

## Formulating State Policy Draft Victorian Pest Management Framework (VPMF)

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### Why have a VPMF?

- Lack of an agreed Pest Management Strategy endorsed by current Government
- Community concern regarding public land pest management on the public/private land interface.
- Complexity of issue - What is a “pest”?
- Not considered feasible to attempt to address all pest issues in the proposed Strategy.

### Aims of the VPMF

- To provide principles and policy directions for pest management, consistent with Government commitments.
- To apply the above in developing a strategy to specifically address pest plant and animal issues under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994.

### VPMF focus:

- Developing principles for wider use in pest management strategies
- Management of declared and potential weeds
- Management of rabbits and pest predators
- Management of exotic vertebrate species
- Linkages with regional action plans and broader catchment management programs
- Review of pest management on public land, particularly the integration between public and private land managers.

### Key principles

- Pest management is principally the responsibility of each land manager
- Effective management of pests requires an integrated approach as part of the broader management of land and water resources
- Prevention & early intervention are the most cost-effective means of pest management
- A duty of care operates for all land and water managers

### Government investment in pest management

- Shared Investment Principles
- Duty of Care
- Private / Public benefit
- Involvement of all stakeholders
- Consistency with regional or catchment plans

### Proposed key actions

- More efficient enforcement.
  - Increased “whole of government” coordination.
  - All pest activities to be part of a “whole of catchment” reporting process through CMAs
  - CMAs to be responsible for prioritising Good Neighbour Program projects.
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