

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority

Weed Control Policy and Management Plan

Plan Period

Start date: 1 April 2012

Review Date: 31 March 2017

Policy Statement

The Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority (IDNWA) is the Local Government body empowered to control noxious weeds in the following three Council areas:

1. Wollongong City
2. Shellharbour City
3. Kiama Municipal

The Authority is responsible for controlling noxious weeds on all council owned lands including certain roadsides and vacant Crown land through special grants. It is also responsible for the inspection of private property for noxious weed infestations and the giving of directions and advice to landholders or occupiers so that adequate control is maintained.

The IDNWA came into existence in 1992 when the abovementioned councils decided to form a special purpose council to administer and control their noxious weeds. Each of the three constituent councils has one delegate who represents their council's interests and oversees the affairs of the Authority. A technical sub-committee comprised of one officer from each of the three council's technical staff provides an advisory and support function to the IDNWA.

Funds are provided for the working of the Authority by the State Government and the constituent councils.

POLICY

The IDNWA policy on noxious weed control is primarily aimed at cooperation with all landholders. The IDNWA is, however, legally obliged to ensure compliance with the provisions of Sections 12 - 14 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993, which state that an occupier of land (including both private and public occupiers of land) is responsible for controlling all noxious weeds on the land they occupy. If a private occupier of land fails to comply with the obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.

Policy of Control

1. To prevent the establishment and eradicate all Class 1 and 2 noxious weeds, whilst restricting the spread and reducing the area of all other existing widespread noxious weeds and high priority non – declared emerging weeds on both private and public lands throughout the local control authority area.
2. To determine the degree of noxious weed infestation within the local control authority area by regular inspections of all lands and to determine a program for the control of such noxious weeds.
3. To ensure, so far as practicable, that owners and occupiers of land carry out their obligations to control noxious weeds imposed under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.
4. To achieve this objective in the closest co-operation with the landholder in the first instance, otherwise by use of council's legal powers.
5. To carry out the policy in close liaison with the NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) Regional Weed Control Coordinator and other officers of the Department of Primary Industries.
6. To co-operate with adjoining local control authorities to control noxious weeds.
7. To encourage and assist in the development and establishment of trial plots and new techniques for weed control in conjunction with landholders, CSIRO, NSW DPI and manufacturers of chemicals and associated equipment.
8. To promote and enhance public awareness of the noxious weed problem within the local control authority area.
9. To maintain council plant and equipment at a high standard of efficiency.
10. To assist landholders by spraying noxious weeds on private land under private contract.
11. To maintain a priority list of noxious and emerging non – declared weeds and to review such priority list annually.
12. To appoint a noxious weeds committee to be responsible for the general supervision of IDNWA noxious weeds policy.

13. To develop, implement co-ordinate and review noxious weed control policies and noxious weed control programs for the local control authority and local area respectively.
14. Report on the carrying out of the local control authority's functions under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.
15. Perform other such functions as may be conferred or imposed on the local control authority by or under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

Control Authority Aims

Aim:

- To reduce the negative impact of noxious weeds on the community and environment of the Illawarra region by establishing control mechanisms to:
 - (i) prevent the establishment of new weeds.
 - (ii) restrict the spread and reduce the area of existing weeds.

Objectives:

- To develop, implement and co-ordinate noxious weed control programs in close co-operation with all landholders.
- To prevent the establishment, restrict the spread, and reduce the incidence of all declared noxious weeds and emerging high priority non - declared species within the local area.
- To enhance community awareness and understanding of noxious weeds and their control.

Goals:

- The IDNWA aims to prevent all Class 1 noxious weeds from establishing within the local area, to have all Class 2 noxious weeds eradicated, whilst reducing the incidence of other noxious weeds and emerging high priority non – declared species from public lands in the Wollongong Statistical District.
- The IDNWA aims to cooperate closely with all landholders to prevent establishment and ensure eradication of all Class 1 and 2 noxious weeds, and to reduce the incidence of other noxious weeds on private lands within the Wollongong Statistical District.
- The IDNWA aims to provide a cost efficient noxious weeds control program, while taking appropriate steps to protect the environment.

Obligations and Responsibilities

Private Owners and Occupiers of Land

Private owners and occupiers are responsible for –

- Controlling all noxious weeds on their land according to the specified control class.
- Notifying Local Control Authorities of any occurrence of any Class 1, 2 and 5 noxious weeds.
- Every home owner, land owner, occupier or person/s leasing or renting properties must be aware of their obligations and responsibilities to control noxious weeds. The person/s who has the care, control and use of the land is the occupier. He/she is responsible for the control of noxious weeds. If a private occupier of land fails to comply with the obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.
- There are many other areas such as watercourses, unfenced roads, laneways etc and adjoining owners should enquire with the IDNWA to determine their responsibilities.
- Each occupier who fails without reasonable excuse to take reasonable and practical measures to control noxious weeds from their property shall be liable to heavy penalties.

IDNWA

Local Control Authorities (LCAs) are responsible for –

- Controlling all noxious weeds on Council-owned land and certain roadsides.
- Undertaking a private property inspection program to ensure landholders are controlling noxious weeds as classified.
- Issuing notices and if necessary carrying out prosecutions of private landholders who do not comply with provisions of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.
- Liaising with public authorities concerning noxious weed control on public authority lands and informing NSW DPI where weed control on public authority lands is unsatisfactory.

Public Authorities

Public Authorities are responsible for –

- Controlling noxious weeds as required under the control classes, to the extent necessary to prevent the weeds from spreading to adjoining land.
- Notifying Local Control Authorities of any occurrence of any Class 1, 2 and 5 noxious weeds.

INDIVIDUAL WEED POLICY

The IDNWA policy on noxious weed control is primarily aimed at cooperation with private owners and occupiers of land and public authorities.

The IDNWA places priority on noxious weed control, with greatest emphasis on those plants that have the potential to cause the greatest economic loss to landholders, National Parks, State Forests, waterways and other public land, and the total environment. The IDNWA also considers the current distribution and the cost/benefits ratio in determining priorities.

Class 1- State Prohibited Weeds*

The Noxious Weed Act 1993 requires for a Class 1 noxious weed, "The plant must be eradicated from the land and the land must be kept free of the plant." The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed.

The control objective for weed control Class 1 is to prevent the introduction and establishment of those plants in NSW.

