

# National Browsing Ant Northern Territory Eradication Program

## PART 1: PRELIMINARIES

1. The purpose of this Schedule is to outline the delivery of agreed activities for the National Browsing Ant Eradication Program – Northern Territory from 2017-18 to 2021-22 and to facilitate the Commonwealth's cost-shared contribution to the Northern Territory, the combatant state for this eradication program.
2. The National Browsing Ant Eradication Program – Northern Territory is being conducted under the National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement (NEBRA), as agreed by the National Biosecurity Management Group (NBMG) on 24 January 2018.
3. Financial commitments are approved by the NBMG subject to budget considerations. The *National Browsing Ant Eradication Program (NT) Response Plan, Version 2.2* budget was approved by the NBMG in accordance with the NEBRA.
4. If required, this Schedule will be reviewed in conjunction with reviews of the eradication program in accordance with the provisions of the NEBRA.

## PART 2: FORMALITIES

5. The Parties to this Schedule are the Commonwealth of Australia and the Northern Territory.
6. This Schedule will commence as soon as it is agreed between the Commonwealth and Northern Territory ministers with portfolio responsibility for national biosecurity emergency management and will expire on 30 June 2023, or upon completion or termination of the National Browsing Ant Eradication Program – Northern Territory as determined by the NBMG, including endorsement of the final progress report and processing of final payments against milestones, unless terminated earlier or extended as agreed in writing by the Parties.
7. This Schedule replaces the Schedule on the National Browsing Ant Eradication Program – Northern Territory which was agreed on 18 May 2016.

## PART 3: PROJECT ELEMENTS AND MILESTONES

The project elements for the National Browsing Ant Eradication Program – Northern Territory are as described in the *National Browsing Ant Eradication Program (NT) Response Plan, Version 2.2*. The Northern Territory is responsible for delivering the following elements in accordance with the Response Plan:

- (a) *Surveillance*
  - i. Surveillance will be focused around the infected properties (IP) and those identified as a risk by trace activities that are primarily around Darwin and along the Northern Territory coastline.

- ii. Delimiting surveillance of high risk locations, waste transfer stations, transport companies, oil and gas equipment operations, earthmoving and equipment hire companies and the establishment and monitoring of sentinel sites.
  - iii. All assessed negative properties, contact premises and trace premises on the existing program to be surveyed, with assessed negative properties to be surveyed at least twice at six monthly intervals.
- (b) *Treatment*
- i. Scheduled series of prophylactic chemical treatments (bait and spray) and surveillance at the infected properties as per the response plan.
- (c) *Community engagement*
- i. Community Awareness Kit to be developed and distributed to targeted stakeholders.
  - ii. Educational package and awareness sessions for IP landholders and employees.
  - iii. Communication and engagement through a variety of materials with key risk businesses, schools and community groups.
- (d) *Science*
- i. Scientific and technical support to complete genetic analysis, biological research and treatment trials.
- (e) *Efficiency auditing*
- i. An efficiency audit will be completed in 2020 to assess program practices and provide advice on opportunities for efficiencies and operational strategy for the program.
- (f) *Proof of freedom*
- i. Proof of freedom report completed after final surveillance has been completed.

8. To qualify for the associated payment, the Northern Territory must meet the following milestones:

**Table 1: Milestones**

| Milestones  | Due date    | Payment         |
|---|-------------|-----------------|
| <b>2017-18</b>  |             |                 |
| Annual progress report (2016-17) demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the endorsed Response Plan.  | June 2018   | Up to \$150,451 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarterly reports (2017-18), endorsed by the National Biosecurity Management Consultative Committee (NBMCC) demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the agreed Response Plan. | August 2018 | Up to \$341,201 |
| <b>2018-19</b>  |             |                 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarterly reports (2018-19), endorsed by the NBMCC demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the agreed Response Plan.  | May 2019    | Up to \$711,669 |

| <b>2019-20</b>  |              |                 |
|---|--------------|-----------------|
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarterly report (2018-19) and 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarterly reports (2019-20), endorsed by the NBMCC demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the agreed Response Plan. | May 2020     | Up to \$648,411 |
| <b>2020-21</b>  |              |                 |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarterly report (2019-20) and 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarterly reports (2020-21), endorsed by the NBMCC demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the agreed Response Plan. | May 2021     | Up to \$432,572 |
| <b>2021-22</b>  |              |                 |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarterly report (2020-21) and final report, endorsed by the NBMCC demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the agreed Response Plan.  | January 2022 | Up to \$59,016  |

## PART 4: REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

9. The Northern Territory will report against the agreed milestones as outlined in Table 1.
10. The Northern Territory will provide a final report demonstrating completion of the eradication program in 2021-22 within three months of completion of operational requirements of the Response Plan including demonstration of completion of outputs under the agreed Response Plan.
11. Circumstances may give rise to additional reporting being sought in accordance with the NEBRA.

## PART 5: FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

12. The Commonwealth's agreed financial contribution for the National Browsing Ant Eradication Program – Northern Territory is outlined in Table 2 and payable in accordance with the milestones set out in Table 1. All payments are exclusive of GST.

**Table 2: Estimated financial contributions**

|              | <b>2017-18</b> | <b>2018-19</b> | <b>2019-20</b> | <b>2020-21</b> | <b>2021-22</b> |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Commonwealth | \$491,652      | \$711,669      | \$648,411      | \$432,572      | \$59,016       |

## PART 6: SIGN OFF

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this Schedule as follows:

*Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by*



Date 15.8.18

**Signature**

**The Honourable David Littleproud MP  
Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources**

*Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by*



Date 26.9.18

**Signature**

**The Honourable Kenneth Vowles MLA  
Minister for Primary Industry and Resources**