

# First point of entry biosecurity standards (ports)

Guide to meeting section 58 of the Biosecurity Regulation 2016

Version 4.0



#### © Commonwealth of Australia 2017

#### Ownership of intellectual property rights

Unless otherwise noted, copyright (and any other intellectual property rights, if any) in this publication is owned by the Commonwealth of Australia (referred to as the Commonwealth).

#### **Creative Commons licence**

All material in this publication is licensed under a Creative <u>Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence</u> except content supplied by third parties, logos and the Commonwealth Coat of Arms.

Inquiries about the licence and any use of this document should be emailed to <a href="mailto:copyright@agriculture.gov.au">copyright@agriculture.gov.au</a>.



#### **Cataloguing data**

This publication (and any material sourced from it) should be attributed as: Department of Agriculture and Water Resources 2017, *First point of entry biosecurity standards (ports): guide to meeting section 58 of the Biosecurity Regulation 2016*, version 4.0, Canberra, August. CC BY 4.0.

Department of Agriculture and Water Resources Postal address GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601 Telephone 1800 900 090 Web <u>agriculture.gov.au</u> Email <u>biosecurityfirstpoints@agriculture.gov.au</u>

The Australian Government acting through the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources has exercised due care and skill in preparing and compiling the information and data in this publication. Notwithstanding, the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, its employees and advisers disclaim all liability, including liability for negligence and for any loss, damage, injury, expense or cost incurred by any person as a result of accessing, using or relying on any of the information or data in this publication to the maximum extent permitted by law.

# **Contents**

1	Purp	ose	1
2	Con	text	1
3	Ope	rational objectives	2
4	Regi	ılatory approach	2
5	Gov	erning principles	2
6	Role	s and responsibilities	3
	6.1	Government	3
	6.2	Industry	3
7	Regi	ulatory requirements	4
8	Gen	eral facility and operating standards	4
	8.1	Implementing biosecurity measures	5
	8.2	Providing facilities and amenities	8
	8.3	Identifying and reporting biosecurity incidents	14
	8.4	Managing other factors affecting level of biosecurity risk	15
9	Noti	fication requirements	16
10	Glos	sary	17
Fig		Entity responsibility for biosecurity risks, first points of entry (ports)	4
	bles	o Siosecurity incident response standard	5
		Vaste goods management standard	
		eneral port facility standard	
		eneral goods standard for ports landing goods	
		ruise vessel standard (traveller personal effects)	
		Ion-commercial vessel standard	
		ive animal standard	
		ontainer standard	
		lew vehicle standard	
		Biosecurity risk awareness standard	
		Environmental management standard	
	_		

### 1 Purpose

This document is for authorities and operators at Australian first point of entry ports. It describes their responsibilities under section 58 of the <u>Biosecurity Regulation 2016</u>. Section 58 sets out the requirements for a port to be designated a first point of entry.

A first point of entry must enable:

- effective management of biosecurity risks associated with port operations
- Australian Government biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers to perform government biosecurity risk management functions.

Port authorities and operators should use this document to understand their responsibilities to gain or maintain first point of entry status under the <u>Biosecurity Act 2015</u>.

### 2 Context

The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources manages biosecurity risks associated with the arrival of international vessels, people and goods. It does this by regulating where vessels can moor when they enter Australia.

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* enables the Australian Government to manage the risk of entry of pests and diseases that may cause harm to animal, plant and human health, the environment and the economy. All international vessels and goods that enter Australian territory are subject to biosecurity control.

Vessels subject to biosecurity control must only enter ports designated as first points of entry (unless the department has granted permission to moor elsewhere). This ensures that vessels enter Australia at a location that has appropriate facilities and personnel to manage biosecurity risks to an acceptable level.

To be approved as a first point of entry, a port must have facilities, arrangements and systems in place to effectively manage biosecurity risks associated with operations.

# 3 Operational objectives

At first points of entry, the department protects the Australian community, environment and economy by:

- managing biosecurity risks created by the international movement of vessels and cargo
- maintaining border integrity through the biosecurity clearance of vessels, people and goods.

