



**Australian Government**

**Department of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Forestry**

# **Urban Search and Rescue Taskforces - Biosecurity Guidelines**

Sea Cargo Policy, Industry Partnerships and Strategic Engagement

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Scope.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Roles and responsibilities .....</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	NEMA/USAR Taskforces .....	5
3.2	The department.....	5
<b>4</b>	<b>Biosecurity risks .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Import requirements.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Prior to arrival in Australian Territory .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>On arrival in Australian Territory .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Onshore outcomes.....</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Glossary.....</b>	<b>12</b>
	<b>References.....</b>	<b>14</b>

# 1 Introduction

Australia has a unique ecosystem that supports a variety of fauna and flora. Biosecurity plays a critical role in reducing risk and shaping our nation to become one of the few countries in the world to remain free from some of the world's most invasive pests and diseases.

This guideline has been developed by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (the department) to provide information and guidance on Australian biosecurity requirements for returning Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Taskforces that have been deployed overseas, and international USAR Taskforces entering Australia to assist in the provision of emergency response and humanitarian aid.

The guideline provides information about the following:

- roles and responsibilities
- Australia's biosecurity risks
- offshore cleaning requirements
- on-arrival inspection regime
- appropriate actions as required by the department.

## **Legislation**

This guideline refers to legislation under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, *Biosecurity Regulation 2016*, *Biosecurity (Conditionally Non-prohibited Goods) Determination 2021* and the *Customs Tariff Act 1995*. The guideline does not limit the exercise of powers or the performance of duties or functions under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

The department may, at any stage, revise or amend the guideline.

## 2 Scope

This guideline applies to a variety of machinery and equipment (goods) likely to be required for USAR Taskforce personnel to undertake search and rescue work. Items and equipment that may be new or used, examples include, but are not limited to:

- machinery
- vehicles
- vessels
- aircraft
- parts
- equipment
- personal effects, issued by the USAR Taskforce
- live animals, such as rescue dogs
- biological items such as food products, animal foods and human therapeutics.

## 3 Roles and responsibilities

### 3.1 NEMA/USAR Taskforces

- Notify and engage with the department as soon as possible at the commencement of an overseas emergency deployment.
- Keep the department updated with any changes to deployment activities.
- Utilise department [cleaning guidelines and checklists](#) when preparing for and prior to arrival.
- Provide all required documentation to the department for assessment in a timely manner.
- Advise the department of the scheduled entry at the first Australian port of entry, including:
  - number of passengers (including crew) and associated cabin baggage
  - cargo manifests
  - proposed point of entry into Australia
  - estimated time of arrival (ETA).
- Ensure any service providers acting on behalf of the USAR Taskforce act in accordance with the guideline.

### 3.2 The department

- Provide advice through National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to USAR taskforces on requirements in this guideline, relevant policies, guidelines and cleaning standards.
- Assess, and evaluate pre-arrival documentation.
- On request, liaise with NEMA to arrange inspections of goods.

## 4 Biosecurity risks

The Commonwealth Biosecurity 2030 strategy highlights several key areas of concern that have the potential to negatively affect Australia's biosecurity.

These include:

- The impacts of climate change on weather patterns and the environment, leading to more dynamic and unexpected movements of biosecurity risks.
- Changes to the global landscape (e.g., trade agreements, population growth, pandemics), resulting in increased trade and movement of people and goods into/out from Australia.

The primary biosecurity risks associated with USAR Taskforces are plant and animal material, seeds, soil, and hitchhiker pests.

### **Plant material and seeds**

Plant material may harbour a range of pests and diseases, such as fungal bacteria or viruses, insect pests in all stages of their life cycles, as well as nematodes in various stages of development. Plant material may also contain other biosecurity risk material, including soil, live animals (e.g., snails), seeds classed as weeds, fungal bodies, or animal faeces.

Weeds compete with native plants, crops and wanted non-native plants for water, nutrients and light. Weeds and their seeds come in all shapes and sizes. Seeds can be very small and therefore get distributed with soil and easily lodged in cracks and crevices or fly or stick to rough surfaces due to appendages.

### **Animal material**

Australia is free of the world's worst animal diseases such as foot and mouth disease and avian influenza H5N1. Animal material including but not limited to meat, feathers, bones, hides and skins can carry exotic wildlife diseases that could risk the health of Australia's unique ecosystem.

### **Soil**

Soil may harbour contaminants such as fungal bacteria or viruses, animal excrement, live animals (e.g., snails), plant material or crop residues. Examples include foot and mouth disease and giant African snails.

### **Hitchhiking pests**

Hitchhiker pests are pests and diseases that travel opportunistically on conveyances, containers, and commodities regardless of the goods being imported. Hitchhiker pests include, but are not limited to, invasive ants, insects, and snails, along with plant and animal diseases previously mentioned.

### **Human health threats**

Biosecurity systems protects Australians from potential health impacts of exotic pests and diseases currently not present in Australia. There are many exotic animal diseases that can be transferred to and transmitted by people (zoonotic diseases). Examples include rabies, certain strains of avian influenza and more recently COVID-19. Exotic mosquitos can spread existing and new diseases, red imported fire ants are associated with anaphylactic responses in some people, while various diseases of plants may create allergic reactions. The department undertakes activity, on behalf of the

Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer, associated with significant human diseases presenting at our border. This includes pre-arrival reporting requirements, passenger health screening and surveillance activities relating to aircraft disinfection and vector monitoring.

## 5 Import requirements

Information relating to requirements for temporary importation of goods and returned Australian goods exported under carnet, can be found on the [Australian Border Force website](#).

### **Machinery, vehicles, vessels\*, aircraft\*, equipment and associated parts**

In this document, this includes machinery, vehicles, vessels, aircraft, equipment and associated parts.

These goods are defined as being either new or used:

- Cleaning to be undertaken offshore, prior to arrival into Australian territory.
- Water reservoirs (excluding radiators) or water pooled on vehicles must be emptied prior to arrival in Australian territory.
- All machinery, vehicles and equipment require an inspection on arrival in Australian territory.

For more information on requirements for machinery, vehicles, vessels, aircraft, equipment and associated parts, refer to the [department's website](#) and Attachment 1: General cleaning instructions.

\*Note this applies to vessels and aircraft arriving as cargo.

