

PORT OF PORT HEDLAND – UTAH BIOSECURITY RISK RESPONSE PROCEDURE

A2251413

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1. DOCUMENT AMENDMENT TABLE

VERSION	PREPARED BY	DATE	AMENDMENT
1	Principal Terminal Systems and Biosecurity	September 2026	New Procedure
2			
3			

2. BACKGROUND

On 16 June 2016 the *Quarantine Act 1908* was replaced by the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. Following a three-year transition period the Biosecurity Act 2015 came into full effect in June 2019.

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* stipulates that all international vessels and goods that enter Australian territory are under biosecurity control and further requires all vessels that are subject to Biosecurity control to only enter ports which are designated by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) as a First Point of Entry (FPOE). To be approved as a FPOE a port must have facilities, arrangements, and systems in place to effectively manage and respond to biosecurity risks associated with operations.

This Procedure outlines the risk management strategies that Pilbara Ports has implemented in the Port of Port Hedland – Utah Point to ensure that the appropriate awareness, preparedness and risk management processes are in place, facilities are suitable, and personnel are trained to manage biosecurity risks to an acceptable level.

The DAFF First Points of Entry Biosecurity Awareness Seaports Package has been integrated into the Pilbara Ports induction program, is referenced within the regularly updated Port Handbook and is included for discussion within stevedore licence renewal and compliance meetings. Posters and signage are prominently displayed throughout the port area.

3. SCOPE

This procedure covers the Pilbara Ports Public Berth – Utah Point and adjacent land within the Security Controlled Area (SCA) of the Port of Port Hedland – Utah Point.

Stevedores and third parties that operate within the SCA of the port are required to do so in accordance with this procedure.

4. STRATEGIES

Pilbara Ports undertakes a variety of environmental and biosecurity related risk management, waste management and preventive strategies. These relate specifically to vegetation control, pest control, feral animals, rodent control, and pooling water. These strategies are outlined in more detail within the Pilbara Ports Operational Environmental Management Plan – Utah Point (A467438).

5. BIOSECURITY RISK RESPONSE

Pilbara Ports is the operator of the Port of Port Hedland – Utah Point.

This procedure has been updated in line with the current template issued by DAFF. It contains the minimum requirements for a first point of entry port operator's biosecurity risk response procedure.

5.1 Be Aware

Under biosecurity legislation, all staff who are involved with facilitating international arrivals must be aware of the biosecurity risks posed by their operations and know how to report them.

You must report biosecurity risks immediately to allow the department to take measures to manage the risks to an acceptable level. Here are some examples of biosecurity risks:

- Spillage of bulk product during unload on the wharf
- Garbage bag splitting and spilling contents
- Sighting of hitchhiker pest on an arriving vessel
- Pooling water in a blocked drain
- Discovery of an ant nest in the port precinct
- Soil contamination on exterior of container
- Borer holes or frass under dunnage
- Sighting of a rat on the wharf
- Escape of a vertebrate animal from a vessel or container

5.1.1 Biosecurity Awareness Training

All staff working with international arrivals must complete the **First points of entry biosecurity awareness: Seaports eLearning** package via the following link: [Registration](#) . In addition to the above, any employees working in or accessing Biosecurity areas in the port are to undertake Biosecurity Awareness Training and Approved Arrangement Accreditation for AA Accredited Person (Classes 1-8).

Training details are to be recorded as appropriate.

5.2 Isolate

All suspected or detected biosecurity risks must be isolated immediately where safe to do so.

- Isolate risks found at the port (such as ant nests, beehives) using barriers and signage to prevent any movement through the area.
- Segregate all goods – domestic or otherwise – away from the suspected biosecurity risk using an impervious barrier or a minimum pallet width from other goods and the boundary fencing. (when invertebrates i.e. snails found container must be ringed in salt).
- Confine imported goods containing a suspected biosecurity risk to the isolation area.
- All travellers must be isolated on board the vessel until they can be assessed by a biosecurity official.

There is a hardstand and wash bay available in the Biosecurity area on the Eastern Harbour. Treatment, containment and movement as directed by biosecurity officials.

Biosecurity compliant signage and appropriate demarcation, including temporary fencing and hard barricading is available at the Eastern Harbour facility and can be mobilised to Utah immediately for use in the event of a biosecurity risk incident.

A Biosecurity Incident Response kit and Biosecurity waste bin are located at the Berth 4 Wharf Office. [Refer Appendix 1.](#)

A Biosecurity Register is located inside the Pilbara Ports Biosecurity Facility building – Eastern Harbour. Details of Utah Point incidents requiring biosecurity isolation, containment or treatment are to be recorded in the Biosecurity Register. The register is managed and controlled by the Port Hedland Terminal Compliance team. Utah Point Landside Operations team to advise Terminal Compliance Team, provide all details and supporting documentation.

5.3 Contain

All biosecurity risks must be contained where safe to do so.