The department also aims to provide a safe and healthy working environment for its staff.

### 4 Regulatory approach

The department manages biosecurity risks at the border through strategically placed controls at points along import and arrivals pathways.

The regulatory environment at first points of entry includes:

- departmental controls underpinned by the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (such as pre-arrival reporting, ballast water and import conditions)
- controls under legislation administered by other regulatory agencies (security and environmental protection).

Section 58 of the Biosecurity Regulation 2016 provides for control of biosecurity risks introduced by first point operations that have not already been addressed.

# 5 Governing principles

The department will be guided by these principles when regulating first points of entry:

- First point of entry biosecurity standards will aim to mitigate or reduce biosecurity risk (including consideration of likelihood and consequence).
- First point of entry biosecurity standards will be outcome focused, recognising that
  biosecurity risk management can be achieved using a range of strategies and approaches.
  We will apply requirements relative to the size, arrival frequency, likely biosecurity risks
  and nature of operations of different ports. A minimum set of standards may apply across all
  ports.
- Where possible, the department will minimise the impact on terminal infrastructure and cost to the port authority and operator by
  - using shared facilities/amenities
  - applying requirements relative to size and nature of operations
- The people or entities facilitating international arrivals and/or deriving benefit from it are responsible for managing biosecurity risk. The level of responsibility will depend on where the potential biosecurity risk occurs along the continuum.

# 6 Roles and responsibilities

#### 6.1 Government

The department deploys biosecurity officers to first points of entry to assess and manage risks associated with vessels, goods and travellers, and to undertake surveillance for pests and diseases of biosecurity concern.

The department establishes standards to ensure that port authorities and operators make appropriate facilities available for biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers to assess and manage biosecurity risks created by first point operations. We may also issue directions for managing a response to an identified biosecurity incident or suspected biosecurity risk at a first point of entry.

The Department of Health co-administers the *Biosecurity Act 2015* with the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. The Department of Health is responsible for establishing standards for managing human biosecurity risks at a first point of entry. The Department of Health may issue directions for managing a response to an identified human biosecurity incident or suspected human biosecurity risk at a first point of entry.

### 6.2 Industry

First point determinations are made for a geographical area or place. Many entities operate within a port location, so managing biosecurity risk is a shared responsibility. All entities are responsible for meeting the first point of entry biosecurity standards relevant to their part of the port's operations (see tables 1 to 11). Examples of entities include port authorities, third-party operators leasing berth space, stevedores, shipping lines and other logistical agents.

A single entity may have multiple roles within a first point of entry. For example, a port authority managing the port as a whole may also operate a berth facilitating imports within the port. The entity is therefore responsible for meeting the standards for all its relevant operations.

Entities operating at a port are accountable for their own compliance with the biosecurity legislation. If a port authority has a contractual arrangement with a third-party operator or lessee, the contract must include a condition that the third-party operator/lessee will abide by biosecurity legislation.

The department has primary responsibility for managing biosecurity incidents. However, entities are also responsible for actioning directions and paying costs, depending on area of operations (Figure 1). Costs will be attributed to entities according to the nature of the incident and the source and location of the risk. Entities performing services within an area (for example, third-party cargo handling services) may also be required to respond to biosecurity incidents or risks.

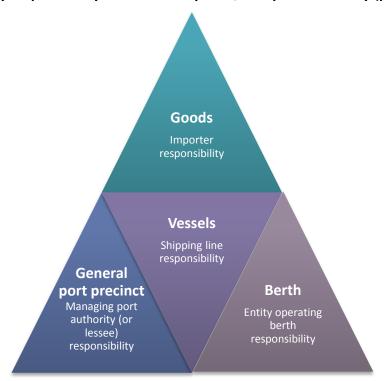


Figure 1 Entity responsibility for biosecurity risks, first points of entry (ports)

# 7 Regulatory requirements

Under section 58 of the Biosecurity Regulation 2016, a first point of entry port must have:

- appropriate procedures in place for managing the level of biosecurity risk (including waste management) associated with port operations.
- adequate facilities and amenities available at the port for biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers to perform functions or exercise powers under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.
- appropriate procedures in place for
  - ensuring that each person who carries out operations at the port can identify biosecurity risks associated with those operations
  - informing biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers of any identified biosecurity risks associated with port operations
  - managing any other factors that may affect the level of biosecurity risk associated with port operations.