### **Biological items**

The department's Animal and Biological Imports Branch administers Australia's biosecurity import conditions for the import of biological products, these include animal or microbial derived products such as foods, therapeutics, laboratory materials and vaccines.

Any person or organisation bringing food products, animal food or human therapeutics into Australia, either as part of their personal baggage, by mail or as air or sea cargo, is subject to Australia's biosecurity laws.

Note that passengers (sea or air) are required to declare these items on incoming passenger cards (IPCs) on arrival into Australia. For more information refer to Attachment 2: Requirements for biological items.

### **Search and rescue dogs**

Rescue dogs may only be imported to Australia directly from an [approved country](#). All dogs destined to Australia, including those that were born and/or have lived in Australia and those returning to Australia after a short overseas trip, must fully comply with Australia's import conditions. Dogs must be accompanied by a valid import permit at the time of arrival in Australia, unless they are being imported directly from Norfolk Island or New Zealand with valid health certification. For more information, refer to Attachment 3: Search and rescue dogs.

## 6 Prior to arrival in Australian Territory

### **Offshore cleaning**

Prior to entry into Australian territory, all goods must be free of biosecurity risk material. All goods require cleaning prior to arrival. Cleaning includes washing, flushing and/or removing external and internal soil, plant and animal material, food items and /or garbage refuse from goods.

For detailed information including cleaning guides and checklists to support offshore cleaning please refer to the department's website [importing motor vehicles, motorcycles and machinery](#). These guides and checklists provide pictorial and written explanation about the common areas where biosecurity risk material is found.

### **Storage prior to arrival**

New and used goods that are stored outside prior to arrival can become contaminated. If storage outdoors has occurred, the person in charge of the goods is responsible for ensuring the goods are stored and loaded in clean conditions to prevent contamination.

Storing goods on or close to grass or soiled surfaces often results in contamination by seeds, snails, insects, or soil which can contain soil borne diseases and parasites. Extended periods of outdoor storage increase risk of contamination with seeds and hitchhiker pests.

### **Notice of goods to be unloaded in Australian territory**

The operator of the aircraft or vessel on which the goods are, or intended to be, brought into Australian territory must provide written notice to the department (Chapter 2 Part 1 Biosecurity Regulations 2016).

The notice be given if the goods are, or intended to be, brought into Australian territory:

- no later than 2 hours before the aircraft is estimated to arrive at its first landing place in Australian territory; or
- no later than 48 hours before the vessel is estimated to arrive at its first port in Australian territory; or
- no later than 12 hours, if the voyage is shorter than 48 hours, before the vessel is estimated to arrive at its first port in Australian territory.

Note: that some goods, including live animals, require additional reporting requirements. To determine if goods have additional reporting requirements, please refer to Australian [biosecurity import conditions](#) (BICON).

### **Landing at a non-first point of entry**

International vessels and aircraft are required to enter at a first point of entry (FPOE). This is to ensure that vessels and aircraft enter Australia at a location with appropriate facilities and personnel to manage the biosecurity risk. Permission is required to land at non-first point of entries.

Aircraft operators intending to land at a non-first point of entry must first apply under subsection 239(2) of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. Refer to the department's website for more information. For



vessels to land at non-first points of entry, permission under section 247(1) of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* is required, conditions will still apply. Refer to the [department's website for more information](#).

### **Seasonal measures and CAL**

Sea containers and breakbulk cargo from countries and ports identified as having documented high levels of contamination or high-risk pests are considered high risk pathways by the department. These high-risk countries or ports are referred to as '[Country Action List \(CAL\) locations](#)'. For goods arriving from or transhipped through these countries additional onshore management measures will apply. Refer to the department's website for further information.

Seasonal measures for [Brown marmorated stink bug \(BMSB\)](#) will apply to targeted goods manufactured in or shipped from target risk countries, that have been shipped between 1 September and 30 April (inclusive), and to vessels that berth, load, or tranship from target risk countries within the same period. Different measures may include mandatory treatment or heightened inspection rates depending on the goods and risks.

### **Non-commodity concerns**

Non-commodity concerns must be assessed including container cleanliness, packaging, destination concerns, and may be subject to inspection and treatment on arrival. Please refer to the [non-commodity information requirements policy](#) available on the department's website.

### **Fees and charges**

Cost recovery fees and charges are applied for the department's services, including document processing, inspection and certification of goods and premises. Refer to the department's [Charging guidelines](#) for more information.

## **7 On arrival in Australian Territory**

### **Inspection**

Goods will be subject to an onshore inspection by the department. All goods arriving as break bulk must be inspected at the wharf of discharge to ensure freedom of biosecurity risk material prior to movement.

Depending on the goods for an inspection, the person responsible for the goods may be required to assist with the dismantling of the goods. Dismantling of goods will ensure the Biosecurity Officer is able to access all areas. If a Biosecurity Officer is unable to access all areas at the initial inspection, a further inspection may be required.

A biosecurity inspection is to ensure goods are free from biosecurity risk material, including:

- soil
- seeds
- dried plant material
- insects
- water deposits which may hold insect larvae
- animal material.

The type of goods will determine the inspection requirements and rates.

If the goods do not meet Australia's biosecurity import conditions, the Biosecurity Officer undertaking the inspection will apply biosecurity measures to manage the biosecurity risk. The Biosecurity Officer may direct the goods:

- be left at a specified place; or
- be moved to a specific location; or
- to be treated; or
- to be exported; or
- to be destroyed.

Please refer to Onshore Outcomes below for further information.

### **Booking an inspection**

The person in charge of the goods is responsible for booking the required inspection. Biosecurity inspections can be booked and managed through the department's [Biosecurity Portal](#). The system is self-service and allows the booking and management of inspection bookings.

### **Biosecurity holds**

Goods arriving in Australian territory are subject to biosecurity control and may be subjected to additional biosecurity measures if they pose an unacceptable biosecurity risk.

If a Biosecurity Officer directs contaminated goods to be moved, the biosecurity risk may need to be contained by envelope tarping or partial tarping or transported via an enclosed carrier or secured in a manner that contains biosecurity risk material prior to movement.

Note: envelope tarping and partial tarping requires a verification inspection by a Biosecurity Officer and enclosed carriers require inspection pre and post use.

## **8 Onshore outcomes**

Where a Biosecurity Officer suspects, on reasonable grounds, that the level of biosecurity risk associated with the goods that are subject to biosecurity control is of an unacceptable level, the Biosecurity Officer may require biosecurity measures to be taken in relation to the goods. Applying biosecurity measures ensures biosecurity risk material is managed to an acceptable level.

