

Biosecurity Incident Response Procedure

A BIOSECURITY INCIDENT IS AN UNINTENTIONAL, UNFORESEEN OR UNCONTROLLED EXPOSURE TO EXOTIC PESTS, FOREIGN ORGANIC MATERIAL OR DISEASES.

Examples of potential biosecurity risks at NSW Ports:

- Hitchhiker pest on an arriving vessel – ants, stink bugs, bees, snails, etc.
- Sighting of a rat or potential exotic pests on the wharf
- Pooled water having potential to breed mosquito Larvae
- An ants nest near the berth
- Soil/organic material contamination
- Borer holes or frass under dunnage
- Quarantine or organic waste from a ship (food scraps) ie- fruit/veg
- A person on an incoming vessel with an unknown illness

Note - Transfer of viruses and illnesses from incoming vessel crews may also constitute a biosecurity risk.

Exotic pests or diseases may actually be detected during a biosecurity incident, or they may only be suspected. For example, discovering webbing, borer holes, egg masses, or soil contamination are all examples of an actionable biosecurity incident.

BIOSECURITY AWARENESS TRAINING

All NSW Ports berth tenants and operators must complete the National *Seaports Biosecurity Awareness eLearning* package (<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/Documents/seaports-biosecurity-elearning/index.html>)

Training will be issued to all relevant stakeholders parties via NSW Ports Rapid Induct Portal

1.

ISOLATE

SUSPECTED OR DETECTED BIOSECURITY RISKS MUST BE ISOLATED IMMEDIATELY:

- Isolate the risk found at the port (such as ants nests, bee hives) using barriers to prevent any movement through the area.
- Isolate biosecurity risk on board vessels where possible
- Confine the suspected biosecurity risk to create an isolation area.
- Display a “Biosecurity Area – Authorised persons only” sign to indicate the biosecurity isolation area.
- closing container or vessel doors or creating barriers
- placing affected cargo in a biosecurity isolation area away from other goods
- If there is an ill crew member, the person must be confined to the vessel for assessment by a biosecurity officer.

Signage is available at the security office/huts located at each of the Berth’s - 201 and 206

2.

CONTAIN

ALL BIOSECURITY RISKS MUST BE CONTAINED TO AVOID SPREAD WHERE SAFE TO DO SO.

- Contain Any flying or mobile insects, to stop them moving e.g. close door of crate, box, container etc for moths, lady bugs, stink bugs
- Contain spillages of soil, organic material, seeds or nests by collecting and double bagging
- Contain onboard vertebrate and invertebrate species on the vessel where possible until appropriate authorities are notified and present
- Use signage such as flagging or biosecurity tape to section off an area if relevant
- tarpaulins to contain contamination or pest infestation
- If possible/relevant, collect a specimen in a jar (seed, plant, insect etc) for Biosecurity personnel to assist with identification

- Use tarpaulins or blankets to cover the area or restrict animal movement
- Take photos, record the location to assist with identification
- As a last resort is to use a knockdown spray (insect spray) on mobile insects.

Note – Never use a knockdown spray on ants, bees or wasps. These can be very dangerous so do not disturb them. Take a photo and record the location. If detected on cargo, do not move it. Instead, take measures to isolate it.

BIOSECURITY INCIDENT RESPONSE KITS

A Biosecurity Incident Response Kit is available at the security office/huts at Berth 201 and Berth 206. Each kit contains the following;

- Gloves
- Face shield/Mask
- 2 x collection jars for biosecurity specimens
- Hazard tape
- A copy of this Biosecurity Incident Response Procedure
- Waste bag
- Knockdown Spray (insect spray)
- Virkon medical grade disinfectant

The equipment has been provided by NSW Ports for use in a biosecurity incident by those in attendance, and will be maintained and inspected annually. Equipment must be replaced if used entirely, empty or expired.

Where required, Biosecurity waste disposal shall be coordinated via NSW Ports with approved waste contractor Redlam Waste Services Pty Ltd (registration N1513) within 72 hours of an incident or within 48 hours if the waste contains perishable items.

Note - Berth 201 & 206 do not have permanent quarantine bins as these are predominantly unmanned berths. Ship agents are responsible for the organisation of an appropriate, approved receptacle and disposal procedures.

**3.
REPORT**

REPORT SUSPECTED BIOSECURITY RISKS OR INCIDENTS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

1. Local biosecurity office Port Kembla **02 4258 1150** or **0409 049 665**
2. Dept of Agriculture See.Secure.Report hotline number: **1800 798 636**
3. NSW Dept of Primary Industries Biosecurity Helpline: **1800 680 244**
4. Port Operations Manager NSW Ports **02 9316 1135** or **0417 217 274**

**4.
TREAT**

BIOSECURITY OFFICERS WILL ATTEND THE SITE AND ADVISE TREATMENT

After a report is issued, Biosecurity officers will attend to provide further instruction and/or collection of specimens.

Biosecurity officers and treatment providers must be given access to undertake urgent responses in a timely manner.

Port Kembla engages **Flick Pest Control South Coast** region for pest and termite problems, and hygiene services; **Contact Number 02 4203 3900** Email southcoast@flick-anticimex.com.au

Note: If a departmentally approved treatment provider 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.

Review

This document shall be reviewed at least every 2 years

Approved

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AUTHORISED BY: GM Jonathan Lafforgue

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