

Queensland Biosecurity Strategy

2025-26 Statement of Intent

The Queensland Biosecurity Strategy establishes an overarching framework to guide collaborative efforts of stakeholders across the biosecurity system to tackle plant and animal pest and disease threats.

To transform the Strategy into action, this Statement of Intent outlines the priorities that will be the focus for implementation in the 2025-26 financial year. These priority projects have been chosen based on stakeholder feedback and their potential positive impact on the biosecurity system.

Creating a robust biosecurity system relies on the input, participation and drive of all stakeholders. To achieve success, all biosecurity system partners need to commit to biosecurity activities related to the Statement of Intent and document how they are being supported and delivered within their own organisation.

This Statement of Intent is designed to be read in conjunction with the Queensland Biosecurity Strategy 2024-2029 and provides more detail on the actions to be undertaken by both Biosecurity Queensland and partner organisations to deliver on the strategy. It is intended to give biosecurity system partners enough detail to be able to plan and deliver their own strategic biosecurity activities in 2025-26. Success will be measured through a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to be developed by Biosecurity Queensland by September 2025.

Funding for biosecurity: Biosecurity is a shared responsibility with funding from all who benefit or contribute to biosecurity management, including governments, industry, and communities. Biosecurity Queensland's funding is focused on fulfilling regulatory and legislative responsibilities and leading strategic initiatives, with industry also contributing to activities including day-to-day risk management, specific research initiatives and capability uplift. Sustainable investment in the system and delivery of actions under this Statement of Intent will depend on strong partnerships, inclusive and equitable approaches, and aligning new initiatives with existing resources or clearly supported funding proposals.

1 – Collaborative governance and leadership



Theme outcomes: The Queensland biosecurity system establishes frameworks and procedures that drive collective and collaborative partnerships, which are inclusive, transparent, and aligned at all levels.

Key focus areas for the Queensland Biosecurity System for the 2025-26 financial year:

- Refresh and embed a stakeholder engagement framework: Focused on opportunities to increase stakeholder input into decision-making.
- Implementation: Queensland Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy 2025–2030.
- Queensland is committed to northern Australia coordination initiatives: Working in partnership with the Northern Australia People Capacity and Response Network (NAPCaRN), Northern Australia Biosecurity Surveillance Network (NABSnet) and Northern Australian Coordination Network (NACN) to implement the Northern Australia Biosecurity Strategy 2030 and manage prioritised and emerging biosecurity risks.
- Evaluate Biosecurity Queensland's regulatory delivery model to enhance the utilisation of available information and risk assessments, while fostering a collaborative approach to shared responsibility across government and with stakeholders.

Biosecurity Queensland deliverables:

- BQ facilitates a review of current stakeholder engagement and governance arrangements to determine current state to underpin system improvements.
- BQ leads Invasives Plants and Animals Strategy (2025-30) implementation: Developing a prioritisation framework for invasive species; eradicating prioritised species; creating a Risk Assessment Centre of Excellence for invasive species; backing local government invasives initiatives.
- BQ proactively participates in northern Australia coordination groups.
- Biosecurity Queensland will lead a regulatory framework co-design process, develop initiatives, and collaborate with stakeholders to trial pilot projects.

Partner participation/contribution:

- Key biosecurity partners to engage in review and co-development of the stakeholder framework with a commitment to participating in system improvements.
- Partners support implementation of the Queensland Invasives Strategy.
- Partners actively participate in the northern Australia coordination groups.
- Partners will provide input to regulatory review during the co-design process and support the implementation of the framework, including participation in pilot projects as required.

2 – Every Queenslanders plays their part



Theme outcomes: Queenslanders have access to a broad range of programs that promote positive biosecurity behaviours and embed planning and practices, particularly for high-risk partners or industries.

Key focus areas for the Queensland Biosecurity System for the 2025-26 financial year:

- Co-designed roles and responsibilities resources package.
- Biosecurity behaviour change education program: To raise the profile of biosecurity, increase passive surveillance and early detection and boost uptake of good biosecurity practices.

Biosecurity Queensland deliverables:

- BQ facilitates a review to help define roles and responsibilities across the biosecurity system and prepare resources that support clarity.
- BQ delivers a biosecurity awareness-raising education program targeting highest risk audiences and behaviours – including projects such as Biosecurity Blitz and Biosecurity Ambassadors.
- BQ to focus on potential engagement approaches with high risk creators, including delivering Biosecurity in the Boardroom.