Powers that a Biosecurity Officer may apply under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* if they suspect, on reasonable grounds, that the level of biosecurity risk associated with goods is unacceptable, include:

- movement of goods (s 132)
- treatment of goods (s 133)
- export of goods (s 135)
- destruction of goods (s 136).

### **Treatment of goods**

If low level contamination is found the goods may be directed for treatment onshore at an approved arrangement at the importers expense.

Treatments will be applied in line with the [Biosecurity risk treatment guide](#) available on the department's website. If the importer does not wish the goods to be treated in the manner available, the importer can either elect to dispose or export voluntarily.

A direction to treat **is not** a reviewable decision under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. All goods are required to be reinspected after treatment.

### **Export of goods**

Where biosecurity risk cannot be appropriately managed onshore, goods will not be granted entry into Australian territory and will be directed for export. Any fees or charges associated with the export of the goods is payable by the person in charge of the goods.

The decision for export **is not** a reviewable decision under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

### **Re-importation of exported goods**

If a person in charge of the goods seeks to re-import into Australia, imports will be subject to inspection onshore.

### **Destruction of goods**

If a Biosecurity Officer determines that goods do not meet Australia's biosecurity import conditions, the goods may be seized and directed for destruction.

The destruction of goods **is a** reviewable decision under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, if it involves the destruction of high value goods (defined as goods with a value over AU\$9 999.99).

### **Disposal of goods**

The importer can request for permission to [dispose of goods](#) by disposing of them in the manner approved by the department. The goods must not be moved, dealt with or interfered with, without authorisation. Voluntary Disposal **is not** a reviewable decision under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

# Glossary

Term	Definition
Australian territory	Defined in s12 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Australia, Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and any external Territory to which that provision extends</li> <li>b. the airspace over an area covered by the preceding point</li> </ol> the coastal sea of Australia, of Christmas Island, of Cocos (Keeling) Islands and of any other external Territory to which that provision extends.
Approved Arrangement	Defined in s10 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> as: 'an arrangement for which an approval is in force under paragraph 406(1)(a)(including a carried arrangement for which an approval is in force under that paragraph as it applies because of subsection 412(3)).'
Biosecurity	Managing risks to Australia's economy, environment and community of pests and diseases entering, emerging, establishing or spreading in Australia.
Biosecurity import conditions database (BICON)	A repository system for Australia's import conditions relating to more than 20,000 plant, animal, microbial, mineral, and human products. Allows industry and community users to browse import conditions and related information.
Biological item	Include but are not limited to food, animal foods, human and animal blood products, and human therapeutics.
Biosecurity Officer	A person who is authorised under s545 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> to be a Biosecurity Officer.  A Biosecurity Officer is given certain powers under the Biosecurity Act.
Biosecurity risk	This term is defined in s9(1) of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> as the likelihood of a disease or pest entering Australian territory or part of Australian territory or establishing itself or spreading in Australian territory or part of Australian territory, and the potential for any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the disease or pest to cause harm to human, animal or plant health</li> <li>• the disease or pest to cause harm to the environment</li> <li>• economic consequences associated with the entry, establishment or spread of the disease or pest.</li> </ul>
Biosecurity risk material (BRM)	Material collected as evidence of the presence of a biosecurity risk. This could be but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a live insect or animal</li> <li>• animal material</li> <li>• insect and animal products such as borer holes, frass and faeces</li> <li>• seeds</li> <li>• soil</li> <li>• dirt</li> <li>• clay</li> <li>• a live plant</li> <li>• plant material such as straw, twigs, leaves, roots and bark (information about bark tolerance on timber packaging and dunnage can be found on the departments website)</li> <li>• food refuse</li> <li>• other debris and detritus</li> <li>• mould</li> <li>• water, including watermarks.</li> </ul>
Break bulk	A consignment of cargo being transported in a non-containerised manner.

## Urban Search and Rescue Taskforces Biosecurity Guideline

Term	Definition
Complex machinery	<p>Machinery that, by design, is difficult to inspect due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• two or more moving components</li> <li>• various and interconnecting parts</li> <li>• limited visibility and access of internal components.</li> </ul>
Consignment	<p>A consignment is any number of goods (as defined in this policy) to be imported into Australian territory. Consignments can be subject to biosecurity control under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>.</p>
Contamination	<p>Biosecurity risks present in goods, packing, storage place, conveyance or container, not constituting an infestation.</p>
Goods	<p>Defined in s19 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> as including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an animal</li> <li>• a plant (whether moveable or not)</li> <li>• a sample or specimen of a disease agent</li> <li>• a pest</li> <li>• mail</li> <li>• any other article, substance or thing (including, but not limited to, any kind of moveable property)</li> <li>• a conveyance that is, or is to be, brought into Australian territory from outside Australian territory on board another conveyance, until the carried conveyance is released from biosecurity control.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">This definition also captures biosecurity waste.</p>
Hardstand area	<p>A large, hard surface area of concrete or bitumen.</p>
Human therapeutics	<p>Commercially prepared and packaged capsules, tablets, vials for injection, liquid, powder, ointments, etc.</p>
International Passenger Card (IPC)	<p>Incoming Passenger Card must be completed by all incoming air or sea passengers. It is on this card that declarations of a biosecurity nature including human health are made. It is a legal document and there are penalties for making false declarations</p>
Inspection	<p>An examination of documentation and/or goods to determine whether these meet biosecurity import conditions.</p>
Machinery	<p>Machinery includes both machinery and equipment. Mechanical equipment consisting of moving parts, includes, but not limited to new and used machinery, reconditioned machinery, machinery equipment and associated parts. New and used machinery includes those that arrive imported as break bulk, containerised or as air cargo and goods that fall within Chapter 84, Schedule 3 of the <i>Customs tariff Act 1995</i>.</p>
National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)	<p>NEMA manages Australia's disaster and emergency management efforts by providing informed oversight and guidance.</p>
Person in charge	<p>Defined in s22 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the owner of the goods</li> <li>b. a person (other than a Biosecurity Officer or a Biosecurity Enforcement Officer) who is in possession or control of the goods; and</li> </ol> <p>includes a biosecurity industry participant who is in possession or control of the goods as authorised by an AA.</p>
Treatment	<p>Treatment includes any treatment prescribed by a biosecurity officer for the purpose of removing a potential risk posed by the importation of goods or personnel issue items.</p>
Urban Search and Rescue Taskforce (USAR)	<p>Multi-hazard discipline that involves the extrication and initial medical stabilisation of victims trapped or missing because of a man-made or natural disaster.</p>

# References

Commonwealth Biosecurity 2030, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Canberra, May. CC BY 4.0

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry 2023, Charging Guidelines 2023 Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Canberra, February 2023.

Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment 2021, Non-commodity information requirements policy, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Canberra. CC BY 4.0

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, *Biosecurity Act 2015*

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, *Biosecurity (Conditionally Non-prohibited Goods) Determination 2021*, subsection 174(1) of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, *Biosecurity Regulations 2016*, made under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, Canberra

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry 2022, Imported goods – Biosecurity risk treatment guide, Canberra, April. CC BY 4.0

Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment 2021, Minimum documentary and import declaration requirements policy, Canberra, May 2021

Office of Legislative Drafting and Publishing, Attorney-General's Department – *Customs Tariff Act 1995*, Canberra

Department websites:

- [Biosecurity portal](#)
- [Aircraft, vessels and military](#)
- [Bringing cats and dogs to Australia](#)
- [Country Action List \(CAL\)](#)
- [Cargo Online Lodgement System](#)
- [Importing motor vehicles, motorcycles and machinery](#)

Department fact sheets:

- Brown Marmorated Stink Bug – [Biosecurity fact sheet, July 2016](#)
- Foot and Mouth Disease – [FMD factsheet, July 2022](#)
- Giant African Snail – [Biosecurity fact sheet, May 2016](#)
- Weeds and seeds – [Biosecurity fact sheet, February 2016](#)



## ***Urban Search and Rescue Taskforces Biosecurity Guidelines***

### **Attachment 1: General cleaning instructions**

#### **General**

The following attachment includes general cleaning instructions for goods commonly associated with deployed or incoming USAR Taskforces.

Machinery, equipment, vehicles, vessels, aircrafts, and associated parts (machinery and equipment) can contain hidden areas or cavities which can hold contamination. It is common for contamination to be hidden under the belly plates and cavities of equipment or machinery. It is essential that all possible areas within the goods structures be satisfactorily dismantled to enable cleaning and removal of any contamination that may be present.

[Machinery guides and checklists](#) have been developed to support offshore cleaning to meet Australia's biosecurity import conditions.

#### **Contact details**

Email: [SeaCargoPolicy@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:SeaCargoPolicy@agriculture.gov.au)

Phone number: 1800 900 090 or (61 3) 8318 6700 (from outside Australia)

For further information and contact details for machinery and equipment, refer to the [department's website](#).

#### **Contamination advice**

Further to cleaning guidelines from the department's website, Biosecurity Officers will advise personnel and cleaning personnel of areas or cavities where contamination is typically found. Biosecurity Officers, in consultation with personnel, will discuss methods to gain access to the contamination that will allow water or compressed air to pass through cavities or areas to remove any contamination and to flush areas to verify they are free of biosecurity risk material.

#### **Cleaning facilities and equipment**

Cleaning should be undertaken on a hardstand surface, the ideal surface being a large area of concrete or bitumen. It is the USAR Taskforce's responsibility to ensure the local authorities are contacted before any cleaning commences to ensure all local laws and requirements are observed. The wash effluent may contain fuel, grease, disinfectants, detergents, and other harmful contaminants that should not be allowed to directly enter the environment.

To provide a seamless and efficient dismantling, cleaning, and inspection platform, the choice of location for the biosecurity preparedness activity is vital.

Dependent upon the available choice of facilities, another factor to consider is the availability of multiple water and electricity sources. There have been numerous instances of biosecurity

inspections conducted within appropriate areas, only to be limited by the restricted availability of water and power points.

Wet weather contingencies should be considered. If an indoor inspection/cleaning area is unavailable, a suitably sized maintenance tent or marquee should be erected to provide a dry environment to conduct the final biosecurity inspection, conducted by USAR Taskforce personnel, and to limit the risk of re-contamination before arrival in Australia.

Once a suitable area has been located, it is necessary to allocate designated zones.

Recommended zones:

- **zone 1** - dismantling of machinery & equipment area
- **zone 2** - initial cleaning of machinery & equipment area - with access to water
- **zone 3** - biosecurity inspection area - access to water
- **zone 4** - reassembly area
- **zone 5** - sterile biosecurity holding area - preferable indoors or tarped.

### **Equipment requirements for cleaning/washdown**

For cleaning to be effective, the following equipment must be available for cleaning:

- ramps or inspection pits to enable cleaning and inspection on underside of machinery and equipment
- standard hoses for general washing
- pressure cleaner with attachments
- brushes and cloths
- tools such as screwdrivers and spanners to aid in the removal of panels etc.
- wet and dry vacuum
- access to vacuum cleaners and/or air compressors for removal of contaminants from sensitive areas that cannot be in contact with water
- torches to aid in detecting contamination in concealed cavities, hard-to-reach or low visibility areas
- degreaser or appropriate detergent solutions to break down grease and oil residues.

Qualified and experienced personnel with technical knowledge relevant to the machinery or equipment will be required to support/undertake the dismantling, cleaning and reassembly of goods. Delays have occurred due to mechanical personnel not having necessary experience or authority to dismantle or undertake necessary tasks.



## Offshore pre-departure and storage

Machinery and equipment can become re-contaminated on transport from the cleaning area to loading. Pre-departure areas should be clean to minimise re-contamination. Ideally these areas should be as close as possible to the final loading point (airfield or dock). If possible, these areas should be supplied with appropriate water, cleaning equipment and cleaning personnel to conduct the final wash and wipe process.

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**Table 1 Biosecurity risk concerns for machinery and equipment**

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<b>Animal matter</b>	Animals and animal matter/material including mice, rats, birds, snakes, animal hair and feathers can become attached to, can hide or nest in, or become embedded in equipment. All matter of this type is to be thoroughly cleaned from all equipment.
<b>Food items</b>	All food items and components are to be removed from all compartments of equipment prior to offshore pre-shipment inspection and deployment.
<b>Nests</b>	Bird, wasp and other nests are to be removed from all equipment. All insects, insect nests and insect matter are to be removed from all machinery and equipment. Diligence is required when cleaning radiators, windscreens, air filters and hollow section components as insects and nests can become embedded in these areas.
<b>Plants and plant material</b>	Plants and plant material (every leaf, seed or twig) must be removed from all equipment. Areas such as radiators, axles, cross members, equipment brackets, tyres, toolboxes and SL3 supplies should be checked and thoroughly cleaned.
<b>Water</b>	All water is to be removed from reservoirs, such as windscreen washers and used tyres (without rims) as these areas have the potential to breed insects such as mosquitoes. Water contained in radiators does not require removal.