- Spillages must be swept up, double bagged and disposed of in a biosecurity receptacle.
- Use knockdown spray to contain the spread of flying or mobile insects e.g. moths, stink bugs. **DO NOT SPRAY ANTS, BEES OR WASPS.**
- Ants, bees and wasps can be very dangerous so do not disturb them. If detected on cargo, do not move it. Instead, take measures to isolate it.
- Collect a specimen where safe to do so. To assist with identification, take a photo and record the location. (**DO NOT CAPTURE SPIDERS ALIVE**, spray first then capture).
- Close doors or create partitions to restrict movement of pests or animals.

- Use tarpaulins to contain contamination, or pest infestation or animals.
- To avoid successful mosquito breeding, water should not be allowed to pool for longer than five days – if it does not dry up naturally in this time, it should be emptied or chemically treated to prevent larval development. Mosquito larvicide briquettes (Prolink) may be used to manage potential breeding areas within 400m of the port to prevent the establishment of exotic mosquitos.

A Pilbara Ports Biosecurity Incident Response Kit is available on site and located at the Berth 4 Wharf Office. Liquid waste spill kits are also available on the berth. Refer [Appendix 2](#). Contact the Landside Operations Coordinator for access to the kit as required (08) 9173 8919. This equipment is maintained and replenished by the Pilbara Ports Landside Operations team.

Contents includes:

- Knockdown spray
- Disinfectant tablets
- Mosquito briquettes
- Specimen jars
- Bucket, gloves, and spray bottle

5.4 Biosecurity Waste Management

Rubbish removal, site cleanliness and hygiene practices are important for reducing biosecurity risk (e.g. weeds and insect nests) establishment at the site.

Biosecurity waste is to be placed in the appropriately identified and lockable “Biosecurity Bin”. There is 1 x yellow 120l biosecurity waste silo bin located at the Berth 4 Wharf Office. Refer [Appendix 1, Inset B](#).

Biosecurity waste can only be removed from site by a Class 10.6 Approved Arrangement waste collection and transport company or in accordance with a specific written directive from the Biosecurity Officer.

Approved Arrangement Service Waste providers for the Port of Port Hedland are:

- Veolia Environmental Services, W1928, 1414-1415 Wilson Street Port Hedland. Ph (08) 9173 1085.

A list of departmentally approved waste providers can be accessed via the link: <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/arrival/arrangements/sites>

Refer to Class 10.6 for providers approved to collect and transport biosecurity waste. There are potentially more providers, the ones listed are those who have chosen to have their names appear on the website.

No waste storage on site. All Biosecurity waste is to be managed by a Pilbara Ports Terminal Compliance Coordinator, a Biosecurity disposal direction is to be received prior to any waste leaving site, with details recorded in the Biosecurity Register in Objective.

5.5 Report

Biosecurity risks must be reported via the:

- Local biosecurity officer (08) 9132 0275
- See. Secure. Report hotline number: 1800 798 636
- Report a Biosecurity Concern Online Form:
www.agriculture.gov.au/pests-diseases-weeds/report

The Pilbara Ports Landside Coordinator (08) 9173 9819, will be responsible for coordinating actions at the berth or Biosecurity area and further liaison with the department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Biosecurity Officer) during a biosecurity incident/risk response.

Pilbara Ports are aware they may have an obligation to notify other parties of biosecurity risks, for instance a state/territory agency responsible for biosecurity.

5.6 Treat

When the Pilbara Ports report a biosecurity risk, the biosecurity officer will provide technical advice and direction on what treatment should be carried out. They may also issue a direction regarding movement, isolation, or containment of any goods for which treatment is required.

Where a biosecurity risk is identified at the site, operators are responsible for contacting treatment providers and coordinating access to the site. Treatment providers must be provided access to undertake urgent responses in a timely manner.

- The Pilbara Ports Landside Operations Coordinator (08) 9173 8919 or terminal Compliance Coordinator (08) 9173 9067 must liaise with the local biosecurity officer, communicate with affected parties and ensure access for treatment providers.
- The Pilbara Ports Landside Operations Coordinator (08) 9173 8919 or Terminal Compliance Coordinator (08) 9173 9067 is to be contacted to facilitate treatment providers to undertake urgent responses in a timely manner.

There are currently three fumigators approved to fumigate landside in Port Hedland.

A list of approved treatment providers can be accessed via the link below:
www.agriculture.gov.au/import/arrival/arrangements/sites

Refer to Class 12.1 for providers approved to conduct onsite fumigation.

Note: If a departmentally approved fumigator is not used to respond to a biosecurity risk, the treatment must be performed under supervision by a biosecurity officer at a fee for service.

- Fume West (W2172), Phil O’Keefe, Mobile: 0437 987 687, phil@fumewest.com 2 Roper St O’Connor
- Fintran Australia (V2292), Murray Longworth, Mobile: 0413 276 228, information@fintran.com.au Based out of Perth and Karratha but head office 1/5 Phillip Court Melbourne
- Want Pest Control, (W2213) Mark Jamieson, Mobile: 0497 327 752, mark.jamieson@wantpestcontrol.com.au 11 Logue Court South Hedland
- Vertebrate Animal Pest Specialist:
 - Want Pest Control are the port’s vertebrate animal pest controller that service our site. mark.jamieson@wantpestcontrol.com.au.
 - Phone: 0497 327 752, 11 Logue Court South Hedland

6. PRIVATE BERTH OPERATORS

These procedures apply only to Pilbara Ports public berths and landside areas within the security-controlled port area.

