



Tiwi Land Council

QUARANTINE POLICY

Tiwi Islands quarantine policy

The natural resources of the Tiwi Islands are our most valuable asset. They not only form the basis of our customary and ceremonial activities, but also underpin our economic aspirations. The introduction of feral animals, weeds and other pests and diseases places the unique flora and fauna of the Tiwi Islands at great risk. Our forestry and marine enterprises are also vulnerable to attack from pests and diseases. A single incursion could destroy our hopes for an independent economy.

The major threats from introduced species are the introduction and re-introduction of exotic species that currently occur on the Northern Territory mainland, and the introduction of marine pests through international shipping. Some Australian mainland pest species already occur on the Tiwi Islands, however their abundance is relatively low. Further introductions are likely to increase their rate of spread, and limit the effectiveness of current and proposed control activities.

Vectors for the entry of unwanted species include ships entering Port Melville, barges and barge freight, airline freight and personal luggage, and recreational visitors travelling by private means.

The Tiwi Land Council is committed to developing and implementing processes and procedures that prevent the transport and introduction of exotic species to the Tiwi Islands. We will do this through:

- *Identifying and managing quarantine risks*
- *Developing and maintaining a positive quarantine culture in our staff, contractors and suppliers*
- *Engaging only contractors and suppliers that have demonstrated a willingness to meet or exceed our quarantine aspirations*
- *Including quarantine requirements in all contracts that involve transport of goods or other freight to the Tiwi Islands*
- *Supporting and encouraging the expansion of Commonwealth and NT Government quarantine programmes on the Tiwi Islands*
- *Maintaining quarantine awareness and education activities*
- *Lobbying for legislative quarantine controls between mainland Australia and the Tiwi Islands*

G. J. Illortaminni

Gibson Farmer Illortaminni, Chairman 2015



Tiwi Land Council