

# Responding to emergency animal diseases

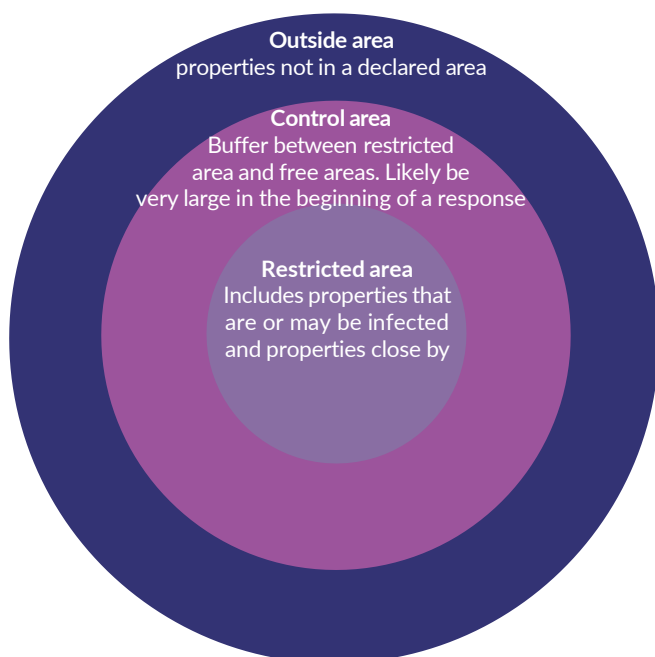


An emergency animal disease (EAD) outbreak could seriously damage the Australian economy, environment, livestock industries or impact human health. State or territory government is responsible for managing EAD outbreaks in their jurisdictions. Responding to EADs requires coordination and significant resources from all tiers of government and industry.

EAD responses are managed according to the nationally-agreed on Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan (AUSVETPLAN) arrangements. Primarily, Australian policy is to eradicate incursions of exotic emergency animal disease as quickly as possible by establishing **declared areas** and implementing a number of **control measures**.

## Declared areas

Declared areas are established during a response to prevent the spread of disease.





## Control measures

	<b>National livestock standstill</b>	Specific livestock species must not be moved. This may be for an initial 72 hours, but could be extended depending on the situation.
	<b>Quarantine and movement controls</b>	Restrictions on movements (onto and off premises) of animals, vehicles, equipment, animal products, animal waste and other items that could be contaminated.
	<b>Biosecurity requirements for people</b>	Required decontamination or changes of clothing of and footwear when people move on and off premises.
	<b>Tracing</b>	Reviewing movements of animals, people and objects on and off infected premises to help identify where infection may have come from and spread to.
	<b>Surveillance</b>	Checking for signs of disease or contamination, investigating anything suspicious and taking samples for laboratory testing if needed.
	<b>Vector control</b>	Control of insects which could spread the disease.
	<b>Treatment of infected animals</b>	Treatment of infected animals where an effective treatment is available.
	<b>Vaccination</b>	For some diseases, vaccines may be available and used to create a barrier of immune animals between infected and uninfected areas.
	<b>Destruction</b>	Culling of animals that are infected or are a high disease risk; high risk objects that can't be decontaminated may also be destroyed.
	<b>Valuation and compensation</b>	Compensation may be available for animals that have died from the disease or animals or property that has been destroyed as part of the official disease response. This is governed by state and territory specific legislation.
	<b>Disposal</b>	Biosecure disposal of carcasses and animal products or by-products that are or might be contaminated.
	<b>Decontamination</b>	Chemical or other treatment of premises, vehicles, equipment, clothing, footwear and other objects that may be contaminated.