# 8 General facility and operating standards

This section identifies the standards that port authorities and operators must meet for managing biosecurity risks associated with international movements at first point of entry ports. The standards are designed for a range of port operations.

If your port's business arrangements do not align with the standards, the department will consult with you and other relevant parties to allocate responsibility. Port operators wishing to make alternative arrangements for managing risks should present these to the department. We will consider whether the arrangements are sufficient to meet relevant requirements under section 58 of the Biosecurity Regulation 2016.

### 8.1 Implementing biosecurity measures

Under subsection 58(2) of the Biosecurity Regulation 2016, port authorities and operators at a first point of entry port must have in place:

- procedures, infrastructure and equipment to ensure an immediate response to a biosecurity incident or suspected risk
- procedures for managing waste goods subject to biosecurity control.

#### 8.1.1 Risk management strategies for biosecurity incidents

Objective: Timely containment of and response to suspected and confirmed biosecurity risks.

Table 1 details procedures, equipment and infrastructure that port authorities and operators must have in place for managing biosecurity incidents.

Table 1 Biosecurity incident response standard

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility
Biosecurity incident preparedness	Written evidencea that is easily accessible to staff and that includes:  • clearly articulated requirement to isolate and contain biosecurity risk and report it immediately to the department  • nominated contacts responsible for initiating an immediate response on behalf of the first point of entry  • where there are no approved treatment providers close to the port, specific arrangements approved by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources for containing detected or suspected exotic pests  • for common user facilities, all operators acknowledge and accept their responsibility for biosecurity incident preparedness and response through contractual arrangements or under their terms and conditions for use of common user berths.	Port authorities that manage general areas of the port must have incident preparedness plans for these areas.  Individual operators must have incident preparedness plans for all berths they own/lease or operate within the first point of entry where goods and conveyances subject to biosecurity control are managed.  Owners or managers of common user berths must include compliance with biosecurity response and preparedness plans in their terms and conditions of use to ensure users are aware of their obligations. Berth managers should make these plans available to the department when required.
	Access arrangements in place that enable treatment providers to undertake urgent responses (for example, fogging treatment of premises) in a timely manner.	Port authority Berth operators

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility
Containment of risk – insect or pest infestation	Infrastructure and equipment easily accessible to enable an incident response including:  • permethrin based knockdown spray  • appropriately sized tarpaulins for containment of infested goods.	Entities (for example, berth operators) that operate physical areas within the first point of entry where goods or conveyances subject to biosecurity control are managed.
	Hardstand <sup>b</sup> available for isolation of infested goods.	Entities (for example, berth operators) that operate physical areas within the first point of entry where goods and conveyances subject to biosecurity control are managed.  Not required at berths that do not
		land goods.
Containment of risk –	Appropriate accessible equipment for dealing	Berth operators
spillage	with spillage, including brooms, shovels, buckets, absorbent litter, tarpaulins and a supply of department-approved disinfectant.	Not required at berths that do not land goods.

**a** Port operators can also provide written evidence using the department's First point of entry biosecurity risk management template. Other forms of written evidence (such as extracts from existing plans) are also acceptable. **b** The hardstand does not need to be permanently designated for this purpose but must be available for use at short notice, segregated from other goods and secured from unauthorised access.

#### 8.1.2 Risk management strategies for managing waste goods

Objective: Control of biosecurity risks associated with waste goods subject to biosecurity control. These include waste goods from the vessel and surrendered or unwanted goods generated by or resulting from port operations.