The following plants are Class 1 noxious weeds:

Common Name	Botanical Name
Anchored water hyacinth	<i>Eichornia azurea</i>
Broomrapes	<i>Orobanche species except O.cemua var. australiana and O. minor</i>
Chinese violet	<i>Asystasia gangetica subsp. micrantha</i>
Eurasian water milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium species</i>
Heteranthera	<i>Heteranthera reniformis</i>
Horsetail	<i>Equisetum species</i>
Hydrocotyl	<i>Hydrocotyl ranunculoides</i>
Hymenachne	<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis & hybrids</i>
Karoo thorn	<i>Acacia karroo</i>
Kochia	<i>Bassia scoparia</i>
Koster's curse	<i>Clidemia hirta</i>
Knapweeds – Black	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
Knapweeds – Spotted	<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>
Lagarosiphon	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>
Miconia	<i>Miconia species</i>
Mikania	<i>Mikania micrantha</i>
Mimosa	<i>Mimosa pigra</i>
Mexican feather grass	<i>Nassella tenuissima</i>
Parthenium weed	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>
Pond apple	<i>Annona glabra</i>
Prickly acacia	<i>Acacia nilotica</i>
Rubbervine	<i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i>
Senegal tea plant	<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i>

Siam weed	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>
Water caltrop	<i>Trapa species</i>
Water lettuce	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>
Water soldier	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>
Witchweed <i>parviflora</i>	<i>Striga species except native species and Striga</i>
Yellow burrhead	<i>Limnocharis flara</i>

Class 1 Noxious Weeds

Class 1 noxious weeds are plants that pose a potentially serious threat to primary production or the environment and are not present in the State or are present only to limited extent.

Only one Class 1 weed has been found in the Wollongong Statistical District. - Senegal Tea Plant. When found however, these weeds have very high priority with the aim to eradicate them from the District.

The control and eradication of Class 1 noxious weeds is the highest priority within the IDNWA control program.

Strategy

Nurseries / aquaria and weekend markets are to be inspected annually to ensure Class 1 weeds are not being sold or distributed. Routine property inspections will also be used to determine the presence of any Class 1 weeds within the district.

If found being sold plants are to be immediately confiscated and destroyed. If found on private/public land an Eradication Plan is to be developed by the Chief Weeds Officer in consultation with the respective landowner within 5 working days. Control is to commence as soon as is practical after detection of the infestation.

Reinspection of infested sites is to occur at regular intervals, as appropriate, to ensure reinfestation does not occur and eradication is achieved. Landholders will be required to take all reasonable precautions to ensure produce, soil, livestock, equipment and vehicles are free of the weed before movement from an infested area of the property. No Class 1 weeds can be knowingly transported without appropriate approvals.

NSW DPI is to be notified of all Class 1 weed outbreaks as soon as possible after a Class 1 weed is discovered. Refer to "Locations of Class 1 and 2 Weeds" proforma.

Outcomes

► All Class 1 weeds will be prevented from being introduced and establishing within the Wollongong Statistical District.

Class 2- Regionally Prohibited Weeds*

The Noxious Weed Act 1993 requires for a Class 2 noxious weed, “The plant must be eradicated from the land and the land must be kept free of the plant.” The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed.

The control objective for weed control Class 2 is to prevent the introduction and establishment of those plants in parts of NSW.

The following plants are Class 2 noxious weeds:

Common Name	Botanical Name
Alligator weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>
Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera</i>
Salvinia	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>
Tropical Soda Apple	<i>Solanum viarum</i>

Class 2 Noxious Weeds

Class 2 noxious weeds are plants that pose a potentially serious threat to primary production or the environment of a region but are not present in the region or are present only to limited extent.

Only four plants are declared as Class 2 noxious weeds within the Wollongong Statistical District. Of these only three are found to a limited extent- Alligator weed, Boneseed and Salvinia. Tropical soda apple has not been found as yet. All have very high priority with the aim to eradicate them from the District.

The control and eradication of Class 2 noxious weeds is of the same high priority as Class 1 weeds within the IDNWA control program.

Strategy

Nurseries / aquaria and weekend markets are to be inspected annually to ensure Class 2 weeds are not being sold or distributed. Targeted inspections of high risk pathways (see Section XX below) will also be used to determine the presence of any Class 2 weeds within the district.

If found being sold plants are to be seized and destroyed. A seizure receipt is to be given to the person responsible to verify seizure of the plants under Section 28 and Section 44(c) of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993. If found on private/public land an Eradication Plan is to be developed by the Chief Weeds Officer in consultation with the respective landowner within 5 working days. Control is to commence as soon as is practical after detection of the infestation.

Reinspection of infested sites is to occur at least annually, to ensure reinfestation does not occur and eradication is achieved. Landholders will be required to take all reasonable precautions to ensure produce, soil, livestock, equipment and vehicles are free of the weed before movement from an infested area of the property. No Class 2 weeds can be knowingly transported without appropriate approvals.

NSW DPI is to be notified of all Class 2 weed outbreaks as soon as possible after a Class 2 weed is discovered. Refer to “Locations of Class 1 and 2 Weeds” proforma.

