious Weeds Policy

250.2016.#.1 Procedure - Biosecurity – Vehicle and Machinery Hygiene (in Draft)

Variation

Council reserves the right to review, vary or revoke this policy and should be reviewed periodically to ensure it is relevant and appropriate.