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**Table 2 Cleaning instructions – Machinery and equipment**

<b>Access/breaching equipment</b>	<p>Hydraulic hoses usually have a woven layer and can harbour soil and seeds.</p> <p>Power units used outdoors may have tyres. Check for soil and seeds. If bracing legs are hollow, check for soil and seeds, plant material, wasps and ants. Check any filters for BRM.</p>
<b>Administrative equipment</b>	<p>If stored in containers, the equipment will require unpacking and inspection. Tables/chairs – if legs are hollow, check for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Photocopiers/laptops – if used in the field, check cases for seed/soil contamination.</p>
<b>Communication equipment</b>	<p>Will require unpack and inspection.</p> <p>All containers are to be clean and free of soil/seed contamination.</p>
<b>Food items</b>	All food items/scraps must be removed.
<b>Hazmat equipment</b>	<p>Check any Velcro for soil/seed contamination.</p> <p>Check canister respirators for soil/seed contamination.</p>
<b>Hydraulic rescue kits</b>	<p>Hydraulic hoses – check for seed/soil on outer woven layer.</p> <p>Pulling chains – check for contamination by soil and plant material.</p>
<b>Hot cutting equipment</b>	Cylinders/Oxy/other – if on trolleys, check wheels of trolley for seed/soil contamination.
<b>Lifting and stabilising equipment</b>	<p>Lifting slings to be checked for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Wire rope and winching ropes/cables must be new issue.</p> <p>Air bags – check for soil and seed contamination in seams and any other BRM.</p>
<b>Power and lighting equipment</b>	<p>Portable lights – if hollow framed, check for soil/seed contamination.</p> <p>Water pumps – complete suction/discharge – water reservoirs may contain mosquito larvae. Should contain no water and are to be clean and dry/ chlorinated/treated.</p> <p>Sludge pumps – empty, clean of all soil/seed contamination and disinfected.</p> <p>Ventilating fans and ducting. Ducting is an issue. Check ventilator for soil/ seed and plant material that may lodge in the internal seams or the ducting framework.</p>

<b>Ropes, straps, Velcro</b>	<p>All ropes and straps and items containing Velcro are to be inspected. Where necessary, contaminated or damaged ropes and straps and items containing Velcro will require further cleaning and re-inspection as requested by the inspecting biosecurity officer.</p> <p>For cleaning purposes, ropes or straps should be extended to their full length and wiped or washed clean of all soil, plant and insect matter. Attention should be given to attachment points/fixtures and tension devices.</p>
<b>Safety equipment</b>	<p>Clean and free of soil/seed and plant material contamination.</p>
<b>Search equipment</b>	<p>Remove all insulation tape that has been utilised to hold items and other accessories onto webbing.</p>
<b>Shoring</b>	<p>Trench jacks – check for soil and seed contamination.</p> <p>Shoring timbers/step chocks/wedges. All timber requires inspection for insect infestation, soil/plant contamination.</p>
<b>Tools – woodwork</b>	<p>Any tools exposed to soil must be thoroughly cleaned. Wooden tools are to be inspected for soil/plant and insect infestation. Any item that has termite infestation will need fumigation treatment and may not be permitted into the country.</p>
<b>Tools – metal or other</b>	<p>Metal tools are to be wiped clean of all soil, plant and insect debris.</p> <p>Degrease items as required to remove all grime and dirt, lightly oil and leave out for inspection. Tools may be re-oiled after inspection in consultation with the biosecurity officer.</p>
<b>Taskforce equipment</b>	<p>Tents – check all seams/Velcro on tents, ropes and windows for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Camp stretchers/sleeping mats – check hollow legs and matting for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Food – all meat and dairy products are prohibited entry into Australia unless accompanied by an approved, valid DAFF Import Permit.</p> <p>Water – is permitted provided it is contained in commercially manufactured packaging and the seal is still intact.</p> <p>Refrigerator/Freezer – is to be empty and cleaned.</p> <p>Toilet facility – is to be clean, dry and sterile.</p> <p>Rescue litter/sling – clean and new.</p>

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<b>Vertical rescue kit</b>	<p>Rescue rope – check for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Web slings – check seams, Velcro and stitching for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Tape and webbing – check seams, Velcro and stitching for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Rescue harness – check seams, Velcro and stitching for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Hauling system – if framed, check hollow cavities. Check any rope for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Descenders/ascenders – check any seams, Velcro or stitching for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Pulleys/edge rollers – check around internal movement for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Edge mats/parcelling – check any seams or stitching for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Larkin frame/tripods – if hollow frame, check for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Patient harness/leg loops - check any seams, Velcro or stitching for seed/soil contamination.</p> <p>Wire rope ladders – must be new.</p> <p>Pickets – check wood or metal pickets for soil contamination.</p> <p>Ground plates – check for soil/seed contamination.</p> <p>Cargo net – should be new due to likelihood of seeds, plant material or insects.</p> <p>Line throwing gun/catapult – check rope for seed/soil contamination.</p>
<b>Wheeled equipment</b>	<p>Equipment fitted with wheels will require inspection. Should contamination be detected, or the biosecurity officer cannot access all areas, they will request that the outer wheel is removed, cleaned and re-inspected.</p>