Table 2 details procedures and facilities that port authorities and operators must have in place for managing biosecurity risks associated with waste goods subject to biosecurity control. The table also defines responsibility for managing waste arrangements with third parties, including any associated costs.

Table 2 Waste goods management standard

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility
Waste goods – collection and treatment (vessels)	Arrangement for the collection and treatment of waste goods subject to biosecurity control from international vessels arriving at the port:  1) Arrangement with a department-approved waste management provider.  or  2) Held on board the vessel.  or  3) Where option 1 is not available, an alternative arrangement approved by the Department of Agriculture	Shipping line/master of vessel The department is responsible for notifying shipping lines of their responsibilities in this area.  Owners/operators of berths facilitating noncommercial vessels (including yachts) subject to biosecurity control.
Waste goods – collection and treatment (onshore)	and Water Resources.  Arrangement for the collection and treatment of waste goods subject to biosecurity control from the port and berth precincts:	Entities that operate physical areas within the first point of entry where goods and conveyances subject to biosecurity control are managed, for example:

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility	
	<ol> <li>Arrangement with department-approved waste management provider.         or</li> <li>If option 1 is not viable, an alternative arrangement approved by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>port authority</li> <li>berth operators.</li> <li>Not required at berths that do not land goods.</li> </ul>	
Waste goods – containment	Approved biosecurity waste receptacle to be made available for disposal of waste goods subject to biosecurity control and loose items of biosecurity risk that do not form part of the documented consignment <sup>a</sup> .  Waste goods subject to biosecurity control must be:  1) double bagged.  or  2) stored in re-usable receptacles that are sealed or closed securely to prevent escape of live insects or seeping of biosecurity waste goods.  Receptacles must be:  • maintained free of cracks, tears and damage that could prevent them from effectively containing waste goods subject to biosecurity control  • cleaned and disinfected with approved disinfectants at an approved rate before re-use if they have come into contact with waste goods subject to biosecurity control.	Entities that operate physical areas within the first point of entry where goods and conveyances subject to biosecurity control are managed, for example:  • port authority  • berth operators.  Not required at berths that do not land goods.	
Waste goods – security	Waste bags/receptacles must be:     clearly marked as 'biosecurity waste'     secure.	Entities that operate physical areas within the first point of entry where goods and conveyances subject to biosecurity control are managed, for example:  • port authority  • berth operators.  Not required at berths that do not land goods.	
Dunnage	International dunnage that does not have an ISPM 15 stamp must be:  1) returned to the vessel. or  2) stored in a clearly marked and secured dunnage container prior to treatment by a department approved provider within 14 days. or 3) stored in a clearly marked and secured dunnage container prior to collection by department-approved waste management provider.	Individual berth operators  Not required at berths that do not land goods.	

 $<sup>{\</sup>bf a}$  For example, soil, seeds, bags, fruit cartons or plant or animal contamination.

### 8.2 Providing facilities and amenities

Under subsection 58(3) of the Biosecurity Regulation, port authorities and operators must provide adequate facilities and amenities for biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers to perform functions or exercise powers under the Biosecurity Act.

The department will assess port infrastructure requirements relative to size, type and regularity of operations and the need for biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers to attend the port to perform functions under the Act.

When applying these standards to ports that we do not staff permanently, we will consider factors including patterns of staff attendance and proximity to department offices.

#### 8.2.1 Enabling officers to perform functions under the Biosecurity Act

Objective: Enable and support biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers to perform functions under the Biosecurity Act.

Table 3 details facilities and amenities that port authorities and operators must provide to enable biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers to safely and effectively assess, inspect and treat biosecurity risks associated with vessels, travellers and goods.