Outcomes

► All Class 2 weeds will be prevented from further introduction and establishment or else eradicated in line with the appropriate eradication plan.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 2 – Alligator weed</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the further introduction and spread of Alligator weed within the Wollongong Statistical District. To fully control / eradicate the weed from all known infested areas.
<i>The infestation</i>	Alligator weed is currently recorded at 2 sites within the region, one on public reserve land at Dunmore and the other infestation in a semi-dry creek at Yallah, on land owned by private industry. Previously 15 properties within the urban areas of Shellharbour and Wollongong were recorded as having Alligator weed infestations. These would all but appear to have been eradicated.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	An annual inspection and treatment program will be enforced on all known infested properties throughout the summer growing season. Routine inspections of all main waterways will occur throughout the year to ensure no new outbreaks have occurred. Nurseries and aquaria will be inspected annually.
<i>Future plans</i>	To continue to inspect existing infested lands and treat annually until fully controlled/eradicated. To continue to promote awareness and encourage community reporting of any suspect plants. To expand inspection program to cover all potential habitats for Alligator weed.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 2 – Boneseed</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the further introduction and spread of Boneseed within the Wollongong Statistical District. To fully control / eradicate the weed from all known infested areas.
<i>The infestation</i>	Boneseed is of limited distribution throughout each of the three member council areas being found as scattered roadside plants on the escarpment at Bulli Tops and near Jamberoo. It is also found along sections of the South Coast rail line south of Kiama. Occasional plants are found on private land and in bushland reserves north of Bulli.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	A high level action plan will be implemented throughout the region, targeting all known Boneseed infestations on an annual basis until all plants are destroyed. Nurseries will be inspected annually to prevent the sale of any Boneseed.
<i>Future plans</i>	To expand current inspectorial activities throughout the District to include those lands adjoining known infested sites To continue to treat and inspect for Boneseed on both private and public land annually.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 2 – Salvinia</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the further introduction and spread of Salvinia within the Wollongong Statistical District. To fully control / eradicate the weed from all known infested areas.
<i>The infestation</i>	Salvinia has been recorded in all three council areas. It has been found within council drainage reserves; in at least two creek systems in southern Wollongong and on a number of farm dams. Salvinia has also been recorded in ponds in the urban area as well as being sold by nurseries. At present all infestations on council controlled lands appear to have been eradicated. Only one infestation in a drainage canal at Shellharbour on private land is cause for concern at present.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	An annual inspection and treatment program will be enforced on all infested properties throughout the summer growing period. Routine inspections of all main waterways will occur throughout the year to ensure no new outbreaks have occurred. Nurseries and aquaria will be inspected annually.
<i>Future plans</i>	To continue to inspect existing infested lands and treat annually until fully controlled/eradicated. To continue to promote awareness and encourage community reporting of any suspect plants. To expand current inspectorial activities to cover all potential Salvinia locations.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 2 – Tropical Soda Apple</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the introduction and potential spread of Tropical Soda Apple within the Wollongong Statistical District. To fully control / eradicate the weed when found.
<i>The infestation</i>	Tropical Soda Apple has not been found in the area to date.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	To target known high risk pathways, and private properties as part of routine inspections for noxious weeds
<i>Future plans</i>	To continue to inspect for Tropical Soda Apple on both private and public land annually.

Class 3- Regionally Controlled Weeds

The Noxious Weed Act 1993 requires for a Class 3 noxious weed, "The weed must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed."

The control objective for weed control Class 3 is to reduce the area and impact of those plants in parts of NSW.

The following plants are Class 3 noxious weeds:

Common Name	Botanical Name
Giant Parramatta grass	<i>Sporobolus fertilis</i>
Gorse^	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
Groundsel bush	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>
Mysore thorn	<i>Caesalpinia decapatala</i>
St. John's wort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>
Water hyacinth^	<i>Eichornia crassipes</i>

^ Gorse and Water hyacinth are declared Class 2 notifiable noxious weeds in particular parts of the State and as a consequence must not be sold or purchased in any other part of the State.

Class 3 Noxious Weeds

Class 3 noxious weeds are plants that pose a serious threat to primary production or the environment of an area and are not widely distributed in the area but are likely to spread in the area or to another area.

The control program for Class 3 noxious weeds will be the second highest priority within the IDNWA control program. Allocation of funds to reflect this priority. Within the IDNWA budget, control programs for Class 3 weeds will be conducted effectively and efficiently.

Strategy

Nurseries / aquaria and weekend markets are to be inspected annually to ensure Class 3 weeds^ are not being sold.

All Class 3 weeds on Public Land and Vacant Crown Land will be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.

Private landholders and Government authorities will be required to fully and continuously suppress and destroy all Class 3 weeds.

In other words an ongoing program of control will be required to be in place with the objective of reducing the area and impact of Class 3 weeds on both private and public land.

Targeted property inspections and roadside/reserve spraying programs will be actively undertaken on all Class 3 weeds within the limits of seasonal and financial constraints.

Outcomes

- ▶ No Class 3 weeds^ will be sold or purchased.
- ▶ There will be a gradual reduction in the area and impact of all Class 3 noxious weeds within the Wollongong Statistical District area on both private and public lands.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 3 – Giant Parramatta grass</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the spread of the weed and reduce its numbers and distribution, throughout all infested areas. GPG is to be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.
<i>The infestation</i>	GPG is found as scattered plants on most rural roads and some reserves throughout all three local government areas. Infestations on private land are widespread and range from a few scattered plants on some properties to heavy infestations on others. The West Dapto area contains the heaviest infestations of this weed with several private properties heavily infested. Weed is spreading from these areas.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	An active annual private property inspection program will be enforced over the months March/April in all areas where GPG is known to occur. This program will specifically target emerging populations whilst simultaneously trying to limit the spread from heavy areas through the creation of buffer zones. All rural roads and known infested reserves will be controlled annually.
<i>Future plans</i>	To continue to promote awareness and encourage community action on this weed. To continue to expand current inspectorial program so as to determine the extent of spread within the district, thereby allowing for the creation of containment and active management zones as determined by degree of infestation.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 3 – Gorse</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To reduce the existing area and impact of the weed. Gorse is to be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.
<i>The infestation</i>	Gorse occurs as scattered roadside plants and in occasional reserves in all three council areas. Notable infestations on private land are found at Jamberoo, Dunmore and in the Northern suburbs of Wollongong. Roadside and reserve infestations generally correspond to neighbouring infested private land.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	High level action plans will be implemented throughout the district. Operational programs to compliment inspectorial programs. Private lands are to be inspected annually initially until infestation levels are reduced to a manageable level, and then inspected every second year until fully controlled. Land under the care and control of the IDNWA will be inspected and treated annually. Nurseries will be inspected annually to prevent the sale of any Gorse.
<i>Future plans</i>	To continue to inspect and enforce control on private lands infested with Gorse, expanding target area to incorporate any neighbouring properties previously not inspected so as to ascertain current distribution of the weed within the district. To continue to control Gorse on land under the care and control of the IDNWA annually.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 3 – Groundsel bush</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To fully control all infestations. Groundsel bush is to be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.
<i>The infestation</i>	Groundsel bush occurs sporadically throughout Wollongong and Shellharbour Council areas being a minor weed on swampy lands bordering Lake Illawarra and estuary areas to the north (Puckeys Estate). Kiama is not known to contain any infestations of this weed.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	High level action plans will be implemented throughout the district. Operational programs to compliment inspectorial programs. Private lands are to be inspected annually initially until infestation levels are reduced to a manageable level, and then inspected every second year until fully controlled. Land under the care and control of the IDNWA will be inspected and treated annually. Control to be undertaken on all council lands every May.
<i>Future plans</i>	To continue to inspect and enforce control on private lands infested with Groundsel bush until full control is achieved. To continue to control Groundsel bush on land under the care and control of the IDNWA annually.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 3 – Mysore thorn</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the spread of the weed and reduce its numbers and distribution. Mysore thorn is to be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed
<i>The infestation</i>	Mysore thorn is limited in its distribution throughout the three council areas. It is found as an isolated infestation in Rainforest at Foxground within Kiama, and in grazing land at Stockyard Mountain in Shellharbour. In the Wollongong LGA it is found as light to medium infestations within the Mt Kembla and Bulli catchments. Some plants occur in inaccessible or hard to reach locations within the escarpment foothills and associated tributaries of these areas.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	<p>Mysore thorn is to be inspected and treated annually each August/September as part of an active control program on this weed. As it is a weed of the escarpment foothills and is common along many tributaries within its current range, the aim of current control programs will be to work from the source in each case, to control it from the upper reaches of stream systems and then gradually work down stream until all the catchment is either under control or clean.</p> <p>Private lands are to be inspected annually initially until infestation levels are reduced to a manageable level, and then inspected every second year until fully controlled. Land under the care and control of the IDNWA will be inspected and treated annually.</p>
<i>Future plans</i>	To expand inspectorial and operational program as time and resources permit so as to eventually target all infested properties within the affected catchments, thereby reducing the area and impact of the weed.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 3 – St John’s wort</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To fully control all infestations. St John’s wort is to be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.
<i>The infestation</i>	St John’s wort is recognised as a weed of only minor occurrence being found as scattered plants on at least five rural roadside verges and six private properties in Kiama, Shellharbour and Wollongong.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	High level action plans will be implemented due to the relatively low occurrence of this weed in the district. All roadside infestations will be treated annually in November in line with private property inspections for this weed.
<i>Future plans</i>	Continuing annual roadside control and inspections of infested private lands. Particular emphasis will be afforded to expanding inspections on private properties on the Escarpment plateau where St Johns wort is expected to be found.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 3 – Water hyacinth</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the spread of the weed and reduce its numbers and distribution. Water hyacinth is to be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.
<i>The infestation</i>	Water hyacinth is found mainly on small farm dams and some creeks throughout the district. It is occasionally found as an ornamental in urban pond situations as well as being sold by nurseries.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	An annual inspection and treatment program will be undertaken on all known infested lands (private and public) throughout the summer growing period. Routine inspections of all main waterways will occur throughout the year to ensure no new outbreaks have occurred. Nurseries and aquaria will be inspected annually.
<i>Future plans</i>	To continue to inspect existing infested lands and treat annually until fully controlled. To continue to promote awareness and encourage community reporting and /or action on any suspect plants. To expand current inspectorial activities to cover all potential Water hyacinth locations.

