

Southern Biosecurity Group

Pests and Weeds — Your environment. Your responsibility. Your legacy.

PROPOSED RATE STRUCTURE CHANGES

2026/27 Financial Year — Public Consultation

The Southern Biosecurity Group is seeking feedback from landholders on proposed changes to the declared pest rate structure for the 2026/27 financial year. **No changes have been finalised.** Your feedback will be collected and presented to the Minister before any decision is made.

Why Is a Change Needed?

The current minimum base rate of **\$24** per property is below the cost of collecting the rate.

The breakeven point — the minimum required just to cover collection costs — is **\$30.98**. Without an increase, the organisation cannot sustainably fund the programs that protect your land.

What Is Being Proposed?

Three changes are put forward for consultation:

1. A new minimum base rate of **\$35**
2. A **4.9% increase** applied to fixed sums across all property size categories
3. Simplification of rate categories from 10 to 8 tiers (see table below)

How the categories are being simplified:

Current categories	Proposed category
50ha or less + 50–200ha	0 – 200ha (single tier)
200–500ha + 500–1,000ha	200 – 1,000ha (single tier)

All other categories remain unchanged

Proposed Rate Schedule — 2026/27

Property Size	Proposed Fixed Sum	Projected Revenue
0 – 200 ha	\$35.00	\$44,240
>200 – 1,000 ha	\$113.25	\$14,723
>1,000 – 2,000 ha	\$209.80	\$30,211
>2,000 – 3,500 ha	\$395.45	\$10,282
>3,500 – 5,000 ha	\$553.85	\$4,431
>5,000 – 7,500 ha	\$732.20	\$1,464
>7,500 – 9,000 ha	\$889.55	\$890
>9,000 ha	\$1,161.20	\$2,322
Total		\$108,563

Note: Revenue projections are based on the current distribution of rateable properties within the operating area.

The Consultation Process

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4
Landholders receive information about proposed changes	Feedback and submissions collected from the community	Summary of responses presented to the Minister	Final rate set — may be adjusted based on feedback received

Have Your Say	About Southern Biosecurity Group
We encourage all landholders to review the proposed changes and provide feedback during the consultation period. Your input directly influences the final rate decision. Email: eo@southernbiosecuritygroup.org Post: PO Box 292, Ravensthorpe WA 6346 Web: southernbiosecuritygroup.org.au	Southern Biosecurity Group is a not-for-profit organisation responsible for the coordinated management of declared pests within the Shire of Ravensthorpe, WA. We are funded through the declared pest rate paid by ratepayers in the operating area. All feedback will be treated as part of the formal consultation record. Landholders wishing to make a written submission should contact us before the close of the consultation period.

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This document is issued for public consultation purposes only. The proposed rate figures are not final and are subject to change following the consultation process.