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<b>Table 3 Cleaning instructions – personal equipment</b>	
<b>Bags: echelon/divers/ equipment (duffle bags)</b>	<p>Echelon bags are to be turned inside out and all soil, plant and insect debris removed.</p> <p>The bag is to be subject to a 'wipe clean', however, if there is soil embedded in the fabric they are to be scrubbed with brushes and water to remove the soil and allowed to air dry.</p>
<b>Cloth hats and caps</b>	All cloth hats and caps will require inspection. Should contamination be detected on inspection, further cleaning will be required. Wash the hat with hot water and remove all soil, plant and insect matter and allowed to air dry.
<b>Clothing</b>	Clothing, which includes under garments, hats, socks and any scarf type item, is to be cleaned of all soil, seeds and plant material. All pockets should be unzipped/unfastened and turned inside out, if possible, to remove all debris.
<b>Cloth neck (sweat cloth)</b>	Inspect and remove all twigs, foliage etc. that may have become embedded in the cloth fibres. To be washed, as necessary, to remove all soil, plant and insect matter.
<b>Cover body armour and inserts</b>	Plates are to be removed and cleaned to remove any soil, plant and insect matter. The cover or coat is to be brushed or washed clean of any soil, plant and insect debris paying particular attention to the plate pocket and overlapping cloth areas.
<b>First aid dressing</b>	To be removed from pouch or untapped from webbing to ensure no soil, plant and insect matter has been trapped on the tape or in between tape and dressing.
<b>Footwear</b>	<p>Laces are to be removed from footwear and all straps, Velcro, zip or fast lace systems are to be thoroughly cleaned of plant material and soil. Particular attention is to be paid to the area of the footwear around the tongue and fastening system where there is a fold in the footwear material that can allow plant, soil and insect material to collect.</p> <p>All types of footwear are to be cleaned of all soil, animal and plant material and if necessary, subject to a water scrub and wash to achieve the desired standard and allowed to dry.</p>
<b>Gloves</b>	Gloves require inspection. Should contamination be detected on inspection, further cleaning will be required. Gloves are particularly susceptible to soil and plant contamination. Gloves are to be scrubbed with water and brushes and allowed to air dry.
<b>Insulation tape</b>	Remove all insulation tape that has been utilised to hold items and other accessories onto webbing.

<b>Knives, tools and blades</b>	<p>Includes knives, entrenching tools, machetes, universal tools (e.g., Leatherman).</p> <p>Pouches used to carry these items must be cleaned in line with the field packs and webbing procedures.</p> <p>Issue knives, entrenching tools and universal tools are to be cleaned of all soil, plant and insect material and lightly oiled.</p>
<b>Mosquito nets and tents</b>	<p>Ensure that all mosquito nets, tents, tent poles and tent pegs are clean and free of any soil, plant and insect matter.</p>
<b>Rope assembly</b>	<p>Inspect and remove all twigs, foliage, etc. that has become embedded in the rope fibres.</p> <p>Wash to remove all soil, plant and insect matter.</p>
<b>Safety helmets</b>	<p>Remove cloth covers and hot wash. Ensure inside lining, headband and chinstraps are clean and free of any soil, plant and insect matter.</p> <p>Scrub helmet with brushes and water if contaminated with embedded soil. Check all Velcro straps to ensure that all plant and seed material is removed.</p>
<b>Sleeping materials</b>	<p>Ensure sleeping bags are clean and free of any soil, plant and insect matter. Sleeping bags must be turned inside out to ensure no soil, plant, insect matter or animals are trapped inside. Sleeping bags, liners and other sleeping materials are to be washed using hot water as required and allowed to air dry.</p>
<b>Stretchers</b>	<p>Stretchers require inspection. Prior to inspection, remove the canvas/cloth from the poles and braces.</p> <p>Canvas/cloth is to be cleaned by using a high-pressure water hose. Poles are to be washed and scrubbed with water and brushes to remove all plant, soil and insect matter and allowed to air dry.</p> <p>Stretchers are to be left disassembled for biosecurity inspection.</p>
<b>Shelter individual (shelter half)</b>	<p>Wash to remove all soil, plant and insect matter.</p>
<b>Trunks</b>	<p>Plastic trunks are to be subject to a wash down to remove all soil, plant and insect matter.</p> <p>Metal trunks are to be subject to the same clean as for plastic trunks with particular attention to the metal lips on the ends of the trunk, locks and under the rubber seal inside the lid.</p>

<b>Webbing and packs</b>	<p>All webbing and packs are to be disassembled and all pockets and apertures are to be opened and turned inside out and cleaned. Most webbing/packs can be subject to a 'wipe clean', however, items that have soil embedded into them are to be scrubbed with brushes and water to remove the soil and allowed to be air dried.</p> <p>Attention should be paid to pouch fasteners, belt clips, buckles and Velcro fastenings to ensure that no soil, plant or insect debris is caught in these areas.</p> <p>Belts are to be disassembled including pad belts to ensure all possible areas of contamination are inspected and cleaned.</p> <p>Water bottle pouches are particularly susceptible to seed and plant material becoming embedded in the lining and should be thoroughly checked to ensure all contamination is removed.</p>
<b>Wet weather soil and clothing</b>	<p>Wet weather protective clothing, including Japara, is to be washed to remove all soil, plant and insect matter.</p>

*Note: A quick checklist can be found at Attachment 4.*

**Table 4 Cleaning instructions – Containers**

<b>Full wash-down once packed</b>	<p>Once packed, all external areas of containers will require a full wash down to remove any evidence of contamination. The primary biosecurity concerns for containers are soil, insects or snails residing in the corrugations and sills under the container</p>
<b>Packaging containers</b>	<p>It is recommended that packaging containers should be sprayed with a biosecurity approved chemical for the purposes of providing a residual insect barrier prior to biosecurity-cleared items being packed into them.</p>
<b>Seals and cleanliness</b>	<p>Containers used for packing are to be clean and free of all soil, plant, animal and insect debris. Containers require inspection to ensure that all seals are in good condition and close properly prior to the loading of any goods. There must be no vents or openings that would allow insect, animal, windblown seed or dirt to enter the container.</p>

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**Table 5 Cleaning instructions – Packing and/or packaging**

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<b>General</b>	Cleaning of equipment can be compromised if packaging of the equipment does not meet a strict standard of cleanliness and biosecurity-approved packaging.
<b>Packaging area</b>	The packaging area will be designated in consultation with a biosecurity officer on site. Constant vigilance to maintain the integrity of the area including the use of chemicals and cleaning regimes is required. Animal and insect infestation is of greatest concern. The use of chemicals (salt for snails) for closed containers that have been inspected and cleared by the department are ways of maintaining the integrity of these areas.
<b>Packaging material</b>	The packaging area will be designated in consultation with a biosecurity officer on site. Constant vigilance to maintain the integrity of the area including the use of chemicals and cleaning regimes is required. Animal and insect infestation is of greatest concern. The use of chemicals (salt for snails) for closed containers that have been inspected and cleared by the department are ways of maintaining the integrity of these areas.