Class 4- Locally Controlled Weeds

The Noxious Weed Act 1993 requires for a Class 4 noxious weed:

1. + “The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its numbers spread and incidence and continuously inhibits its reproduction.”
2. ^ “The plant must not be sold propagated or knowingly distributed.”
3. * “The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its numbers spread and incidence and continuously inhibits its reproduction and the plant must not be sold propagated or knowingly distributed
4. # “The plant must not be sold propagated or knowingly distributed by any person other than a person involved in hay or lucerne production and the growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its spread and continuously inhibits its reproduction.”
5. • “The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that prevents any above ground part the plant from encroaching within 2 metres of the property boundary and the plant must not be sold propagated or knowingly distributed”.

The control objective for weed control Class 4 is to minimise the negative impact of those plants on the economy, community or environment of NSW.

The following plants are Class 4 noxious weeds:

Common Name	Botanical name
African boxthorn+	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>
African lovegrass+	<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>
Arrowhead^	<i>Sagittaria montevidensis</i>
Blackberry*	<i>Rubus fruticosus aggregate species</i>
Bitou bush+ ¹	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera subspecies rotunda</i>
Bridal creeper^	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>
Chilean needle grass*	<i>Nassella neesiana</i>
Harrisia cactus*	<i>Harrisia species</i>
East Indian hygrophila^	<i>Hygrophila polysperma</i>
Lantana*	<i>Lantana species</i>
Leafy elodea^	<i>Egeria densa</i>
Lippia #	<i>Phyla canescens</i>
Long leaf willow primrose^	<i>Ludwigia longifolia</i>
Pampas grass+	<i>Cortaderia species</i>
Prickly pear*	<i>Opuntia species except O. ficus-indica</i>
Prickly pear*	<i>Cylindropuntia species</i>
Rhus tree•	<i>Toxicodendron succedaneum</i>
Scotch/English broom+	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
Serrated tussock*	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>

¹ Bitou bush is declared Class 2 notifiable noxious weeds in particular parts of the State and as a consequence must not be sold or purchased in any other part of the State.

Class 4 Noxious Weeds

Class 4 noxious weeds are plants that pose a serious threat to primary production, the environment or human health, are widely distributed in an area and are likely to spread in the area or to another area.

The IDNWA will prioritise expenditure on Class 4 weeds from operational and inspectorial funds not committed to Class 1, 2 or 3 weeds, with the aim of preventing the sale, propagation and distribution of those species so required, whilst limiting the further growth and spread of all other Class 4 weeds on both public and private land.

Strategy

Nurseries / aquaria and weekend markets are to be inspected annually to ensure Class 4 weeds*¹ are not being sold, purchased or knowingly distributed.

Control programs on Class 4 weeds will be in a descending order of priority as determined by the IDNWAs financial ability to effectively manage the weed within the requirements of the Class 4 control measure. Particular focus will be directed to areas of low weed abundance, sites of community concern, where cooperative programs are in place, or where critical assets need protecting. In other words inspectorial and operational control programs will focus time and resources where benefits will be greatest. The long term management goal will be to minimize the negative impact of Class 4 weeds in the Wollongong Statistical District through a reduction in their size and density in all areas of high priority as determined by the planning policy for that weed.

Private landholders and Government authorities will be required to control all Class 4 weeds as per the relevant control measure for that weed and as determined by local policy and planning settings (refer to individual weed control policy below and requirements specified in the relevant management plan developed for that weed – [Appendix 1](#)).

In other words a program of control will be required to be in place with the objective of reducing the growth and spread of Class 4 weeds on both private and public land as determined by the local strategy.

Targeted property inspections and roadside/reserve spraying programs will be undertaken on all Class 4 weeds within the limits of seasonal, financial and operational constraints.