**Table 3 General port facility standard** 

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility
Signagea	Capacity for the display of appropriate biosecurity signage or messaging when required.	Port authority Individual berth operators
Office facilities <sup>b</sup> at sites where biosecurity officers are permanently assigned and where there is no department office nearby	Provision of a secure area of adequate size to accommodate workstations, computers, printers, photocopiers and general supplies storage.	Port authority responsible for determining where facilities will be provided and how costs of provision of office space will be attributed to port operators.
Amenities	Access to clean, serviced toilets.	Port authority Individual berth operators
Parking/access	Provision of designated parking areas for staff, close to sites where biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers are to perform functions under the <i>Biosecurity Act</i> 2015.	Port authority Individual berth operators
	Ready access (and escort if required) to berth or other areas where biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers are to perform functions under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> .	

**a** Signage or content for messaging will be provided by Department of Agriculture and Water Resources or Department of Health. **b** Requirements will be based on number of staff located permanently at the port.

#### 8.2.2 Enabling biosecurity officers to manage potential risks of general goods

Objective: Control of potential biosecurity risks associated with general goods subject to biosecurity control in the berth environment.

Table 4 details procedures and infrastructure that port authorities and operators must have in place to enable biosecurity officers to manage the risks of exposure to general goods in the berth environment. The requirements apply to all ports landing goods subject to biosecurity control. The department may approve alternative arrangements if the risk can be appropriately managed. Some activities will only be permitted when an approved arrangement (paragraph 406(1)(a) of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*) is in place.

Table 4 General goods standard, ports landing goods

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility
Goods – discharge	Hardstand of a size suitable for the type and volume of goods under biosecurity control.	Berth owner or manager
Goods – storage (including goods for transhipment)	Goods that have not been released from biosecurity control are transported immediately to an appropriate approved arrangement site (paragraph 406(1)(a) of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> ) or stored in a secure biosecurity area that:	Importer or importer's agent to arrange. Berth operator to provide where importers have not arranged for immediate transport to approved
	<ul> <li>prevents access and removal of goods by unauthorised persons</li> </ul>	arrangement site.
	<ul> <li>has an impervious concrete or asphalt floor in good condition and free of significant cracking that may enable escape of insects or allow weeds to become established</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>has an impervious physical barrier between goods subject to biosecurity control and other goods or is separated by a minimum of one pallet width</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>has an impervious physical barrier between goods subject to biosecurity control and the fence line/boundary or is separated by a minimum of one pallet width</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>displays biosecurity signage.</li> </ul>	
Goods – treatment	1) Arrangements for timely and secure transport of goods requiring decontamination to an approved arrangement site (paragraph 406(1)(a) of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> ) nearby.	Importer or importer's agent to arrange. Berth operator to provide where importers have not arranged for immediate transport to approved
	or	arrangement site.
	<ol><li>Provision of a wash bay with the following specifications:</li></ol>	
	<ul> <li>size suitable for vehicles, containers or equipment being cleaned</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>constructed of an impermeable material to contain all residues/sediment and splash from cleaning operations</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>wastewater flows directly into a municipal sewerage system or enclosed holding tank (as part of a department-approved system)</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>areas adjacent to the wash bay are free of vegetation and preferably consist of a hard surface.</li> </ul>	

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility
	Readily available procedures for using the wash	
	bay and cleaning/disinfection of facilities	
	following use.	

# 8.2.3 Enabling biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers to manage potential risks of specified vessels and goods

Objective: Control of potential biosecurity risks associated with specified classes of vessels and goods in the berth environment.

Some specified classes of vessels and goods require particular infrastructure or procedures to manage associated biosecurity risks. Physical areas within the port where particular requirements have been met are designated as biosecurity entry points (BEPs) for these specified classes of vessel or goods. If BEPs have been designated on a first point of entry determination, all specified vessels or goods must arrive at or be brought to the BEP on arrival into the port.

Standards detailed in Table 5, Table 6, Table 7, Table 8 and Table 9 only apply to port operators undertaking operations for specified classes of vessels or goods (in designated BEPs) and must be met in addition to other relevant standards. The department may approve alternative arrangements if the risk can be appropriately managed and the required outcome achieved.

