



Managing pests in NSW : Q&A

1. What pests do I have to manage?

Everyone in NSW who deals with pest animals, including land managers, recreational land users, other community members and even visitors to the state must manage those pest animals where they present a risk to biosecurity in NSW.

State, regional and local management plans have assessed risks and can be used by landholders to understand what pests they must manage on their land.

Some pest animals must be managed specifically, as outlined under the [Biosecurity Regulation 2017](#) (<https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/regulations/2017-232.pdf>). For example, under the Biosecurity Regulation, it is illegal for a person to keep, move or release a feral pig, wild rabbit, feral deer or European red fox.

Depending on where in the state you live, some pest animals are more prevalent and problematic than others.

A number of documents are available to help land managers and other community members to understand which pest animals they must manage and how. Central to these is the [Regional Strategic Pest Management Plans](#) (<https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/pestplan>). A full list is provided in the answer to question 3 (below).

2. What is a Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan and what does it mean for how I manage pests?

3. How do the Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plans fit in with other state and local plans; and how should I use these to manage pest animals?

4. What will happen if someone isn't doing the right thing?

5. Where can I get support to find out more information?

6. Is this change a watering down of the former declared pests?

7. Why are there no longer any more declared pests?

8. Why are species like deer and horses considered pests?

9. Are deer a pest or a game species and do I have to control them?

10. Do public and private land managers have the same responsibilities to manage pest animals?

11. Who will pay for the pest management activities on my land?

12. Who plays a role in pest management in NSW?

13. Who can undertake enforcement activity?