Outcomes

- ▶ No Class 4 weeds*, will be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed.
- ▶ No Class 4 weeds ¹ will be sold or purchased.
- ▶ The growth and spread of all other Class 4 weeds on public and private lands within the Wollongong Statistical District will be minimised as per local policy and planning settings.

Overview (In descending order of priority)

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 4 – Chilean Needle Grass</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the growth and spread of the weed and reduce its numbers and distribution throughout the region.
<i>The infestation</i>	Chilean Needle Grass is recognised as an emerging weed within the area. It is found on at least 6 private properties at West Dapto and is occasionally found as scattered plants on roadsides and in at least 2 degraded reserves within the Wollongong LGA. Not found within the Kiama or Shellharbour LGAs at the present time.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	Due to the extremely low occurrence of this weed within the district a high level action plan will be implemented. An annual inspection and treatment program will be undertaken in November each year on all known CNG infestations (both private and public) until full control is achieved. Nurseries will be inspected annually to prevent the sale of any CNG.
<i>Future plans</i>	To continue to inspect and enforce control on all known infested private properties, expanding the target area to incorporate neighboring properties so as to ascertain current distribution of the weed within the district. To continue to inspect for CNG on land under the care and control of the IDNWA and treat all known infestations annually.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 4 – Scotch/English Broom</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To fully control all known infestations of Scotch/English Broom throughout the three member council areas.
<i>The infestation</i>	Only one infestation of Scotch/English Broom has been found within the area, that being on private property at Helensburgh. This infestation has since been eradicated.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	High level action plans will be implemented on any Scotch/English Broom found due to the absence/low occurrence of this weed within the district. Any plants found are to be fully controlled on an annual basis until destroyed. Ongoing private property inspections will be undertaken for this weed as part of the routine inspection program.
<i>Future plans</i>	Continuing annual roadside inspections and routine inspections of private lands.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 4 – Bitou Bush</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the growth and spread of the weed and reduce its numbers and distribution, throughout all light and medium areas of infestation. To prevent the spread of the weed from heavy or core areas of infestation.
<i>The infestation</i>	Bitou Bush is widespread throughout all coastal reserves and most vacant (private) lands east of the Princes Highway from Gerroa in the south to Bulli in the north. It is relatively sparse west of the Princes Highway and in coastal areas north of Bulli.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	A high level action plan will be implemented throughout the region targeting all infestations on council lands in Kiama and Shellharbour annually and areas north of Bulli and west of the Princes H'way in Wollongong where Bitou bush is of relatively low density. Private lands will be inspected every 2 years in Kiama and Shellharbour expanding over time to incorporate inspections of private lands in Wollongong where Bitou Bush is of low to medium density. Programs will be maintained in heavy infested zones on council lands where control has previously been undertaken.(ie Hill 60 / Cringila Park).

