Biosecurity Act

The *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act) protects Queensland’s economy, biodiversity and people’s lifestyles from the threats posed by invasive pests and diseases.

Under the Act, certain species of invasive animals are listed as ‘restricted’ matter.

Species not listed as restricted may be listed as prohibited under the Act or may be declared by a local government under local laws.

Invasive animals that are listed as restricted matter

Invasive animals that are listed as restricted matter are already present in Queensland. They have an adverse impact and as a result, restrictions are placed on all dealings with these invasive animals to best manage the risks they pose.

Restricted invasive animals of Queensland

- **Red-eared slider turtles must be reported immediately**
- **Dingoes must not be kept, sold, given away, released, moved or fed**
- **Foxes must not be kept, sold, given away, released, moved or fed**
- **Rabbits must not be kept, sold, given away, released, moved or fed**
The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with invasive animals under their control. This is called a general biosecurity obligation (GBO).

A person may have a GBO when dealing with biosecurity matter that requires everyone to ‘take all reasonable and practical measures’ to prevent or minimize the biosecurity risk posed by the biosecurity matter.

The specific restriction requirements also apply to a person when dealing with restricted invasive matter.

A person may apply for a restricted matter permit. This permit may allow dealings with the invasive animal contrary to these restriction requirements but under strict conditions. The purposes include commercial use, biological control or scientific research about the invasive animal.

**Restricted invasive animals that are categories 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6**

A person has the following restrictions placed upon them when dealing with these invasive animals:

- Barbary sheep (*Ammotragus lervia*)
- blackbuck antelope (*Antilope cervicapra*)
- hog deer (*Axis porcinus*)
- red-eared slider turtle (*Trachemys scripta elegans*)
- Samba deer (*Rusa unicolor*, syn. *Cervus unicolor*).

The restrictions are that:

**Category 2**
The invasive animal must be reported within 24 hours to Biosecurity Queensland on **13 25 23**. Your GBO requires you to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the risk of the animal escaping until they receive advice from an authorised officer.

**Category 3**
The invasive animal must not be distributed either by sale or gift, or released into the environment.

**Category 4**
The invasive animal must not be moved.

**Category 5**
The invasive animal must not be kept.

**Category 6**
The invasive animal must not be fed.

**Restricted invasive animals that are categories 3, 4 and 6**

A person has the following restrictions placed upon them when dealing with these invasive animals:

- dingo (*Canis familiaris dingo*)
- European red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)
- European rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)

The restrictions are that:

**Category 3**
The invasive animal must not be distributed either by sale or gift, or released into the environment.

**Category 4**
The invasive animal must not be moved.

**Category 5**
The invasive animal must not be kept.

**Category 6**
The invasive animal must not be fed.

**Restricted invasive animals that are categories 3, 4 and 6**

A person has the following restrictions placed upon them when dealing with these invasive animals:

- cat, other than a domestic cat (*Felis catus*)
- dog, other than a domestic dog (*Canis familiaris*)
- feral chital deer (*Axis axis*)
- feral fallow deer (*Dama dama*)
- feral goat (*Capra hircus*)
- feral pig (*Sus scrofa*)
- feral red deer (*Cervus elaphus*)
- feral rusa deer (*Rusa timorensis*, syn. *Cervus timorensis*).

The restrictions are that:

**Category 3**
The invasive animal must not be distributed either by sale or gift, or released into the environment.

**Category 4**
The invasive animal must not be moved.

**Category 6**
The invasive animal must not be fed.

**Further information**

Further information is available from your local government office, or by contacting Biosecurity Queensland on **13 25 23** or visit biosecurity.qld.gov.au.

This fact sheet is developed with funding support from the Land Protection Fund.

Fact sheets are available from Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) service centres and our Customer Service Centre (telephone 13 25 23). Check our website at biosecurity.qld.gov.au to ensure you have the latest version of this fact sheet. The control methods referred to in this fact sheet should be used in accordance with the restrictions (federal and state legislation, and local government laws) directly or indirectly related to each control method. These restrictions may prevent the use of one or more of the methods referred to, depending on individual circumstances. While every care is taken to ensure the accuracy of this information, DAF does not invite reliance upon it, nor accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused by actions based on it.

© The State of Queensland, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, 2020.