Partner participation/contribution:

- Partners participate in roles and responsibilities review and assist in developing and rolling out supporting resources.
- Partners demonstrate a mutual obligation to support positive and consistent awareness-raising activities, including through alignment on public messaging and contribution to industry-wide biosecurity awareness and education campaigns.
- Partners focus on best practice on-farm biosecurity uptake.

3 – Empowered to act



Theme outcomes: A biosecurity training and development framework, based on a comprehensive environment scan, will be in place to build the highly skilled workforce required to support the State's biosecurity system now and into the future.

Key focus areas for the Queensland Biosecurity System for the 2025-26 financial year:

- Local government and industry biosecurity capability development program: Endemic and exotic pests and disease prevention through to management.
- Assess regional biosecurity workforce capability requirements.
- Increase e-learning opportunities: Contributing to the expansion of the Online Biosecurity Training Hub.

Biosecurity Queensland deliverables:

- BQ to develop and make available a series of biosecurity training packages to support capability uplift for local government and industry.
- BQ to conduct a regional capability review to support engagement of 100 new biosecurity officers.
- BQ to develop new e-learning packages (minimum of 3) and promote online learning to contribute to the expansion of the National Online Biosecurity Training Hub.

Partner participation/contribution:

- Partners – local government and industry peak bodies – support and encourage participation in biosecurity education.
- Partner organisations to consider and document workforce capabilities in line with biosecurity capability development.
- Partners to promote and support expansion of the National Online Biosecurity Training Hub.

4 – Innovation and intelligence



Theme outcomes: The timely adoption of innovation and intelligence practices that keep Queensland informed about, and ready to respond to, emerging trends and risks.

Key focus areas for the Queensland Biosecurity System for the 2025-26 financial year:

- Environmental scan: Focused on potential future socio-cultural impacts on the biosecurity system.
- Profile and invest in biosecurity innovation: To support collaboration across the biosecurity system.

Biosecurity Queensland deliverables:

- BQ to fund and oversee Biosecurity Environmental Scan with outcomes shared with stakeholders to inform future biosecurity planning.
- BQ to hold three Biosecurity Partners innovation showcases (online) and expand biosecurity innovation grants.
- BQ to partner with local government, industry and landholders to develop innovative tools to manage biosecurity risks.

Partner participation/contribution:

- Partners participate in forums that help widely promote innovation and funding opportunities.

5 – Valuing and building on investments



Theme outcomes: Investment in the Queensland biosecurity system prioritises positive outcomes and substantially reduces risk.

Key focus areas for the Queensland Biosecurity System for the 2025-26 financial year:

- Sustainable biosecurity funding: Options paper.
- Strengthen the northern biosecurity frontline: Review of the Coen facility closure and the biosecurity presence in the north.

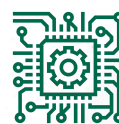
Biosecurity Queensland deliverables:

- BQ to deliver a stakeholder forum focused on biosecurity sustainable funding and prepare an options paper.
- BQ to conduct a review of Coen closure and assess biosecurity presence in the north.

Partner participation/contribution:

- Partners to contribute to development of funding options paper.

6 – Response effectiveness and preparedness



Theme outcomes: Queensland's biosecurity system will have a robust preparedness framework that includes defined targets for upskilling, information sharing and engagement, irrespective of the threat faced.

Key focus areas for the Queensland Biosecurity System for the 2025-26 financial year:

- Establish the Advancing Response Readiness Framework: Based on emergency management pillars to enhance preparedness capability and capacity development.
- Expand H5 Bird Flu preparedness through the High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (HPAI) Preparedness Steering Group.

Biosecurity Queensland deliverables:

- BQ to develop a Response Readiness Framework including government priorities across key emergency management pillars supporting BQ capability and capacity development.
- BQ to lead the coordination of Avian influenza preparedness work to support system wide collaboration.

Partner participation/contribution:

- Partners demonstrate response readiness capability development within their organisations in line with the Advancing Response Readiness Framework emergency management pillars.
- Partners actively participate in H5 bird flu preparedness initiatives.