



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Water and the Environment

TORRES STRAIT ISLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL (TSIRC) HAS INTRODUCED LAWS REQUIRING THE DISPOSAL OF COMMERCIAL AND CONSTRUCTION WASTE OUTSIDE THE TSIRC LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

Biosecurity requirements for removing commercial and construction waste from Torres Strait



Commercial and construction (building) materials require inspection by a Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) Biosecurity Officer prior to movement to confirm:

- biosecurity risks posed by the materials
- actions necessary to minimise identified risks; and
- whether the materials are 'waste' for the purposes of applicable Commonwealth and State biosecurity regulations (and related permit requirements).

ALL COMMERCIAL BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS REQUIRE A PERMIT TO MOVE UNLESS A BIOSECURITY OFFICER DETERMINES:

- the materials can be safely and effectively inspected prior to movement;
- actions necessary to manage identified risks can be achieved prior to removal from legislated zones in Torres Strait (eg. approved insect treatment applied before movement); and/or
- the materials are not 'waste' or contaminated with items of biosecurity concern for the purposes of the regulations.



PERMIT REQUIRED. Materials are unseparated, inappropriately contained and risks cannot be safely confirmed through inspection.



PERMIT MAY NOT BE REQUIRED. Materials have been separated prior to inspection and packing and are free of contaminants of biosecurity concern.

Integrate good biosecurity practice into your containment, transport and planning

STEP 1 As you work, separate materials into component parts to allow for biosecurity inspection prior to packing and removal from construction sites. Ensure the materials are free of biosecurity risk items such as soil, plant matter and pooled water.

These actions will help timely decisions on permit and any treatment requirements and can help to reduce associated costs.

STEP 2 Arrange a biosecurity inspection before packing waste and preparing for removal from the site.

STEP 3 Reduce biosecurity risks before and during transport. Use receptacles that:

- are well-covered to prevent water ingress and pooling
- leak-proof
- vermin-proof.



READY FOR REMOVAL. Waste has been inspected and appropriately contained before movement.

Need to apply for a permit?

A PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR EACH MOVEMENT OF MATERIALS CLASSIFIED AS WASTE

Biosecurity 'conditions' for moving commercial and construction waste will be specified on the permit. These conditions apply to:

- the receptacles used to contain and transport waste
- fumigation or other specified treatment requirements
- approved movement arrangements, and
- approved disposal arrangements after movement.

It is the permit holder's responsibility to ensure all conditions specified on the permit are complied with.

Costs associated with specified treatments and controls are the responsibility of the person in charge of the waste.

TO APPLY FOR A PERMIT:

 **GO TO:** awe.gov.au/torres-strait or use the QR code on your phone or tablet



Biosecurity in Torres Strait

BIOSECURITY RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH WASTE

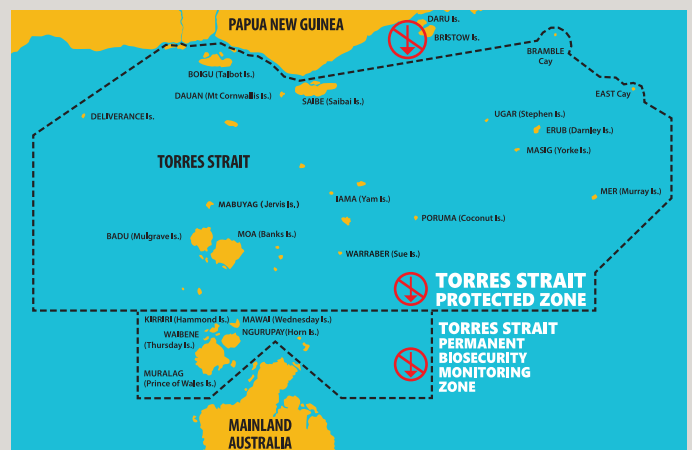
Movements of building and construction waste from Torres Strait can pose major threats to Australia's agricultural industries, plant and animal health status and environment if risks regularly associated with waste are not effectively managed. Risks include contaminants, infestations, pooled water and other items capable of enabling movements of harmful mosquitoes and other insects, soil borne diseases and diverse pests and diseases of concern (including exotic fruit flies, the Asian tiger mosquito, and black Sigatoka disease of bananas).

BIOSECURITY REGULATIONS

The Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment regulates southward movements of goods and other materials from the Torres Strait Protected Zone to the Torres Strait Permanent Biosecurity Zone and any Torres Strait island to the mainland consistent with relevant provisions of the Commonwealth *Biosecurity Act 2015*. See map of Torres Strait biosecurity zones.

Queensland Government regulations may also apply to the movement of waste within and from Torres Strait.

For further information, contact **Biosecurity Queensland** on 13 25 23 or email info@daf.qld.gov.au



Map of Torres Strait biosecurity zones.

For more advice or to arrange a biosecurity inspection, contact the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

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