

# Bee hives in state-controlled road corridors

Issued December 2018

In certain cases, the Department of Transport and Main Roads will approve the placement of bee hives on land it manages near roads it controls. This land is referred to as state-controlled road corridors. This fact sheet outlines the requirements for placing bee hives in a state-controlled road corridor. It is to be read in conjunction with the fact sheet titled Road Corridor Permit – for structures and activities in state-controlled road corridor.

## Application process

Before placing bee hives in a state-controlled road corridor, the person must hold a Road Corridor Permit. For more information about Road Corridor Permit go to [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au), click on (1) Community and environment, (2) Planning and development, (3) Other matters requiring approval then (4) Road Corridor Permit.

Please note, the Road Corridor Permit only covers the placement of the hives in a state-controlled road corridor. It does not authorise the keeping of bees. This authorisation is provided by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries under *the Biosecurity Act 2014*.

To obtain a Road Corridor Permit, you will need to complete an application form and submit it to your local Department of Transport and Main Roads District office at [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au), click on (1) Contact us, then (2) Road offices.

You will need to nominate the exact location where you want to locate the hives (using longitude and latitude co-ordinates, such as those provided on a smart phone). If possible, photos of the site should also be submitted.

## Duration of a Road Corridor Permit

Due to the high demand for bee hive locations along state-controlled road corridors, bee hive Road Corridor Permits are not issued on a permanent basis. The general permit duration is 12 months; however, hives must be placed on the approved site within six months for the permit to remain valid.

## Choosing a location

The placement of the hives must not interfere with the safe or efficient operation of the road. This includes the location of the hives, as well as the activities and vehicle movement associated with the hives, for example, delivery/removal, harvesting or maintenance duties.

Conditions on the placement of hives include:

- not being located within the 'clear zone' – refer to your local Department of Transport and Main Roads' District office at [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au), click on (1) Contact us, then (2) Road offices
- 200 metres away from neighbouring buildings, public utility structures, bus stops, school drop-off areas, footpaths, rest areas and heavy vehicle decoupling sites
- three metres from an adjacent, fenced property boundary – unless the property owner has provided written consent that the bee hives may be closer.

Other things you need to consider when placing the hives include:

- facing the hive entrances in a direction that minimises the risk of interfering with the general public
- proximity to public utility infrastructure, such as power poles

- the requirements of other government agencies, such as distances from other hives. (The Department of Transport and Main Roads is not responsible for this.)

## Vegetation clearing

Separate approvals from the relevant government agency must be obtained to clear any vegetation. Note, the Road Corridor Permit does not authorise the permit holder to clear any vegetation.

## Identifying the hives

It is important that the Department of Transport and Main Roads can easily identify who is responsible for the hives – particularly when spraying for weed prevention. For this, hives must be accompanied by a 100mm x 50mm timber post painted white. The words "Bee Hives", the Road Corridor Permit number and registered hive identification number (HIN) must be painted, stencilled or otherwise neatly shown on the post. The applicant must install the post in an easily visible location near/next to the bee hives.

## Things to be aware of

- As a road authority, the Department of Transport and Main Roads undertakes a range of duties, including road upgrades, the installation of rest areas, spraying for weeds and fire prevention. You may be required to move the hives if they will obstruct the Department of Transport and Main Roads' business.
- The Road Corridor Permit holder must restore any disturbed surfaces and maintain the road corridor in a clean and tidy condition. This includes the removal of rubbish or material brought on to the approved site by the permit holder or any person involved with the structure or activity.
- You may be asked to remove the hives if the Department of Transport and Main Roads believes they are creating or likely to create a risk to road safety.
- The Department of Transport and Main Roads takes no responsibility for Road Corridor Permits being issued for an area where a permit for beekeeping (or another activity or land use), has been issued from another agency for an activity or land use that may conflict with beekeeping.

## Liability

The Department of Transport and Main Roads accepts no liability for any claims arising from the placement of bee hives or associated activities in a state-controlled road corridor.