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## *Urban Search and Rescue Taskforce Guidelines*

# Attachment 2: Requirements for biological items

### General

The following information is aimed at providing a means for rapid biosecurity clearance of biological material imported by international USAR Taskforces and returning Australian USAR Taskforces. The following information covers the three main biological commodities that have been identified as likely to be imported by international USAR Taskforces:

- food products
- animal foods
- human therapeutics.

### Biosecurity clearance requirements

For the import of food products, an import permit may be required. Import permits for food products often impose clearance and inspection requirements at the time of importation. As such, clearance and inspection requirements are another aspect of Australia's biosecurity requirements that have the potential to conflict with the rapid deployment of international USAR Taskforces. To ensure clearance of USAR food items, it is important that clearance and inspection requirements are clarified during the import permit application process.

Once the assessment of the import permit application is complete, the department will advise the importer of the clearance and inspection requirements.

Provided that the above strategies are employed, the department is confident that Australia's biosecurity import conditions for food products will not impinge on the rapid deployment of international USAR Taskforces.

### Contact details

General enquiries: 1800 900 090 or (61 3) 8318 6700 (from outside Australia)

Email: [imports@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:imports@agriculture.gov.au)

### Meals ready to eat (MRE) rations

An import permit may be required for specific items that are included in imported MRE ration packs and for some medicinal products. Refer to the relevant [Biosecurity import conditions](#) (BICON) case for the biosecurity import conditions.

If an import permit is required, the department requires each group intending to import MREs or medicinal products that require an import permit to:

- provide a complete list of MRE types/menu with ingredients for each product contained in the MRE and manufacturing/processing details. For example, canning, retorting, hermetically sealing, roasting, peeling etc; OR
- provide a declaration from the manufacturer that:
  - all meat, egg or dairy products in the product are canned or retorted, and are shelf stable
  - the MREs contain no fresh fruit or vegetables, or raw nuts
  - any dried fruits in the MREs do not contain skin or seeds.

An import permit will be granted for MREs provided the following conditions are met:

- all meat, egg or dairy products in the MREs are canned or retorted, and shelf stable
- the MREs contain no fresh fruit or vegetables, or raw nuts
- dried fruits do not contain skin or seeds.

Once granted, an import permit is valid for 2 years. For details on information required to accompany your application, please refer to the department's checklist for importing biological materials.

NOTE: It is recommended that international USAR Taskforces supply the MRE ingredients and processing information for menus stored in the USAR cache to NEMA in readiness for rapid deployment. This will allow an import permit to be issued before arrival of the USAR Taskforce.

### **Returning Australian ration packs (MREs)**

All returning, unused ration packs of Australian origin will be inspected for seal integrity and insect infestation upon arrival.

Any ration packs containing biosecurity risk items that are not identifiable, have been opened, have visible signs of seal breakage, or have insect infestation will be seized and destroyed.

Important note: It is important that you do not swap MREs with other foreign USAR Taskforces prior to deployment or re-entry into Australia. Certain food items found in MREs are prohibited under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and may pose a serious biosecurity risk to Australia.

### **General food products for human consumption**

Many food products in general are not permitted entry into Australia, for example fresh fruit, raw meat, grains etc. However, some highly processed food may be permitted without restriction. Please refer to [BICON](#) for all relevant import conditions.

### **Water**

Commercially manufactured bottled water with seals intact is permitted entry. Jerry cans filled with water are only permitted if they undergo treatment on arrival to address the biosecurity risk or are sea or ocean water samples that are less than 5L. Permits are required for water samples for chemical, physical or destructive analysis.

## Human therapeutics

If any human therapeutics are required to be imported by a member of an international USAR taskforce, there are no biosecurity restrictions placed on those therapeutics provided that:

- the therapeutic is commercially prepared and packaged (e.g., capsules, tablets, vials for injection, liquid, powder, ointment, etc)
- the therapeutic is imported in a quantity of no more than three months' supply.

Three months' supply can be determined by the label dosage advice; or a letter in English from a medical practitioner, naturopath, or alternative health provider; or a statutory declaration by the importer stating that the product is for personal use only and is less than three months' supply.

**NOTE: Consignments containing ganoderma powder (excluding *Ganoderma lucidum*) and bee pollen are not covered by the above conditions. For information regarding the importation of these products please contact the Animal and Biological Imports Branch.**

## Animal food products

Import permit applications should be submitted in readiness for deployment of an international USAR taskforce, as the assessment of import permit applications can be a complex and lengthy process.

As with food products, the normal biosecurity import conditions applied to the importation of animal feeds have the potential to conflict with the rapid deployment requirements of international USAR Taskforces.

To address this issue, the department proposes that standard conditions of importation for animal foods be replaced as follows:

- Animal foods imported by an international USAR Taskforce are not to be fed to any animals other than animals that are a part of that international USAR Taskforce.
- International USAR Taskforces are to ensure that all unused imported animal foods or any waste from imported animal foods is re-exported upon departure from Australia. Under no circumstances are any unused imported animal foods or waste from imported animal foods to be left within Australia.

The department will only facilitate the importation of commercially prepared and packaged, thermally processed pet foods and treats (e.g., dried kibbles) for international USAR Taskforces. Raw or semi-dry products are not permitted entry into Australia.

Permits issued by the department will be product-specific and may restrict the volume of product permitted entry into Australia.

### Option 1:

- Source dog food in Australia. Overseas brands, such as Hills<sup>®</sup> Science Diet, are readily available in Australia.

### Option 2:

- Imported animal foods require an import permit. To obtain an import permit, all international USAR Taskforces must apply to the department's Animal and Biological Imports Branch.



## ***Urban Search and Rescue Taskforces Biosecurity Guidelines***

### **Attachment 3: Search and rescue dogs**

#### **General**

This information is provided as a guide for the importation of dogs for USAR purposes into Australia and the return of USAR dogs exported from Australia.

Further information on import conditions and how to apply for a permit can be found on the department's website, [bringing cats and dogs to Australia](#).

