

Insurance policy



Managing Director's authorisation:

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Patrick W. Dae".

Effective date: 3 June 2022

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1. PURPOSE

This policy defines the responsibilities for insurance for all aspects of the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation's (FRDC's) operations.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility for this policy resides with General Manager Finance and Business.

3. DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

Follow links to [Definitions](#) and [Acronyms and Abbreviations](#)

4. RISK CATEGORY

This policy covers the following risk categories

Reputation	Financial	Research	Operational	People	Compliance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION

This section contains links to internally and externally facing documents – access to internally facing documents is restricted to FRDC employees.

Relevant documentation
Internal
Calendar procedure
Insurance procedure
Work Health and Safety (WHS) Policy
Risk management Policy
External
Comcare workers compensation scheme
Comcover Statement of Cover (2021-22)
Primary Industries Research and Development Act 1989 (PIRD Act)
Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (PGPA) Act 2013
Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014
Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988

6. PUBLICATION

FRDC Website	Yes	Directors' website	Yes
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7. BACKGROUND

The FRDC is an Australian Government statutory corporation and is required to have adequate insurance cover to protect employees, directors and the FRDC itself.

The FRDC is required by the Commonwealth Government's self-insurance provisions to use Comcover for its insurance needs. Comcover's confidentiality requirements prohibit the release of information on the nature and limits of liabilities covered and the amount of contribution paid. The rural RD&E corporations work cooperatively to ensure that Comcover's policies are competitive, in terms of coverage and risk, with those of private insurers.

The FRDC is required to use the Commonwealth Government's Comcare for its workers' compensation. The *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation (SRC) Act 1988* provides rehabilitation and workers' compensation to employees covered by the scheme for a work-related injury.

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The FRDC evaluates its risk within a comprehensive risk management framework (Risk Policy, Risk register, Fraud Control Plan Procedure, Security Policy).

8. POLICY

The FRDC will, as far as is reasonably possible, insure against identified insurable risks.

8.1 Indemnities and insurance for officials

Consistent with subsection 13 of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (PGPA) Act 2013 the term “officials” means:

- (1) *Each Commonwealth entity has officials.
Officials of Commonwealth entities (other than listed entities)*
- (2) *An **official** of a Commonwealth entity (other than a listed entity) is a person who is in, or forms part of, the entity.*
- (3) *Without limiting subsection (2), an **official** of a Commonwealth entity (other than a listed entity) includes:*
 - (a) *a person who is, or is a member of, the accountable authority of the entity;
or*
 - (b) *a person who is an officer, employee or member of the entity; or*
 - (c) *a person, or a person in a class, prescribed by an Act or the rules to be an official of the entity.*

The FRDC will indemnify its directors (a person who is, or is a member of, the accountable authority of the entity) to the maximum extent legally available within the constraints of the PGPA Act.

PGPA Rule – Section 23 – Insurance obtained by corporate Commonwealth entities restricts corporate Commonwealth entities from insuring officials of the entity against liabilities relating to breach of duty. This section is made for section 62 of the Act.

- 1) *A corporate Commonwealth entity must not insure an official of the entity against a liability (other than one for legal costs) arising out of:*
 - (a) *conduct involving a willful breach of duty, arising at common law, in equity or under the finance law (other than section 27 or 28 of the Act), in relation to the entity; or*
 - (b) *a contravention of section 27 or 28 of the Act (which deal with the duties of officials in relation to use of position and use of information).*
- (2) *Anything that purports to insure a person against, or exempt a person from, a liability is void to the extent that it contravenes this section.*

These premiums, if such insurance is available, may be paid by directors individually.

8.2 Responsibilities

The General Manager Finance and Business will review the risks and sums insured annually (review starts in March and ends in July) with the FRDC’s insurance broker. As per the Comcover insurable risks options provided annually, insurance cover will be purchased for:

- Liability:
 - general liability and professional indemnity
 - directors’ and officers’ liability
- Property:
 - property in transit

- fraud
- business interruption
- Motor vehicle – comprehensive where required
- Personal accident and travel
 - personal accident
 - travel outside of country – baggage, personal effects, and other non-medical
 - travel outside of country – medical expenses and medical emergencies
 - expatriate where required
 - travel inside country – personal effects

Other risks may also be insured against, subject to assessment of the risk exposure and premium. Comcover does not have a specific cyber risk policy, however the Statement of Cover may respond to some first and third party losses arising from a cyber security event (see '[Comcover Information Sheet – Cyber risk](#)' for further information).

The General Manager Business and Finance will provide Comcare with salary and employee information for their assessment of FRDCs workers' compensation coverage, as per the timeline schedule in the [Insurance procedure](#).

9. ATTACHMENTS

#	Description
1	Not applicable



Insurance policy - effective 3 June 2022

Final Audit Report

2022-07-05

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