



NSW DEPARTMENT OF
PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

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|----------------------|--|---------------------------|------------|
| Title | Activation of emergency operation centres for plague locusts | Version | 2 |
| Policy no. | O-051 | Effective date | 02/01/2009 |
| Authorised by | Director, Emergencies and Animal Welfare | Authorisation date | 24/08/2009 |

1. OVERVIEW

To effectively manage significant locust outbreaks emergency operation centres (EOCs) or coordination centres (CCs) may need to be activated. These may be set up to assist Livestock Health and Pest Authorities (LHPAs) to manage locust control in their local LHPA and to coordinate locust monitoring, management and reporting at the regional and State level. For the purpose of locust control, EOCs will commonly be referred to as 'coordination centres' (either State (SCC) or Local (LCC)).

2. BACKGROUND

In significant locust outbreaks CCs may be activated to facilitate effective monitoring, management and reporting.

The need to activate centres depends on the size and complexity of the locust outbreak. I&I NSW will determine the need for activation of CCs, in consultation with LHPAs.

CCs follow Incident Command System (ICS) principles, enabling a simultaneous and cohesive multi-agency response, with tasks grouped under the major functions of control/coordination, planning, operations and logistics (including finance and administration). CCs will be staffed by people with appropriate skills and experience as determined by I&I NSW.

3. SCOPE

This policy is issued with the concurrence of the Director-General of I&I NSW under Clause 6.2 of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Director-General of I&I NSW and State Management Council of the Livestock Health and Pest Authorities.

This policy outlines when I&I NSW will activate CCs in NSW to support locust monitoring, management and reporting.

4. POLICY

4.1. Activation and deactivation of State Coordination Centre

A State Coordination Centre (SCC) will be required to coordinate activities across the State when multiple LHPAs are actively managing locusts or when LCCs or Forward Command Posts (FCPs) are activated.

Activation of a SCC will be determined by the NSW Locust Commissioner and will occur when significant locust activity is occurring across LHPAs requiring ground and/or aerial support. Refer to the policies for 'Activation of aerial support in a plague locust campaign' (Policy O-048) and 'Activation of ground control for plague locusts' (Policy O-047).

Deactivation of the SCC is determined by the NSW Locust Commissioner and will occur when LHPAs are no longer actively managing locusts and when FCPs and LCCs are deactivated.

4.2. Activation and deactivation of Local Coordination Centres

A Local Coordination Centre (LCC) will be required to coordinate activities across a region where multiple FCPs are activated. If only one FCP is activated and no LCC, the FCP reports directly to the SCC.

Activation of an LCC will be determined by the SCC.

Deactivation of the LCC will be determined by SCC and will occur when the FCPs operating in its region are deactivated.

4.3. Activation and deactivation of Forward Command Posts

LHPAs are responsible for coordinating locust management as part of their normal operations. If doing so exceeds their capacity because they have committed all possible LHPA resources, the appropriate coordination centre (LCC if established, otherwise SCC) will establish a FCP at the LHPA to support management of activities at the local LHPA level.

This will be done in consultation with the local LHPA, based on the LHPA's capacity to effectively monitor, manage and report locusts in the local LHPA area. Once an FCP is activated the Officer in Charge (OIC) will be responsible for its management.

Deactivation of the FCP will occur when management of activities in the local LHPA decline to a level where it is once again in the capacity of the LHPA to manage independently. This will be determined by the appropriate coordination centre in consultation with the LHPA and OIC of the FCP.

5. PROCEDURES

- [Plague Locust Emergency Operation Centres](#)

6. DEFINITIONS/ABBREVIATIONS

Coordination – Coordinating the resources of a range of agencies to respond to an emergency

Controller – Role responsible for managing all resources to effectively respond to an emergency

CC – Control Centre

EOC – Emergency Operations Centres

FCP – Forward Command Posts – Local location (usually at a LHPA) at which the primary tactical-level command functions are performed.

ICS – Incident Command System

I&I NSW – Industry & Investment NSW (formerly NSW Department of Primary Industries)

LCC – Local Coordination Centre

LHPA – Livestock Health and Pest Authorities (formerly Rural Lands Protection Boards)

OIC – Officer in Charge

SCC – State Coordination Centre

7. RELATED LEGISLATION

- [Rural Lands Protection Act 1998](#)
- [State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989](#)

8. RELATED POLICIES

- [O-046 Responsibilities in plague locust campaigns](#)
- [O-048 Activation of aerial support in a plague locust campaign](#)
- [O-047 Activation of ground control for plague locusts](#)

9. RELATED DELEGATIONS

- [Emergency Management Financial Delegations](#)

10. RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Nil

11. REVISION HISTORY

| Version | Date | Amendments |
|---------|----------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | 2 January 2009 | For approval |
| 2 | 17 August 2009 | Update NSW DPI to I&I NSW |

12. DATE OF NEXT REVIEW

30 June 2010

13. CONTACT OFFICER

Manager, General Emergency Preparedness & Response (Emergencies & Animal Welfare Branch).