

National *Lepisiota incisa* Response Program

PROJECT AGREEMENT FOR PEST AND DISEASE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROGRAMS

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule

Parties	Commonwealth Western Australia (WA)
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 30 June 2029. For the purposes of Clause 10 of the <i>Project Agreement for Pest and Disease Preparedness and Response Programs</i>, this Schedule also expires on completion or termination of the '<i>National Lepisiota incisa Eradication Program Response Plan</i>' version 4.0 (the Response Plan) WA, as determined by the National Biosecurity Management Group (NBMG). However, in those circumstances this Schedule still allows for the processing of any payments for milestones met up to termination.
Purpose	This Schedule will support the delivery of the Response Plan to eradicate the exotic invasive ant species <i>Lepisiota incisa</i> (<i>L. incisa</i>) from WA. The Response Plan version 4.0 was approved on 15 September 2025. Activities under this Schedule continue to build on work previously undertaken during the <i>L. incisa</i> Response Plans versions 2.2 and 3.0, with a further intensive strategy. This Schedule (AM2) replaces Schedule AM – '<i>Lepisiota incisa Western Australia Eradication Program</i>' which expired on the 31 December 2025.
Project Elements	The WA response to the <i>L. incisa</i> will deliver actions as detailed in the Response Plan, which was approved by NBMG on 15 September 2025. The project elements of the Response Plan program are: (a) Treatment: The most effective treatment method to date is insecticide spray with the active ingredient, fipronil. (b) Surveillance: Visual surveillance is the key surveillance strategy lures and pitfall trapping will continue to be used as additional surveillance tools and as circumstances require. (c) Community engagement: Engagement activities, including media releases and web-based advisor materials will be undertaken to gain support and cooperation from community and industry, thereby encouraging surveillance and support of eradication and proof of freedom (PoF) activities.

	(d) Containment: Quarantine and movement controls have been implemented mitigating spread risk and obtaining important tracing information. (e) Policy and planning: Compliance activities are conducted under the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>. (f) Support services: The Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry will work closely with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development WA, where detections occur on an Approved Arrangement site regulated under the Commonwealth’s <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>.																				
Estimated financial contributions	The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to WA of up to \$1.177 million in respect of this Schedule (AM2). The agreed maximum financial contribution for the National <i>Lepisiota incisa</i> Eradication Program is outlined in Table 1A and payable in accordance with the milestones set out in Table 2. <table><tr><th>Table 1A</th><th>2025-26</th><th>2026-27</th><th>2027-28</th><th>Total</th></tr><tr><th>(\$ million)</th><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Australian Government</td><td>0.570</td><td>0.389</td><td>0.217</td><td>1.177</td></tr><tr><td>Maximum Australian Government Contribution to WA</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1.177</td></tr></table> Note: Table 1A reflects financial year in which response activities are conducted and differs to financial year of payment which is shown in Table 2 below. All payments are exclusive of GST. Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand and are outlined in full in Table 2.	Table 1A	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Total	(\$ million)					Australian Government	0.570	0.389	0.217	1.177	Maximum Australian Government Contribution to WA				1.177
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Additional terms	1. The program will be conducted as a response under the National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement (NEBRA). 1.1. Reporting obligations are set out in Table 2, however, circumstances may give rise to additional reporting being sought. WA will provide such additional reporting at the request of the Commonwealth as is reasonable. 2. Each party will contribute funding in accordance with the financial commitments agreed by the NBMG on 15 September 2025. 2.1. Final contributions, of ‘Up to’ the Commonwealth’s maximum, will be based on actual expenditure and determined by the NEBRA custodian, DAFF, in accordance with the NEBRA and the Response Plan. 2.2. The Commonwealth’s maximum potential payments are set out in Table 2 milestones, however where applicable, may be adjusted to match the Commonwealth’s share of actual expenditure as determined under additional term 2.1.																				

	2.3. An Upper Limit on Expenditure was endorsed by NBMG as set out in Clause 9.1, of the NEBRA. The NBMG will monitor and maintain oversight of expenditure ensuring actual expenditure remains within the agreed conditions of the Response Plan. Expenditure by Parties above the set Upper Limits may not be approved for cost-sharing by the NBMG. 2.4. The Commonwealth Minister may, at their discretion, move all or part of an underspend against a milestone in a financial year to a milestone in another financial year. Such a circumstance may arise where the NBMG has agreed that the Response Plan can be varied to include additional Cost-Shared activities, or extend duration, without increasing the overall maximum contribution under this Schedule. 3. This Schedule will be reassessed in conjunction with reviews of the status of the Response Plan and decisions by the NBMG.
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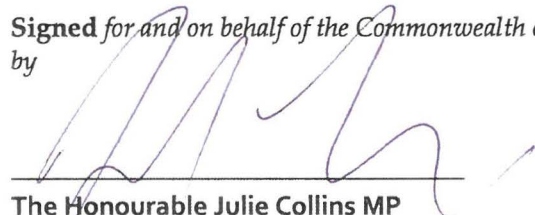
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Table 2: Western Australia – Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary

Output	Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
Implement strategies to eradicate <i>Lepisiota incisa</i> from WA.	Milestone 1 Commonwealth acceptance of Annual Progress Report (2025-26) endorsed by the National Biosecurity Management Consultative Committee NBMCC as demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements of the Response Plan.	December 2026	Up to \$570,004.31 subject to the additional terms.
	Milestone 2 Commonwealth acceptance of Final Report (Proof of Freedom) , endorsed by the NBMCC as demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements of the Response Plan.	December 2028	Up to \$606,828.19 subject to the additional terms.
	Milestone 3 Final Financial Acquitall and Financial Audit Report provided to the NBMG.	December 2028	Nil Payment

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

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia
by



The Honourable Julie Collins MP
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

[Day] [Month] 2026

21 / 5 / 2026

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Western Australia
by



The Honourable Jackie Jarvis MLC
Minister for Agriculture and Food

[Day] [Month] 2026

03 / 09 / 2026

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