Private berth operators are required to undertake operations in accordance with their own specific Biosecurity Risk Response Procedures for use at their respective berths.

7. EVENTS NOT COVERED BY THIS PROCEDURE (ONE-OFF EVENTS)

Events not covered by this procedure are not permitted to be undertaken without the specific written approval of the DAFF.

8. FUTURE NOTIFICATIONS OF CHANGED CONDITIONS

Any material changes to operations, processes or facilities that may affect the ability to comply with FPOE standards must be notified to DAFF. Examples of material changes may include the commencement of new trades, (with specific standards applicable) a change in the condition of current infrastructure or the addition of new berths.

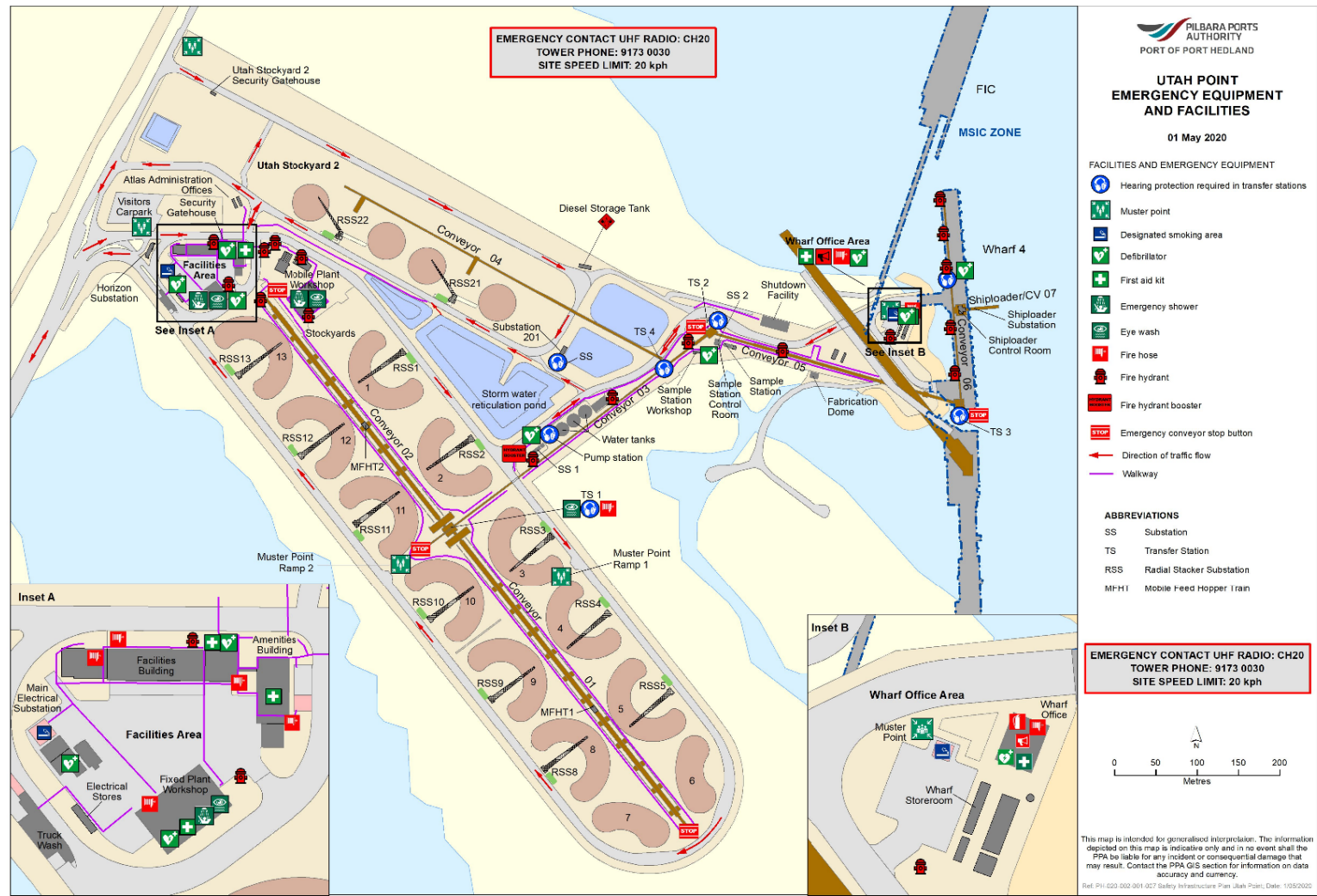
9. DOCUMENT OWNER

The Executive General Manager Terminal Operations is accountable and has overall responsibility for this **Procedure**.

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APPENDIX 1 – UTAH POINT MAP



APPENDIX 2 – UTAH POINT INCIDENT RESPONSE EQUIPMENT

