



Department of Agriculture and Food WA guidelines for weed control procedures for extractive industries licence

1.0 Background

This guideline has been developed to assist local government authorities and others to address extractive industry concerns; in particular weed related issues across Western Australia.

Each local government authority has by laws relating to extractive industries. As part of the process for the issue of an extractive industries licence a shire may require that weed control is undertaken in accordance with an application, and to the satisfaction, of the Department of Agriculture and Food WA.

As a result of the suspected movement of declared plant seeds in January 2007 from an extractive industries quarry to an area of the state previously free of this declared plant, the Department of Agriculture and Food wrote to the industry body. The industry agreed to include specific guidelines in their code of practice and asked that DAFWA assist with these guidelines.

Further discussions with local government associations indicated that these guidelines should be made available to all local government authorities. It is within this context that this guideline has been produced, it is intended that these guidelines will achieve a consistent approach to weed control for quarries and extractive industry sites within Western Australia.

2.0 Issues

- Declared weed management plan
- Define the party responsible for weed control
- Management zones for pit management and buffer zones
- Declared weed Monitoring program

3.0 Declared weed management plan

Each extractive industries applicant may be required to provide for a weed management plan to be submitted by the applicant to the local office of the Department of Agriculture and Food.

The Weed Management plan will address the management of declared weeds defined under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* and the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Regulations 2013*.

The weed management plan should take the form of a summer and a winter weed control program with the intent to “Treat to destroy” and control seed set of all declared weeds within the defined zones within the property.

The weed management plan must be compliant with the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* and must address the following specific provisions:

- The holder of the extractive industries licence will be required to identify the declared pests (plants and animals) present on the property.

Declared species can be identified by searching the Western Australian Organism List (WAOL) <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/bam/western-australian-organism-list-waol>

- The holder of the extractive industries licence will be required to identify the classes and categories of declared plants present on the property.

Table 1: Declared plant categories

C1	Prevention: The species must be prevented from entering the area that it is declared
C2	Eradication: The species must be eradicated from the area that it is declared
C3	Management: The species must be managed and all declared species within the management zone must be treated to kill.

4.0 Define the party responsible for weed control

For the land associated with the extractive industry operation. The lease agreement specifically defines the party (landowner and/or the lease holder) responsible for declared weed and the ongoing costs of declared weed control.

5.0 Management Zones for pit management and buffer zones

The Weed Management plan will establish weed management zones.

Zone A is defined as all of the quarry extraction area, below natural ground level, including, road ways, stockpiles and heaped soil.

Zone B is defined as all that land at natural ground level which extends 100 metres beyond the perimeter of zone A. This zone will include the overburden pushed from the perimeter of the zone A and stockpiled for future rehabilitation /back fill.

6.0 Declared weed management program

The Weed Management plan will maintain an active weed monitoring program & operational program to reduce the potential of any new weed infestations becoming established. This monitoring and control work will be focussed on -

The weed free condition of the land within zone A & B

The weed free condition of plant and equipment brought on site to zone A or B

The weed free condition of any soil that may be brought on site to zone A or B

The weed free condition of any quarry product exported from zone A or B

The proposed Weed Management plan for a property shall work in conjunction with the BAM Act requirements and does not limit or exclude other declared weed control requirements outside the described zone A & B but within the defined location.

7.0 Weed Control Techniques

The implementation of seasonal weed control may be undertaken by:

- landowner
- Quarry operator
- Licensed contracted Spray operator

Treatment of a declared weed may be by:

- Application of a herbicide
- Mechanical removal
- Any other legal effective means

Where herbicide application is the preferred control option, the herbicide must be an appropriately registered herbicide.

8.0 Statutory Requirements

Declared plant control is specified under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* (BAM) and the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Regulations 2013*.

9.0 References

Department of Environment, South West Regional Guidelines Series. Extractive Industries within the Coastal Strip of the Shire of Harvey (Limestone and Sand).

BY-LAWS RELATING TO EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES. Shire of Harvey. 12th September 1995.

Acknowledgement.

Brett Vukelic. Biosecurity Officer. Department of Agriculture and Food.