

13 August 2021

Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water

Extra Biosecurity inspectors to help secure Tasmania's borders

The Tasmanian Liberal Government is bolstering border biosecurity inspection capacity with recruitment underway for 20 new positions across the State

These additional roles will provide Biosecurity Tasmania with increased capacity for targeted inspection of high-risk host material for Queensland fruit fly and other trade related pests.

They will help mitigate the risks and assist in identifying, preventing and responding to biosecurity risks and implementing Biosecurity Tasmania's work plans.

The new staff will work closely with our existing highly skilled Biosecurity team, and with commercial importers, to help maintain our rigorous inspection regime for imported produce and freight across the year, with activity peaking during the warmer higher risk months.

The 2019 Securing our Borders (SOB) budget initiative has allowed Biosecurity Tasmania to boost frontline resources to help keep Tasmania free from significant pests and diseases not present in the State.

It has also ensured support of the state's primary industries and brand Tasmania and helped to maintain grower access to premium export markets.

This initiative has been in place for both the 2019-20 and 2020-21 high risk import seasons which extend from October to March each year.

Anyone with an interest in biosecurity and a desire to undertake a role to help protect our important agricultural sector and way of life here in Tasmania is encouraged to apply. Applications close on August 23.

More information and instructions on how to apply for these positions is available on the Tasmanian Government jobs website: www.jobs.tas.gov.au