

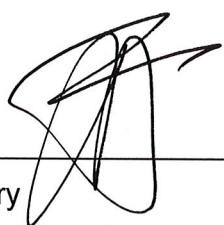
Biosecurity Act 2019

APPOINTMENT POLICY FOR BIOSECURITY AUDITORS

I, Jason Jacobi, Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas) and acting in accordance with the Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the *Biosecurity Act 2019* (the Act), hereby adopt the instrument titled –

Appointment Policy for Biosecurity Auditors in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2019

as may be amended or substituted from time to time, to be the appointment policy applicable to biosecurity auditors for the purposes of auditing in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Act.

Signed: _____ Date: 2 June 2025
Secretary 

1.0 Interpretation

“**the Act**” means the *Biosecurity Act 2019*.

All terms and expressions used in this Policy have the same meaning as in the *Biosecurity Act 2019*.

2.0 Purpose and application of the Appointment Policy

2.1 Purpose

Pursuant to Schedule 1, Part 1, Clause 2 of the Act, an accreditation authority established under the Act is required to adopt a policy in relation to the appointment of biosecurity auditors for the purposes of the Act. This policy is referred to as the *Appointment Policy for Biosecurity Auditors in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2019* (the Policy) sets out the terms by which a person applying for appointment as a biosecurity auditor is to be assessed. Any deviation in appointment can only occur through a review and approval by the Secretary of the Policy.

2.2 Application of biosecurity auditors

The Policy applies specifically to persons, purporting to be suitably qualified and experienced, and seeking appointment as a biosecurity auditor for the purposes of auditing in accordance with the Act in Tasmania.

Under this Policy, and in accordance with section 34(3) of the Act, an appointment by an accreditation authority may –

- (a) specify, in the instrument of appointment, that the biosecurity auditor may only act as a biosecurity auditor in respect of a specified class of biosecurity audits; and
- (b) be subject to such conditions or limitations as are specified in the instrument of appointment.

3.0 Provisions of the Appointment Policy

The biosecurity auditor appointment process is designed to be consistent with the provisions of the Act.

The accreditation authority will determine the suitability of a person for appointment as a biosecurity auditor in respect of auditing in Tasmania, considering the applicant's ability to demonstrate that they can fulfill the qualifications, knowledge and training requirements necessary for approval as a biosecurity auditor.

Tasmanian biosecurity auditor skills and qualifications will comply with national auditor standards where applicable.

Biosecurity auditor appointments may be limited to a specified class of biosecurity audit based on the auditor's qualifications and experience.

The accreditation authority may use the applicant's and any identified individual's compliance history to determine grounds for refusal, suspension, or cancellation of appointment.

The NRE Tas biosecurity auditor system allows for the appointment of both NRE Tas employees and external personnel to conduct biosecurity audits for the purposes of the Act.

NRE Tas will adopt an audit frequency policy in accordance with the Act, associated regulations and any approved Biosecurity Programs.

NRE Tas will monitor the audit target's level of compliance with the requirements of the Act.

Biosecurity auditors may be subject to an internal audit process.

3.1 Qualifications, training and experience

The following provides a guide to demonstrating an appropriate level of qualification, training and/or experience relevant to an application for appointment as a biosecurity auditor:

- Holder of nationally recognised qualifications meeting the standards for Auditing BSBAUD411 Participate in quality audits, BSBAUD511 Initiate quality audits, BSBAUD512 Lead quality audits, BSBAUD513 Report on quality audits and / or professional acceptance for membership to either Internal Auditors Australia or Exemplar Global.
- Holder of a nationally recognised qualification meeting the revised Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2015. E.g. AUS-MEAT.
- Experience and training under the Australian Government (Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry [DAFF]) Approved Arrangements program to perform audit functions.
- Experience and training under DAFF's Exporting from Australia Program with competencies to perform audit functions in accordance with the *Export Control Act 2020*.
- Experience and holder of audit qualifications that are recognised under the Australian Qualifications Framework.
- Experience and the holder of a relevant ISO accreditation, e.g. ISO 14001 Environmental Management System auditing accreditation, a minimum of two years industry auditing experience.
- Demonstrates an appropriate level of experience (minimum of two years) working under a state or territory government Food Safety Audit Program.
- Demonstrates an appropriate level of experience (minimum of two years) performing audit functions for third party certification schemes, for example:
 - RSPCA Approved;
 - Best Aquaculture Practices; and
 - Aquaculture Stewardship Council.
- The holder of an equivalent qualification and/or level of experience to that described above may be assessed by the Secretary for appointment under this Policy as a biosecurity auditor.