	Biological control will be undertaken in core areas to inhibit reproduction and restrict spread.
<i>Future plans</i>	To maintain current inspectorial and operational activities expanding as time and resources permit to encompass lands (both private and public) where Bitou Bush is of medium density within the Wollongong LGA. To expand aerial spraying program within heavy zones thereby reducing amount of viable seed-set within these zones and so slow the rate of spread of the weed within the other zones. Continue to pursue additional funding to enhance (and continue) existing programs.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 4 – Serrated Tussock</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the growth and spread of the weed and reduce its numbers and distribution throughout the region.
<i>The infestation</i>	Serrated Tussock is found as scattered infestations on vacant industrial quarry sites and on a number of rural properties throughout the Shellharbour and southern Wollongong areas. It is also common along most escarpment roads to the west.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	High level action plans will be implemented due to the limited distribution of this weed. All roadside infestations will be treated annually in November in line with ongoing private property inspections. Nurseries will be inspected annually to prevent sale of any Serrated Tussock.
<i>Future plans</i>	Continuing annual roadside control and inspections of infested private lands, expanding inspection area as time and resources permit.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 4 – Pampas Grass</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the growth and spread of the weed and reduce its numbers and distribution throughout the region.
<i>The infestation</i>	Pampas Grass is of limited distribution within the Kiama, Shellharbour and southern Wollongong areas. It has virtually been eradicated as a garden ornamental in all three LGAs and is now mainly found as a weed in urban bushland in northern Wollongong and on a number of industrial quarry sites in Kiama and Shellharbour. It is also occasionally found on mining and industrial lands within the Wollongong LGA. It is not a major weed in the rural area.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	Pampas Grass is to be inspected year round as part of the normal inspection program. Infested private properties are to be inspected annually initially until infestation levels are reduced to a manageable level, and then inspected every second year until fully controlled or eradicated. All council lands with infestations of this weed are to be inspected and controlled every two years with programs to be undertaken in September of that year.
<i>Future plans</i>	To expand current inspectorial and operational activities throughout the northern Illawarra to include lands not yet inspected but otherwise known or else suspected of harboring infestations of this weed.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 4 – African Lovegrass</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the growth and spread of the weed and reduce its numbers and distribution, throughout all areas, but excluding the core infestations defined as Picton Rd, the Old Princes H'way/F6 Freeway north of Bulli Tops and Appin Rd. Private properties adjoining such roads will be subject to limited control measures as advised by the IDNWA Weeds Officer upon inspection.
<i>The infestation</i>	African Lovegrass occurs as scattered roadside plants at Gerroa and Minnamurra whilst isolated plants have been found on reserves at Shellharbour and along several rural roads west of Albion Park. Marginal roadside infestations occur at West Dapto, Lake Illawarra and Helensburgh. Neighbouring private lands contain occasional intrusions of this weed. Designated core infestations are found on the major transport links of Picton Rd, Appin Rd and the old Princes H'way/F6 Freeway and adjoining lands on the escarpment plateau.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	A roadside and reserve control program will be implemented annually each October-November targeting all lands outside the designated core infestations. Private property inspections will be undertaken where roadside programs are in place ensuring inspectorial activities compliment operational programs. Private lands are to be inspected annually initially until infestation levels are reduced to a manageable level, and then inspected every second year until fully controlled.
<i>Future plans</i>	Annual roadside and reserve control program aimed at containing the spread of AL from all designated core infestation sites. Infested private properties outside core areas will be targeted for inspection every 2 years once initial infestation levels are deemed under control.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 4 – Rhus Tree</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To locate and control all plants within 2m of property boundaries within the urban area of each member council.
<i>The infestation</i>	Rhus Tree is primarily grown as a garden ornamental. It has virtually been eradicated from the urban areas of Kiama, Shellharbour and Wollongong. It may however occasionally be found in secluded gardens in some well established suburbs. It is also found as a weed in urban bushland within these areas. It is not a major weed in the rural area.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	Rhus tree is to be inspected year round as part of the normal inspection program. Properties containing plantings of this weed will be monitored annually for up to 3 years after initial control to ensure effective control/eradication is achieved. All council lands with infestations of this weed are to be inspected and controlled every two years with programs to be undertaken in September of that year.
<i>Future plans</i>	To continue to monitor existing lands where the weed has been identified whilst expanding the inspectorial and operational program as time and resources permit.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 4 - Blackberry</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To reduce the numbers, spread, density and distribution of the weed throughout the district.
<i>The infestation</i>	Blackberry is widespread throughout the region being a common weed on neglected grazing lands, vacant industrial areas, roadsides and reserves, and disturbed urban bushland.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	High level control plans will be implemented throughout the district on an annual basis. Operational programs will compliment inspectorial programs so that most roads and reserves within inspectorial areas are treated. Particular emphasis will be afforded to inspecting areas where Blackberry is of limited distribution and agricultural productivity is at greatest risk. Nurseries/ weekend markets will be inspected annually to prevent the sale of any weedy Blackberry.
<i>Future plans</i>	Operational programs will continue to concentrate on roadsides and reserves within the general inspection area, where previous control programs have been undertaken and where agricultural productivity is threatened. Program will be expanded as time and resources permit. Inspectorial programs will be further enhanced to target problem properties and areas never previously inspected within each of the three constituent council areas, including urban environs.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 4- Lantana</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the growth and spread of the weed and reduce its numbers and distribution within high priority areas as determined by weed abundance, sites of community concern, where cooperative programs are in place, or where critical assets need protecting. .
<i>The infestation</i>	Two species of Lantana are found within the district - <i>L. montevidensis</i> and <i>L. camara</i> . Only <i>L. camara</i> (<i>pink lantana</i>) has naturalized and is widespread throughout all member council areas where it is a common weed of roadsides, disturbed bushland and degraded farmland. <i>L. montevidensis</i> is commonly grown as a garden ornamental along with a number of ornamental <i>L. camara</i> varieties.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	All <i>Lantana montevidensis</i> (creeping lantana) and all ornamental varieties of <i>Lantana camara</i> (<i>Lantana</i>) will be required to be fully controlled on both private and public lands throughout each of the three member council areas. <i>Lantana camara</i> (Pink lantana) will be required to be controlled so as to reduce its numbers, spread and incidence within areas of low weed abundance, sites of community concern, where cooperative programs are in place, or where critical assets need protecting. These sites will be determined on a priority basis according to the IDNWAs financial ability to effectively manage the weed within the requirements of the Class 4 control measure. With regard to <i>L. montevidensis</i> and ornamental varieties of <i>L. camara</i> a systematic approach to control will be implemented such that planning and enforcement will be undertaken in a south to north direction. All urban areas throughout Kiama, Shellharbour and Wollongong will be inspected each winter/spring as time and resources permit. Nurseries will be inspected annually to prevent the sale of ornamental varieties of Lantana. Biological control will be undertaken in core areas to inhibit reproduction and restrict spread.
<i>Future plans</i>	To continue to enforce control of all ornamental varieties of Lantana, expanding the inspectorial and operational program north each year. To focus time and resources on Pink lantana (<i>Lantana camara</i>) where community benefits will be greatest as determined by weed abundance, sites of community concern, where cooperative programs are in place, or where critical assets need protecting.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	<i>Class 4 – African Boxthorn</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the growth and spread of the weed and reduce its numbers and distribution throughout the region.
<i>The infestation</i>	African Boxthorn occurs as localized populations throughout the three council areas. It is most prominent in Shellharbour and Kiama where it is found mainly along the coastal cliff lines and under timber bordering the major River systems and associated tributaries. (ie. Crooked River / Minnamurra River / Macquarie Rivulet). African Boxthorn becomes more isolated and sporadic North of Wollongong. It is occasionally found invading grazing lands within both Kiama and Shellharbour.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	African Boxthorn is to be inspected year round as part of the normal inspection program. Known infested properties will be targeted for inspection every 2 years after the initial inspection to ensure treatment programs are being implemented and the weed is being effectively controlled.
<i>Future plans</i>	To continue to inspect existing infested private lands every 2 years whilst treating council lands annually until full control is achieved. To expand inspectorial program as time and resources permit.

Overview

<i>Declaration</i>	Class 4 – Harrisia Cactus and Prickly Pear
<i>Objectives</i>	To prevent the growth and spread of the weed and reduce its numbers and distribution throughout the region.
<i>The infestation</i>	Scattered plants in coastal reserves and in degraded grazing lands. Occasionally found as a garden ornamental in urban areas.
<i>Policy and Planning</i>	Harrisia cactus and Prickly Pear are to be inspected year round as part of the normal inspection program. Any biological control or other control program directed by the IDNWA must be implemented. Nurseries and weekend markets will be inspected annually to prevent sale of any ornamental varieties of Prickly Pear or Harrisia Cactus.
<i>Future plans</i>	Limited program, primarily involving rearing and distribution of Cochineal insects for release on selected sites (both public and private) and the spot spraying or manual removal of all other infestations found.

Class 5- Restricted Weeds*

The Noxious Weed Act 1993 requires for a Class 5 noxious weed, "The requirements in the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 for a notifiable weed must be complied with."

The control objective for weed control class 5 is to prevent the introduction of those plants into NSW, the spread of those plants within NSW or from NSW to another jurisdiction. The aim is to prevent their sale, propagation and distribution.

