

# Factsheet – Authorised Biosecurity and Nature Conservation Officers

## Who is this factsheet for?

This factsheet is for Authorised Officers under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* and the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* who hold an approval under the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996 (the HDPR) to use regulated poisons, such as baiting products containing fluoroacetic acid for invasive animal control and intend to continue to use these poisons under the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019* (the MPA).

The MPA replaced the HDPR on 27 September 2021 and this factsheet explains how invasive animal control activities will be regulated under the MPA.

## How will it affect me?

- Under the MPA 'restricted S7 poisons' (RS7) includes poisons, such as strychnine, fluoroacetic acid and para-aminopropiophenone (PAPP). RS7 poisons are prescribed in schedule 1 of the Medicines and Poisons (Poisons and Prohibited Substances) Regulation 2021 (the Poisons Regulation).
- An Authorised Biosecurity Officer or a Nature Conservation Officer will be required to hold a general approval or be employed by an entity with a general approval to buy, possess, use, supply or dispose of a RS7 poisons (other than low-risk fluoroacetic acid baits (LRFABs)) for the purpose of invasive animal control. This includes fluoroacetic acid concentrate to make fresh meat baits.
- Queensland Government departments and local governments may either choose to hold an entity level approval (at department, division or regional level) or continue with the current arrangement of qualified Authorised Officers holding individual general approvals.
- Under an entity level approval, the department/division/region will be responsible for ensuring that each officer complies with the approval conditions such as storing, applying, disposal and transporting RS7 poisons safely and securely to prevent unauthorised access as specified under the Poisons Regulation.
- It will be a condition that departments/divisions/regions that hold an entity approval will need to have a Substance Management Plan (SMP) if they intend to hold more than a total of 100g of undiluted RS7s at any one time. Guidance documents will be available to support in the preparation of SMPs.
- The departmental standards, '*Dealing with restricted S7 poisons for invasive animal control*,' and '*Substance management plans for regulated poisons – version 1*' provide details about how to comply with the Poisons Regulation.
- Competency requirements for the control of invasive animals are prescribed in the departmental standard '*Competency requirements for authority holders dealing with poisons – version 1*'.



## Dealing with Low-risk fluoroacetic acid baits (LRFABs)

- LRFABs are fresh or **APVMA** registered manufactured baits with a concentration of fluoroacetic acid of no more than 0.05%. The concentration allowed in manufactured or fresh baits has been increased from 0.03% to 0.05% based on a health risk assessment.
- The Poisons Regulation classifies authorised officers under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* and *Nature Conservation Act 1992* as **Approved Persons** and authorises them to possess, apply and dispose LRFABs on land managed by the relevant state department or local government.
- Approved Persons are authorised on the basis of their competency and training to deal with LRFABs without the requirement for a specific approval under the MPA.
- The authorised officers may also supply LRFABs to rural landholders and their employees who are classified as approved persons (see Table 1) to carry out baiting activities on the landholder's property. Chapter 3 of the Poisons Regulation details requirements for supplying LRFABs to a landholder as part of coordinated baiting programs.
- Local government officers authorised under the MPA to deal with RS7 poisons for invasive animal control, landholders and other authority holders must comply with the departmental standard '*Dealing with restricted S7 poisons for invasive animal control - version 1*'.

## How to apply for a general approval

To apply for a general approval, go to '[Poisons general approval application forms](#)'

## For further information

- [Relevant factsheets and documents](#)
  - Local government
  - Do I need a Substance Management Plan
- [Departmental Standards](#)
  - Dealing with restricted S7 poisons for invasive animal control – version 1
  - Substance management plans for regulated poisons – version 1
  - Competency requirements for authority holders dealing with poisons – version 1

**Table 1 – Approved Persons – Rural Landholders**

Approved Person	Scope of activity	Requirements	Limitations
Rural landholder	Authorised to possess, apply (use), dispose (of waste) from LRFABs	LRFABs (baits containing fluoroacetic acid in a concentration of not greater than 0.5 grams for each kilogram of bait – equivalent to 0.6 grams of 1080 for each kilogram of bait)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LRFABs obtained from a person authorised under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> or <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> for the control of invasive animals.</li> <li>• On land in a rural area (not in an urban area within the meaning of the Planning Regulation 2017)</li> </ul>
Adult employee or agent of a landholder	Authorised to possess, apply (use), dispose (of waste) from LRFABs	LRFABs (baits containing fluoroacetic acid in a concentration of not greater than 0.5 grams for each kilogram of bait – equivalent to 0.6 grams of 1080 for each kilogram of bait)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LRFABs obtained from a person authorised under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> or <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> for the control of invasive animals.</li> <li>• On land in a rural area (not in an urban area within the meaning of the Planning Regulation 2017)</li> </ul>