Table 5 details procedures and infrastructure that port authorities and operators must have in place to enable biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers to manage biosecurity risks associated with travellers and travellers' baggage unloaded at the berth.

Table 5 Cruise vessel standard (traveller personal effects)

Standard	Evidenc	re	Responsibility
Travellers – baggage inspection and treatment		ent (or temporary, as approved by the lent) covered inspection area with:	Berth owner/operator
	•	adequate inspection benches (temporary or permanent) suitable for volume of travellers disembarking	
	•	adequate lighting	
	•	tensa barriers for queue management and separation of domestic and international travellers.	
	deploym	he department deems detector dog nent necessary for screening travellers r baggage:	
	1)	An undercover area to house a crate that is isolated from the traveller screening area.	
	2)	Easy access from traveller screening area to the vehicle used to transport detector dogs.	
		e space to conduct detector dog g of travellers when required.	
		s where travellers are disembarking, o sink and washbasin with:	
	•	hot and cold water for treating small goods under biosecurity control	
	•	drainage mechanisms that flow directly into a municipal sewerage system or enclosed holding tank (as part of a wastewater management system approved by the department).	
Travellers – waste	1)	Procedure for goods of biosecurity risk surrendered by travellers to be returned to the vessel for management.	Berth operator/master of vessel
	2)	Department-approved waste arrangement for disposal of surrendered goods of biosecurity risk.	
Travellers – human health facilities	1)	Provision of a health room for screening and isolating ill travellers, in accordance with the department's room data standards.  or	Berth owner/operator/master of vessel  The department is responsible for notifying shipping lines of their responsibilities in this area.
	2)	Procedure for confining ill travellers to their cabins or on-board medical facility for assessment and isolation of human health risks.	
Travellers – human biosecurity incident response		ted contact for coordinating the of the berth or port.	Berth operators

Table 6 details the procedures and infrastructure that port authorities and operators must have in place to enable biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers to safely and effectively manage the risks of non-commercial vessels and their contents.

**Table 6 Non-commercial vessel standard** 

Standard	Evidence	9	Responsibility
Non-commercial vessel – isolation	Berthing specificat	area has the following tions:	Berth owner/operator
	•	isolated from other vessels	
		restricts public access to the berth	
		provides safe access for biosecurity officers and human biosecurity officers to assess and manage vessels and goods subject to biosecurity control.	
	Midwater	r mooring to be made available.	
Waste goods management	1)	Formal arrangements with department-approved waste management provider.	Berth owner/operator
		or	
	2)	Appropriate alternative arrangement approved by the department.	

Table 7 details procedures and infrastructure that port authorities and operators must have in place to enable biosecurity officers to manage the risks of berth exposure to live animals.

**Table 7 Live animal standard** 

Standard	Eviden	ce	Responsibility
Live animals (general) – waste management	Approved biosecurity waste receptacle serviced by a department-approved waste management provider, to be made available for disposal of waste goods subject to biosecurity control.		Berth operator
Live animals (general) – exposure	(Bernella, Francisco de Contraction		Berth owner
	1)	Process to facilitate immediate cleaning, disinfection, containment or treatment of areas, vessels (or other conveyances) or goods that may have been exposed to the animal, according to the directions of a biosecurity officer through provision of:	Berth operator
		- ready and adequate supply of water with appropriate water pressure	
		<ul> <li>disinfecting agents and cleaning equipment to be used as directed by a biosecurity officer.</li> </ul>	
		or	
	2)	Timely access for approved treatment providers who can perform decontamination and treatment.	