#### **Contact details**

**General enquiries:** 1800 900 090 or (61 3) 8318 6700 (from outside Australia)

**Email:** [imports@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:imports@agriculture.gov.au)

#### **Pre-export preparations for dogs leaving Australia**

As USAR Taskforce dogs may be deployed overseas at very short notice, the department recommends that any USAR dogs that may be used overseas are prepared in the following manner before leaving Australia to minimise the likelihood of the dog being unable to return to Australia:

- Microchipped with an ISO-compatible microchip.
- Vaccinated against rabies by a registered veterinarian, following importing country requirements and manufacturer's recommendations.
- Undergo an annual rabies neutralising antibody titre test (RNATT):
  - A registered veterinarian in Australia must collect and submit the blood sample to the Australian centre for disease preparedness (ACDP).
  - The RNATT report must record the dog's microchip number, the blood sampling date and location, the signature of the person issuing the laboratory report, the test type and test result.  
A result of 0.5 IU/ml or greater is acceptable for the purposes of international animal travel.
  - The laboratory report should be signed and stamped by the department at the time of the dog's export from Australia.
  - The RNATT is valid for 12 months or 365 days from the date of blood sampling.
- Routinely treated for internal and external parasites in accordance with the product manufacturer's guidelines. External parasite treatment must work by killing the parasite on contact i.e., they cannot rely on the parasite biting the animal.
- The department recommends that dogs are routinely vaccinated against Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus, Para-influenza and *Bordetella bronchiseptica*. Dog handlers should speak to their veterinarian for advice about routine veterinary health care in Australia.

**Important note:** The person in charge of the dog must confirm import conditions with the Animal and Biological Imports Branch before deployment to determine the requirements for returning USAR dogs from a disaster-affected country.

## Importing country requirements

Each country has their own health requirements for importing animals. These can be complex and can change without notice. For more details review the [Manual of importing country requirements \(Micor\)](#) and contact the relevant authority of the importing country. An Australian Government animal health certificate and export permit are required for all dogs exported from Australia. The procedure to be followed to obtain an Australian Government animal health certificate and export permit can be found on the [department's website](#).

Considerations:

- Is an import permit required by the importing country?
- Do the importing country requirements specify testing, treatments, vaccinations or examinations to be performed prior to export?
- Does the importing country have any special provisions for emergency rescue dogs?

**Note:** The department understands that most countries have already determined, as part of their emergency preparedness, the conditions under which rescue dogs may be imported and, in every case, this is in full compliance with their existing import conditions. Animals which, upon arrival overseas, do not comply with the import conditions risk being held on arrival, directed for export or euthanised.

## Search and rescue dogs returning to Australia

Dogs exported from Australia must be prepared in accordance with the import conditions of the destination country and, if applicable, any countries the dogs may transit or tranship through.

Dogs are only eligible for direct import back to Australia from [approved countries](#).

The department cannot guarantee that dogs exported from Australia for search and rescue missions overseas will be eligible for return. Please consider this carefully before exporting dogs.

Exported animals may be exposed to pests and diseases of biosecurity concern and therefore may not be able to meet Australian import conditions on return.

USAR dogs that are eligible for import to Australia must complete a minimum 10-day isolation in the government post-entry quarantine facility in Mickleham, Melbourne, upon return to Australia. Dogs proposed to return to Australia within six months of export must undergo rabies preparations (vaccination and serology testing) before leaving Australia.

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**Table 1 Cleaning instructions - Rescue dog equipment**

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<b>Leashes, restraints and velcro</b>	<p>All ropes and straps and items containing velcro are to be inspected. Where necessary, contaminated or damaged ropes and straps and items containing velcro will require further cleaning and re-inspection as requested by the inspecting biosecurity officer.</p> <p>For cleaning purposes, ropes or straps should be extended to their full length and wiped or washed clean of all soil, plant and insect matter. Attention to attachment points/fixtures and tension devices is required.</p>
<b>Coats/bedding</b>	<p>Ensure coats and bedding are clean and free of any soil, plant and insect matter. They must be turned inside out to ensure no soil, plant, insect matter or animals are trapped inside. Liners and other sleeping materials are to be washed using hot water as required and allowed to air dry.</p>
<b>Bowls and toys</b>	<p>Must be washed with hot water and be free from contaminants and allowed to air dry.</p>

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## ***Urban Search and Rescue Taskforces Biosecurity Guidelines***

### **Attachment 4: Equipment and clothing checklist**

The following is a checklist that is designed to assist personnel in ensuring that all items have been cleaned. All equipment and personal clothing is to be inspected to ensure they are free of all soil, seeds, plants, animal/bird products, insects and food products.

<b>Equipment and clothing</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Equipment and clothing</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Access/breaching – all machinery/equipment must be free of BRM.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Safety goggles, earmuffs and pads – soil and seeds removed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Administrative – all equipment must be free of soil and plant material, timber components must be free from insects and bark.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Safety equipment – all equipment must be free of soil and plant material.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bum pack – blades and cutters, soil removed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Search – all equipment is free of BRM.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dust masks – free from contamination.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Socks – seeds removed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Field response pack – harnesses and equipment free from contamination.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shoring – all equipment must be free of soil and plant material, timber must be free from insects and bark.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fuels/oils – soil and plant material removed from bottom of containers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stretchers/sleeping mats – must be free of plant material, soil and insects.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gloves – remove seeds and soil.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Team equipment/tents – free from plant, food and soil material / check all velcro	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hazmat equipment – must be free of BRM, chemical suit velcro must be free from plant material.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tent poles and pegs – wooden tent poles must be free from soil, insects and bark / use aluminium/steel if possible.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hot cutting equipment – must be free of BRM.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tools – masonry – all equipment must be free of soil and plant material, timber components must be free from insects and bark.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hydraulic rescue kits – must be free of BRM.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tools – metal – all equipment must be free of soil and plant material, timber components must be free from insects and bark.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Knife – soil removed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tools – miscellaneous – all equipment must be free of soil and plant material, timber components must be free from insects and bark.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lifting and stabilising equipment – all equipment must be free of soil and plant material.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tools – woodwork – all equipment must be free of soil and plant material, timber components must be free from insects and bark.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational kit – boots checked for soil and seeds underneath the laces flap.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vertical rescue kit – all equipment must be free of soil and plant material.	<input type="checkbox"/>
MREs – must have import permit if not returning Australian MREs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vests – check velcro, must be free of plant material.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pants – seeds removed from base.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Water – must be commercially bottled.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal kit – refer to operation kit advice.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Water bottles – emptied and covers free from seed and soil.	<input type="checkbox"/>