The following plants are Class 5 noxious weeds:

Common Name	Botanical	Alternate Scientific Name
African feather grass	<i>Pennisetum macrourum</i>	
African turnip weed	<i>Sisymbrium runcinatum</i>	
African turnip weed	<i>Sisymbrium thellungii</i>	
Annual ragweed	<i>Ambrosia artemisifolia</i>	
Arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria montevidensis</i>	
Artichoke thistle	<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	
Athel tree/Athel pine	<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>	
Bear-skin fescue	<i>Festuca gautieri</i>	
Burr ragweed	<i>Ambrosia confertiflora</i>	
Cabomba	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	
Cayenne snakeweed	<i>Stachytarpheta cayennensis</i>	<i>Stachytarpheta urticifolia</i>
Clockweed	<i>Gaura parviflora</i>	
Corn sowthistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	
Dodder	All <i>Cuscuta</i> species except the native species <i>C. Australia</i> , <i>C. tasmanica</i> and <i>C. Victoriana</i>	
Espartillo	<i>Achnatherum brachychaetum</i>	<i>Stipa brachychaetum</i>
Fine-bristled burr grass	<i>Cenchrus brownie</i>	
Fountain grass	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	
Gallon's curse	<i>Cenchrus biflorus</i>	
Glaucous star thistle	<i>Carthamus glaucus</i>	
Golden thistle	<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	
Mexican poppy	<i>Argemone mexicana</i>	
Mossman River grass	<i>Cenchrus echinatus</i>	
Red rice	<i>Oryza rufipogon</i>	
Sagittaria	<i>Sagittaria playphylla</i>	<i>Sagittaria graminea</i>
Smooth-stemmed turnip	<i>Brassica barrelieri</i> subspecies <i>oxyrrhina</i>	<i>Brassica oxyrrhina</i>
Soldier thistle	<i>Picnomon acarna</i>	
Texas blueweed	<i>Helianthus ciliaris</i>	
Willows	<i>Salix</i> species except <i>S. babylonica</i> , <i>S. x reichardtii</i> , <i>S. x calodendron</i>	
Yellow nutgrass	<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>	

Class 5 Noxious Weeds

Class 5 noxious weeds are plants that are likely, by their sale or the sale of their seeds or movement within the State or area of the State, to spread in the State or outside the State.

These plants have for the most part not as yet been found in the Wollongong Statistical District. Notable exceptions however include some widespread and common species such as the Willows and Fountain Grass. If found being sold or deliberately distributed however, these plants have very high priority with the aim to prevent their further spread and/or establishment in the District.

The prevention of sale and distribution of all Class 5 noxious weeds is of the same high priority as Class 1 and Class 2 weeds within the IDNWA control program.

Strategy

All Class 5 weeds will be inspected for as part of the annual nursery/aquaria and weekend market inspection program to ensure they are not being sold or distributed. If found being sold plants are to be immediately withdrawn from sale.

Where infestations of Class 5 weeds on private/public land are reported to the IDNWA the location of the infestation is to be recorded (refer to “Locations of Class 5 Weeds” proforma) and where agreement is reached control undertaken by the owner/occupier of the infested land.

All recorded Class 5 weeds (except widespread and common species) on private/public land are to have individual property hygiene procedures and guidelines developed so as to minimise the spread and distribution of the weed both within the property and to the surrounding area. Landholders will be required to take all reasonable precautions to ensure produce, soil, livestock, equipment and vehicles are free of the weed before sale or movement from an infested area of the property. No Class 5 weeds can be knowingly distributed without appropriate approvals.

Outcomes

- ▶ All Class 5 weeds will be prevented from further introduction and establishment within the Wollongong Statistical District.
- ▶ All Class 5 weeds will no longer be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed.

* Class 1, 2 and 5 weeds are Notifiable Weeds under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993. As Notifiable weeds their presence must be reported to the LCA (IDNWA) within 3 days of occupiers becoming aware of any plants on the land. They also must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed. A Permit under Section 34 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 is required prior to the movement or transportation of any notifiable weed material.

Class 4 weeds marked * ^ # * must also not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed. Class 3 weeds marked ^ and Class 4 weeds marked 1 must not be sold or purchased.

Additional non - saleable weeds.

The following weeds are listed as notifiable weeds in particular parts of the State and as a consequence cannot be sold or purchased in any other part of the State. This list is in addition to the weeds listed above.

Common Name	Botanical Name
Blue Hounds Tongue	<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>
Cape Broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>
Hygrophila	<i>Hygrophila costata</i>
Mesquite	<i>Prosopis species</i>
Parkinsonia	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>

Must not be sold or purchased

Non - Declared High Priority Weed Species

As part of the IDNWA commitment to the NSW Invasive Species Plan (ISP), the IDNWA in conjunction with the Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority (SRCMA) has identified a priority list of non – declared high risk weed species. These plants are of generally limited distribution but with considerable potential to spread within the region and become a major pest plant if not managed appropriately. Identifying such priority weeds increases their priority for funding and directs resources into their management thereby preventing the establishment and spread of a potentially new invasive species.

The following plants have been identified as high risk and high priority weed species.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Area of Occurrence
African Feather Grass	<i>Pennnesetum macrourum</i>	Not present
Blue Hound's Tongue	<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Not present
Cane needle grass	<i>Nassella hyalina</i>	Not present
Caulerpa	<i>Caulerpa taxifolia</i>	Not present
Cyperus	<i>Cyperus teneristolon</i>	Not present
Holly Leaved Senecio	<i>Senecio glastifolius</i>	Not present
Hygrophila	<i>Hygrophila costata</i>	Not present
Ludwigia	<i>Ludwigia longifolia</i>	Not present
Pampas Lily of the Valley	<i>Solpichroa organifolia</i>	Not present
Spiny rush	<i>Juncus acutus</i>	Not present
Coolatai Grass	<i>Hyparrhenia hirta</i>	Roadsides, Kiama and Shellharbour LGA's.
Glory Lily	<i>Gloriosa superba</i>	Urban gardens, coastal sand dunes.

Ludwigia	<i>Ludwigia peruviana</i>	Drainage easement Dunmore
Montpellier/Cape broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	Disturbed bushland, roadsides, urban areas within Kiama and Shellharbour LGA's.
Sea Spurge	<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	Walkers Beach Gerringong, Bass Point , Lake Illawarra, Towradgi Beach.
Spiny Burr Grass	<i>Cenchrus incertus</i>	Seven Mile Beach Gerroa

Non – Declared High Priority Weeds

Non – declared high priority weeds are plants that pose a potentially serious threat to primary production or the environment of the region but are not present in the region or are present only to limited extent.

The IDNWA will prioritise expenditure on non – declared weeds from operational and inspectorial funds not committed to Class 1, 2 or 3 weeds, with the aim of preventing the further growth and spread of these weeds and reducing their numbers and distribution on public lands. Eradication will be sought where possible.