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility	
Live animals (general) – containment	Procedure for containment of an escaped animal.	Berth operator	
Domestics cats, dogs <sup>b</sup> , laboratory animals – inspection and exposure	<ol> <li>Provision of a secure holding area that prevents escape and has the following specifications:         <ul> <li>hard surface flooring</li> <li>adequate lighting</li> <li>restricted access to the public.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	Berth owner	
	2) Arrangements for timely and secure transport of cats, dogs or laboratory animals <sup>b</sup> to a post-entry quarantine facility or approved arrangement site (paragraph 406(1)(a) of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> ). Animals must be held on board the vessel until transport can occur.	Importer or importer's agent to arrange.	
Live horses <sup>c</sup> – from designated low-risk countries, low volume/frequency	Provision of a holding area, separate from other operations and with:  • hardstand surface  • fencing or barriers to create a secure area (temporary or permanent)  • access for horse transport, allowing manoeuvre without bogging  • adequate lighting to facilitate clearance at night (may be transportable but must be onsite and available for use). Multiple light sources should be used to reduce shadow and glare.	Berth owner/operator	

**a** Hardstand does not need to be permanently designated for this purpose. **b** Excludes assistance dogs travelling with their handler. **c** Berth operators who import live horses from countries other than those designated as low risk or in higher volume/frequency will have to meet additional conditions determined by the department.

Table 8 details procedures and infrastructure that port authorities and operators must have in place for biosecurity officers to manage the biosecurity risks of containers.

**Table 8 Container standard** 

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility
Containers - inspection	Covered area for wharf gate inspections (at berths where the department deems it necessary) where inspections are conducted regularly and for extended periods.	Berth operator
	Covered area (may be a temporary structure at the department's discretion) with seat for biosecurity officers undertaking container inspections for extended periods.	
	A stand suitable for the type of inspection being undertaken <sup>a</sup> and which has been certified according to standards in the department's <u>Standards for Sea Freight Container Inspection Stands</u> .	

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility
Containers – waste management	Approved biosecurity waste receptacle, serviced by a department-approved waste management provider, which is:	Berth operator
	• secure	
	<ul> <li>labelled as biosecurity waste</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>maintained free of cracks, tears and damage that could result in waste goods subject to biosecurity control not being properly contained</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>where it has come into contact with waste goods subject to biosecurity control, cleaned and disinfected with approved disinfectants at an approved rate before re-use.</li> </ul>	

**a** A special Country Action List stand is required for all Country Action List (CAL) inspections.

Table 9 details the procedures and infrastructure that port authorities and operators must have in place to enable biosecurity officers to manage the biosecurity risks of new vehicles unloaded at the berth.

Table 9 New vehicle standard

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility
New vehicles – inspection	<ol> <li>Work health and safety (WHS) certified lift to allow safe inspection of vehicles.</li> </ol>	Berth operator
	or	
	2) Where a lift has not been provided, arrangements for timely and secure transport of vehicles to an approved arrangement site (paragraph 406(1)(a) of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> ) nearby, when directed by biosecurity officer.	

### 8.3 Identifying and reporting biosecurity incidents

Under paragraphs 58(4)(a) and (b) of the Biosecurity Regulation, port authorities and operators must have procedures in place to ensure all personnel (including third-party service providers) interacting with goods and vessels under biosecurity control can:

- identify and contain biosecurity risks associated with their operations at the first point of entry
- understand their obligations to report these to a biosecurity officer and/or human biosecurity officer.

#### 8.3.1 Ensuring staff are aware of and report biosecurity risks

Objective: Timely identification and reporting of suspected biosecurity risks.

Table 10 details procedures that port authorities and operators must have in place to ensure their staff are aware of biosecurity risks.

Table 10 Biosecurity risk awareness standard

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility
Awareness	Biosecurity awareness package (provided by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources) is made available to relevant staff members.  Biosecurity awareness information is included in induction packages and berth handbooks.	Port authorities, berth managers and operators, and shipping lines are responsible for their staff.
		The department is responsible for notifying shipping lines of their responsibilities in this area.
		Owners or managers of common user berths must include adherence to biosecurity risk awareness and reporting requirements in their terms and conditions of use to ensure users are aware of their obligations.
Biosecurity risk reporting	Procedures (including contact numbers) for reporting biosecurity incidents are accessible to all staff.	Port authorities, berth managers and operators, and shipping lines are responsible for their staff.
	At common-user facilities Operators acknowledge and accept their responsibility for ensuring staff are aware of and report biosecurity risk; operators should do this through contractual arrangements and in their terms and conditions for use of common user berths.	The department is responsible for notifying shipping lines of their responsibilities in this area.
		Owners or managers of common user berths must include adherence to biosecurity risk awareness and reporting requirements in their terms and conditions of use to ensure users are aware of their obligations.

