

1. Introduction

Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer (*Euwallacea fornicatus*) (PSHB) is a small, highly invasive beetle native to South East Asia. This pest tunnels into the trunks, stems and branches of trees and plants, impacting over 500 different plant species globally.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) detected this pest in the Perth metropolitan area and established two quarantine zones

- The **Management Zone** which covers the inner metropolitan area and is the area of known borer infestation; and
- The **Containment Zone** which is the area between the Management Zone and the outer boundary of the QA.



2. Current Situation

A Quarantine Area (QA) covering the entire Perth metropolitan area is in place, with restrictions on the movement of wood, green waste, mulch, live plants and plant material. The national response to polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) is transitioning from an eradication strategy to a long-term management approach after the National Management Group determined the borer was no longer technically feasible to eradicate.

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A national Transition to Management (T2M) response plan is now in place and is being delivered by DPIRD.

These include:

- Development and implementation of strategies to slow the spread of PSHB;
- Targeted surveillance to determine the ongoing distribution of PSHB;
- Removal of infested trees to eradicate the beetle and protect healthy trees in the outer Perth metropolitan area to minimise spread outside of the QA;
- Providing advice and information to residents, industry and other stakeholders; and
- Development of an integrated pest management program.

3. Statement of Intent

The intent of this guideline is to create direction around the development of a Borer Response Plan (BRP), to satisfy the conditional landscape approval, imposed in accordance with the Department of Planning Land and Heritage, model subdivision condition [R4].

Importantly, to guide how on ground Public Open Space (POS) development works are carried out to prevent and limit the proliferation of PSHB and ensure all activities are in accordance with the confinement controls outlined by the DPIRD.

[Polyphagous shot-hole borer | Agriculture and Food](#)

4. Application

4.1 Borer Response Plan (BRP)

The applicant must submit a BRP prior to commencement of development works to satisfy the following landscape condition:

The applicant must provide a Borer Response Plan, outlining how they will manage quarantine controls for the Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer, in accordance with the latest WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development guidance.

The plan must be provided prior to commencement of works and include management controls for the selection, purchase, use, movement and disposal of mulch and plant material during the construction and maintenance phases.

The BRP will be evaluated in response to directions outlined by the DPIRD, which governs the State response to the transportation of plant material and general horticultural practice adopted by contractors and residents alike.

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The BRP should address the following key elements:

- **Movement and Stockpiling of Plant Materials and Mulch:** Define procedure for the handling and movement of green stock and mulch inside and outside the QA.
- **Mulching Techniques:** Detail mulching techniques for trees and plant materials as part of maintenance duties within the QA.
- **Plant and Mulch Supply:** Confirm all plants and mulches are purchased from reputable suppliers with appropriate credentials, stating the supplier's location and product type.
- **Equipment Sanitation:** Define the sanitation procedures for pruning and gardening machinery, including chainsaws and wood chippers, especially after contact with infected materials.
- **Inspection and Pruning Practices:** Detail how pruning practice is to be performed.
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** Detail inspection and reporting regimes.
- **Contingency measures:** Outline action and response procedure should infected material be discovered on-site, including protocol for notifying the City and DPIRD.

5. Assessment and Compliance

5.1 Review process

City Officers will assess the BRP to ensure that all proposed management measures are compliant with DPIRD guidelines and that the plan includes strategies to mitigate the spread of the pest effectively. Formal notification from the City will be required prior to commencement of works.

5.2 Compliance verification

City Officers shall conduct periodic site inspections to ensure that management measures are being effectively implemented and maintained.

Regular review is required to reflect changes in guidelines, new scientific information, and feedback from state authorities. In the event that changes need to be made to the document during the statutory POS development timeline, the Applicant will be notified and advised to update the BRP.

6. Monitoring

The Applicant shall monitor all trees, shrubs and mulches for symptoms of PSHB during the construction and obligatory maintenance period.

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10. Legislation

- *Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act 2007*
- *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management (Declared Pest Account) Regulations 2014*
- *Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Regulations 2013 - Quarantine Area notice*
- *Planning and Development Act 2005*

11. Policy

Liveable Neighbourhoods Element 4 - Development of Public Open Space

12. Manager Approval

Manager's Name: James Henson

Manager's Title: Manager Land and Development Infrastructure

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