

Managing Dieback



What is dieback?

- « Dieback is a water mould that lives in the soil and affects the health of some plants.
- « Any activity that moves soil, water or plant material can spread dieback.
- « Early symptoms of infection include wilting, yellowing, retention of dried foliage and darkening of root colour.
- « Infection often leads to death of the plant, especially in dry summer conditions when plants may be water stressed.
- « The southwestern portion of Western Australia is a 'dieback vulnerable zone'. Significant areas of the southwestern portion of Western Australia are dieback infested.
- « The dieback plant pathogen is one of the world's most invasive species and is present in over 70 countries around the world.

Why does Chalice need to manage dieback?

- « Chalice develops and adheres to strict dieback management protocols to minimise impact of our exploration on the region.
- « Chalice follows comprehensive Dieback Management Plans to ensure our exploration activities do not contribute to the spread of dieback in the areas where we operate.
- « Chalice's exploration program in the Julimar State Forest set a new standard as one of the lowest impact exploration campaigns, using leading practice environmental management measures. Learnings and procedures from this program are used across Chalice exploration projects.
- « Chalice is committed to strong environmental stewardship and ensuring any environmental impacts of our activities are minimised.

How does Chalice assess dieback risk?

- « The first step in assessing the risk of dieback spread is to undertake dieback surveys to establish the status of the vegetation.
- « These surveys are completed by Phytophthora Dieback Interpreters that are accredited by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.
- « Chalice has undertaken extensive dieback surveys over a large area of Chalice-owned farmland and the Julimar State Forest.

How is Chalice managing dieback risk?

Chalice maintains the following strict planning and cleaning procedures governed by our comprehensive Dieback Management Plans.

- « **Dieback mapping** - in required locations, prior to working in vegetated areas Chalice ensures dieback surveys are undertaken, informing dieback zones and the associated management requirements.
- « **Clean on entry** - the most effective way of preventing dieback spread is to keep footwear, vehicles and equipment free of soil. Chalice performs comprehensive clean down protocols using both designated washdown bays and 'dry' procedures when in the field.
- « **Green card training** - When required to prevent spread of dieback, Chalice ensures key staff and contractors have undertaken registered Green Card training.
- « **Wet soil conditions** - Chalice assesses soil conditions before commencing work to ensure we avoid unnecessary risk of dieback spread.