



Leschenault

BIOSECURITY GROUP INC.

Y O U R L A N D
Y O U R F U T U R E

Leschenault Biosecurity Group Inc. Strategic Plan

February 2020 – February 2023

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1. WHO WE ARE

The Leschenault Biosecurity Group (LBG) was formed in 2014 as a not for profit group by landowners who shared mutual concerns around the increase in animal and weed pests and a lack of action to address these issues.

The LBG became a Recognised Biosecurity Group (RBG) in 2018. This enabled the group to engage with government and work collaboratively utilising the shared responsibility funding model for declared pest management.

Landowners now pay a set annual Declared Pest Rate (DPR) which is matched dollar for dollar by the state government. The LBG responsibilities are determined by the *Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act WA 2007, (BAM Act)* and priorities are determined through landowner consultation. Our work is supported by our colleagues at the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD).

1. WHO WE ARE

1.1 Our Purpose

The LBG has defined its purpose as:

Collaborating with landowners/managers and the broader community to achieve a significant reduction in the impact of pests across our region.

Collaborating is about bringing together the unique capabilities of our landowners/managers, the LBG Board, partnership agencies, friends and networks, the community and private sectors. We combine everyone's efforts with our own for a greater collective impact.

Our stated aim is to work collaboratively with landowners/managers to tackle the increasing spread of pests (both animals and plants) and develop strategies to significantly reduce the impact of these pests on the economy and the environment, on both a landscape and regional level.

COORDINATE

The LBG coordinate programs to bring together Land Occupiers (owners, managers, tenants, licensees) and Strategic Partners (regulators, agencies, communities, government departments) to build effective relationships to manage pests.

EDUCATE

The LBG will provide research and experience based knowledge sharing activities to better empower our stakeholders to manage pests.

FACILITATE

The LBG will develop processes and provide guidelines to assist Land Occupiers to reduce their barriers and impediments, that make overcoming the management of pests more achievable.

COLLABORATE

The LBG will assist individual Land Occupiers to collaborate with each other, to form collective groups, that can have a more significant impact on the reduction of pests.

1. WHO WE ARE

1.2 Our Values

COURAGE

We understand that doing what is right is not always what is easy. And that to achieve something new, we must be willing to do what we have never done before.

RESPECT

We treat everyone with dignity and fairness. We recognise contribution and value diversity.

EMPATHY

We extend ourselves to understand other people's perspectives. We communicate and act in a respectful way that makes sense to others.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We are individually accountable and collectively responsible. Our actions are transparent and open to scrutiny and we will uphold our values with honesty and integrity.

2. WHAT WE DO

We work with our landowners/managers to reduce the impact of Pests and the impact of these pests on the environment, economy and landscape. We do so under the *Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act 2007* and recognise our responsibilities under this Act.

Our activities include:

- » Undertaking integrated pest management projects such as the release of the K5 virus
- » Liaising with stakeholders to support, promote and assist our landholder's interests
- » Providing education and training for pest management
- » Providing resources to assist landholders to undertake measures for pest management control
- » Assisting in the development of integrated pest management plans
- » Engaging with and facilitate community action groups to promote responsible land management
- » Assisting landowners/managers to understand their obligations under the *BAM Act*.
- » Promoting collaborative relationships between all stakeholders
- » Coordinating events to encourage stakeholder participation
- » Collecting data on pest distribution and the impact of occurrences
- » Observing, measuring and reporting on pest data and management practices
- » Educating landowners/managers and regulatory bodies through the sharing and distribution of knowledge.

3. WHAT WE KNOW

RBG's have a unique set of challenges, and with them comes some exceptional opportunities. We have been asked to transform how declared pests are managed across Western Australia.

A transformation of this scale and depth will affect all stakeholders in one way or another. It requires courage and a major commitment of organisational effort and leadership attention to achieve change. Amid change, we must maintain an unrelenting focus on the task at hand, which is a coordinated, safe, effective and ethical management of pests within our operational area.

We know that we face significant challenges to achieve our stated aims and outcomes. We operate in a large and diverse area and we need to remain vigilant in the execution of our work.

We know many of our landholders are struggling to manage the ongoing challenges they face to minimise the impact of pests.

By working collaboratively and collectively we have a greater opportunity to succeed in our mission to reduce the occurrence, intensity, distribution and impact of pests.

4. WHAT WE WILL DO

To meet these challenges and develop opportunities we will focus our efforts in five (5) areas. Each area will be guided by strategic directions and supported by strategic initiatives.

We will support landowners/managers to uphold their responsibilities to minimise the impact of pests through:

- 4.1 Service models which are flexible and targeted to assist landowners/managers to access the necessary support to manage pests.
- 4.2 Systems and information sharing across all stakeholders that enable us to respond in a timely and effective manner.

We will develop larger scale projects to assist in the ongoing management of pests through:

- 4.3 Project models that are co-designed to effectively support collective landowners/managers control of pests.
- 4.4 Strategic and policy interventions that have a greater emphasis on early identification and minimisation strategies.

We will work tirelessly to ensure our stakeholders have access to contemporary, evidence-based methods to manage pests by:

- 4.5 Ensuring our activities are supported by research and reflect best practice models.
- 4.6 Engaging with scientific advancements and research.

We will share relevant and timely information to our stakeholders by:

- 4.7 Ensuring our landowners/managers are informed, equipped and resourced to manage pests.
- 4.8 Providing resources, which are evidence based, practical and applicable.

We will maintain systems to keep our landowners/managers abreast of new incursions through:

- 4.9 Distribution of regular updates of any relevant resources and news to stakeholders.
- 4.10 Maintaining resources in a timely, accurate and relevant manner such that they remain useful and current.