# 8.4 Managing other factors affecting level of biosecurity risk

Under paragraph 58(4)(c) of the Biosecurity Regulation, port authorities and operators must manage any other factors that may contribute to or affect the level of biosecurity risk associated with operations carried out at the port.

### 8.4.1 Environmental management of port precinct (hazard/pest control)

Objective: Reduce the likelihood of incoming pests and diseases establishing in the port and beyond.

Table 11 details the procedures that port authorities and operators must have in place to minimise exposure of the port environment to pests and diseases.

**Table 11 Environmental management standard** 

Standard	Evidence	Responsibility
Feral animal control	Regular trapping/baiting/surveillance regimes.	Port authority for general areas of the port precinct
	Documentation of activity provided to the department on request.	Berth manager at common user facility
		Individual berth operators
Rodent control	Regular trapping/baiting/surveillance regimes	Port authority for general areas of the port precinct
	Documentation of activity provided to the department on request.	Berth manager at common user facility
		Individual berth operators
Vegetation control	Regular vegetation control regimes including mowing/pruning/weed spraying activities to prevent establishment and flowering of exotic species.	Port authority for general areas of the port precinct Berth manager at common user facility
	Documentation of activity to be provided to the department on request.	Individual berth operators
Management of pooling water	Activities to manage pooling water, including monitoring sites such as drains,	Port authority for general areas of the port precinct
	tyres, construction bollards and tanks.  Where necessary, water accumulation	Berth manager at common user facility Individual berth operators
	points are treated to prevent vector breeding.	
Rubbish management	Rubbish management strategies.	Port authority for general areas of the port precinct
		Berth manager at common user facility
		Individual berth operators

# 9 Notification requirements

Port authorities and operators at a first point of entry port must inform the department of any material changes to their operations, facilities or processes that may affect either their ability to comply with the standards or require a variation to the approvals on their first point of entry determination. Examples include:

- changes to availability or condition of relevant port facilities or infrastructure
- addition of new berths or operators within the port
- significant increase in cruise traveller numbers
- changes to operations (such as commencing import of goods with specified standards).

The department will inform port authorities and operators of any changes that may affect the port, such as amendments to government policy introduced in response to changing biosecurity risks.

# 10 Glossary

Term	Definition
approved arrangements	An arrangement for which an approval is in force under paragraph 406(1)(a) of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> . These allow operators to manage biosecurity risks and/or assess goods in accordance with departmental requirements, using their own premises, facilities, equipment and people.
biosecurity entry point (BEP)	A physical area within a port that has been approved for specified vessels or goods to arrive. BEPs must meet infrastructure or procedural requirements necessary to manage biosecurity risks. Designated BEPs are listed in the first point of entry determinations of each first point of entry port.
biosecurity officer	A person who is authorised to be a biosecurity officer under section 545 of the Biosecurity Act.
Country Action List (CAL)	Maintained by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, CAL identifies countries whose imports represent a high risk of biosecurity material entering Australia in containers or break bulk cargo.
first point of entry	A place determined as eligible to land international vessels, travellers and goods under section 229(1) of the Biosecurity Act.
human biosecurity officer	A person who is authorised to be a human biosecurity officer under section 563 of the Biosecurity Act.
port authority	Entity that owns or manages the port and general port precinct. A port authority may also be a port operator for the purpose of the standards.
port operator	Entity facilitating the arrival of vessels or goods subject to biosecurity control at a first point of entry port. Examples include third-party operators leasing berth space, stevedores, shipping lines and other logistical agents.
traveller	Includes passengers and crew.