

1. Introduction

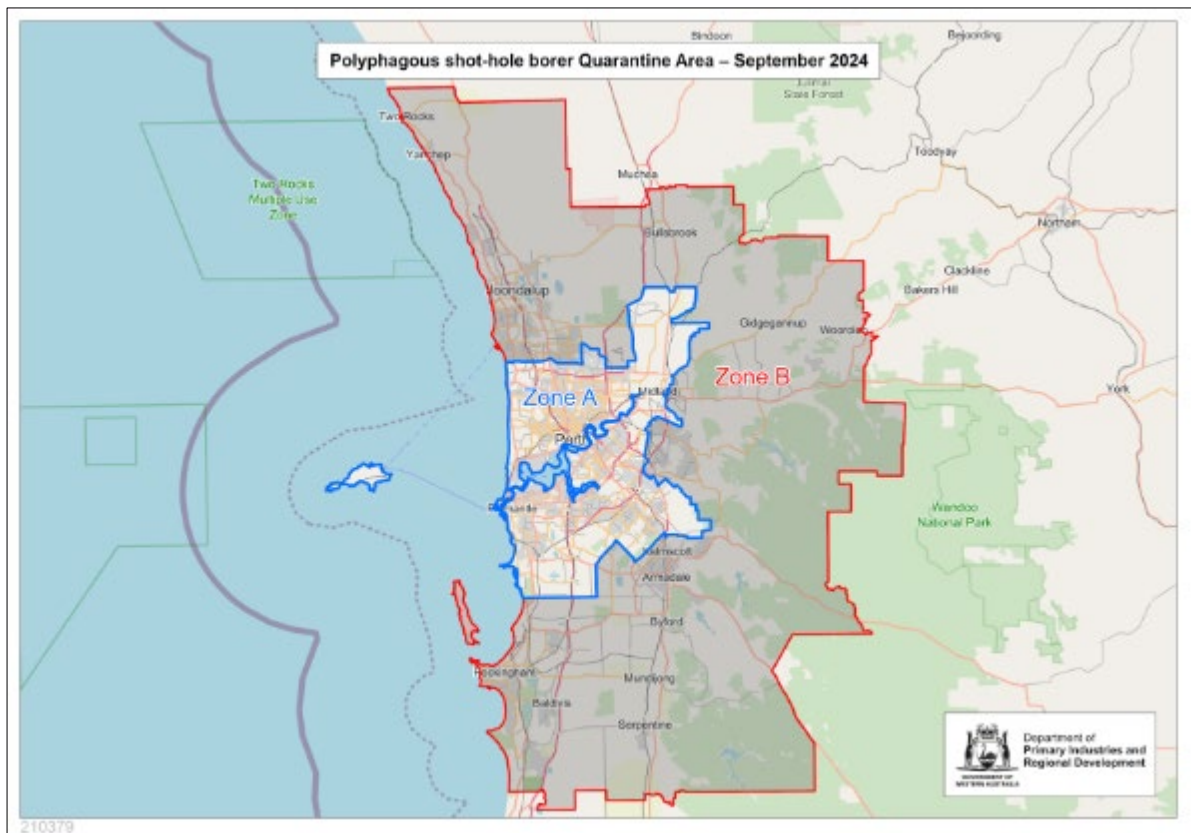
Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer (*Euwallacea fornicatus*) (PSHB) is a small, highly invasive beetle native to South East Asia. This pest tunnels into the trunks, stems and branches of trees and plants, impacting over 500 different plant species globally.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) detected this pest in the Perth metropolitan area and established a Quarantine Area (QA) Zone A, to restrict the movement of wood and plant materials in order to minimise its spread.

DPIRD have now announced a significant expansion of the QA to include the City of Rockingham which falls within Zone B.

Zone A covers an area with high numbers of infested trees and where intensive control activities such as tree removal are underway. This zone has specific restrictions on the movement of high-risk materials.

Zone B covers an area with fewer or no infested trees and where heightened surveillance is underway to identify and control new infestations. This zone is intended to act as a ‘buffer zone’ between areas of higher infestations and the remainder of the State.



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3. Current Situation

Currently, PSHB has only been detected in the Perth metropolitan area and surveillance and management activities remain central to minimise the spread.

These include:

- Surveillance to determine the ongoing distribution of PSHB.
- Monitoring extent of the QAs. (Zones A & B).
- Removal of infested trees to eradicate the beetle and protect healthy trees.
- Providing advice and information to residents, industry and other stakeholders.
- Ensure all response activities are conducted safely, consistently and efficiently.

2. 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

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.

Examination under bark and in the wood products that reveals beetle galleries and brown to black discolouration, bore holes, frass or gumming, caused by the PSHB are to be acted upon immediately.

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*Affected trees may show signs of wilting and have dead branches in canopy.

DPIRD Fact Sheet - [PSHB biosecurity alert factsheet.pdf \(agric.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/~/media/00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000/PSHB_biosecurity_alert_factsheet.pdf)

7. Reporting

Evidence of potential PSHB presence should be verified via the Pest and Disease Information Service or the MyPestGuide Reporter App.



<https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/apps/mypestguide-reporter>

Should the results of the verification process reveal an adverse finding, the matter must be reported to the City’s Senior Landscape Architect and the discovery conveyed to DPIRD.

This may also include engaging with a qualified arborist for tree treatments and adherence to Australian Standard AS4373-2007 - Pruning of Amenity Trees.

Note: A final report is to be produced by the applicant certifying that to the best of their knowledge the Public Open Space and immediate surrounds is pest free, prior to handover to the City.

8. Non-Compliance


Noncompliance with the quarantine area notice can result in a remedial action under the Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Regulations Act.

9. Definitions

Wood: Refers to wood that is not treated. Treated or seasoned (> 6 months) timber or wood products that are in use for construction, fencing, furniture or packaging and pallets are not considered to be wood and are therefore not considered to be PSHB risk material.

Living plants: Refers to any plant, organ or plant part (including plant cuttings) with woody stems that are greater than 2 cm in diameter.

Garden Machinery: Means any vehicle, equipment or other mechanical apparatus of any kind that has been used in relation to arboriculture, wood mulching, wood chipping or handling of any other wood.

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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. Managers Approval

Manager Name: James Henson

Mangers Title: Manager Land and Development Infrastructure

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