Strategy

All high priority non - declared weeds will be inspected for as part of the annual roadside and reserve control program and private property inspection program.. If found, plant type, location, density and distribution are to be recorded on the Alert Weeds proforma and control to be undertaken within 6 months of detection allowing for seasonal constraints.. Each non declared high priority species will be given high priority for control due their emerging status, limited distribution and potential threat to the region. When identified, all high priority weeds will be incorporated into an annual treatment program.

Where infestations of non – declared high priority weeds are found on private land agreement will need to be reached for all control to be undertaken by the owner/occupier of the infested land. Failure to achieve this outcome may result in the IDNWA seeking declaration to enforce control or undertaking control itself in the interests of the broader community.

Outcomes

► All non – declared high priority weeds will be prevented from either establishment or further spread within the Wollongong Statistical District.

INSPECTION OF PROPERTIES

The constituent councils of the IDNWA have authorised, in writing, officers from the IDNWA to enter land for the purpose of locating and identifying infestations of noxious weeds on the land. It is desirable that the owner/occupier is present during an inspection, however it is not necessary. Authority staff is available to assist in weed identification and to advise on weed control methods.

In accordance with Section 45 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993, the IDNWA will notify all owners or occupiers of land of the intent to inspect their premises. This notification will be either in person on the day of the intended inspection or else by letter prior to the inspection day.

1. The Authority's method of implementing noxious weed control is by interview or by letter after the first inspection advising the owner and/or occupier of the presence of noxious weeds on the property, stating a reasonable period of time and area of control methods to be implemented.
2. If the subsequent inspection shows no action has been taken, a Notice of Intention to issue a Section 18 Notice is served. Under Section 18A of the Noxious Weeds Act, a local control authority must give prior notice of the intention to give a Section 18 Notice. The person given the notice then has the right to make submission to the local control authority about the proposed notice.

If reasonable excuse is not provided as to why control was not undertaken as initially requested a Notice under Section 18 of the Noxious Weeds Act is served.* Failure to comply with this notice results in the Authority instituting legal proceedings for non-compliance and/or the issue of a second notice, under the Noxious Weeds Act after which the Authority may enter onto the property and carry out the work at the landowner's expense.

Under some circumstances, a penalty notice will be issued. This may be done separately to, or in conjunction with, some of the above procedures. Section 26(1) of the Act allows Local Control Authorities to charge an inspection fee for determining whether a Section 18 notice has been complied with.

* Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under Section 18.

Inspectors will be required to prepare reports on all properties under Sections 18 and 20 and other sections, as appropriate, of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993, within the policy guidelines set down by the Authority from time to time.

Procedures in relation to constituent member council owned lands and other government lands under lease are to notify the relevant constituent council member or state government agency of the intention to issue a Section 18 Notice on any lessee. This forwarded notification will be undertaken at the same time as the lessee is sent the Notice of Intention to issue a Notice. This procedure will then allow the council or state agency to either:

1. Use its discretionary powers as landlord to instruct the lessee to undertake all necessary control works on the identified noxious weed(s) prior to re-inspection, therefore avoiding any further enforcement action as described.
2. Evict the lessee, should they refuse to meet their noxious weed responsibilities.

In the case of the latter, the relevant agency then becomes the occupier of the said land and is responsible for the control of the noxious weeds.

Procedures in relation to private lands under lease are to send a duplicate copy of the initial property inspection report to the owner at the same time the original report is sent to the occupier (lessee). This forwarded notification will then allow the owner to be informed of any weed control requirements and liaise with the lessee over implementing appropriate control. Section 18A Notices can then be sent to both the lessee (occupier) and owner should adequate control not be implemented upon reinspection.

Private Property Inspection Program

The IDNWA Private Property Inspection Program is aimed to complement the Authority's Operational Program.

The private property inspection program has two (2) core **aims**:

1. To prevent the establishment of all Class 1 and 2 weeds and restrict the spread and reduce the incidence of Class 3 and 4 weeds on private lands within the constituent council areas.
2. To enhance community awareness and understanding of noxious weeds and their control.

The IDNWA policy in relation to these aims is to achieve this in the closest co-operation with the landholder in the first instance, otherwise by use of the Authority's legal powers.

Strategy

The Authority's method of implementing private property inspections will be to target areas where the subject weed is known to occur or has potential to establish. Particular focus will be directed to undertaking inspections for all Class 1, 2 and 3 weeds, whilst Class 4 weeds will be managed on a priority basis according to local policy and planning settings for that weed. Areas of low abundance, sites of particular community concern, where cooperative programs are in place, or where critical assets need protecting will guide Class 4 inspection programs. In this regard most noxious weed inspections will be directed toward identifying any new incursions on private land whilst aiming to suppress and destroy all Class 3 weeds and strategically control all Class 4 weeds. This approach is consistent with the control measures expected of each Class of weed.

A cooperative approach between occupiers will be sought where the weed infests more than one property so that the whole of the infested area is treated at the one time, rather than a piecemeal approach by individual occupiers.

Water weeds are to be treated on a site by site basis. The aim being to work from the source in each case, to eradicate it from the upper reaches of stream systems and then gradually work down stream until all the catchment is either under control or clean.

Where infestations of emerging high priority non – declared weeds on private land are found agreement will need to be reached for control to be undertaken by the owner/occupier of the infested land. Being non – declared the IDNWA has no jurisdiction in enforcing control other than to seek declaration or consider subsidising control.

Details of specific weed inspection programs are detailed under the Individual Weed Policy section.

Outcomes

- ▶ 300 properties to be inspected annually.
- ▶ Inspectors are to inspect at least 70% of rural properties at least once every five years. 100% of rural properties are to be inspected every eight years.
- ▶ All private lands infested with Class 2 aquatic noxious weeds are to be inspected and treated at least three times annually over the summer growing season (December to April). All other Class 2 weeds are to be inspected annually.
- ▶ All Class 3 weeds to be inspected at least once every two years.
- ▶ Class 4 weeds to be inspected according to strategic operations.
- ▶ The introduction and establishment of new noxious weeds is minimized and there is a gradual reduction in the incidence of all other existing noxious weeds on private land within each of the constituent member council areas.

Specific Inspections for New Weeds

Aim: To assist the community in preventing the introduction of new noxious weeds to the Illawarra region.

Strategy

As part of the IDNWA commitment to the NSW Invasive Species Plan (ISP) the IDNWA in conjunction with other South Coast councils has identified and documented all regional high risk pathways (Appendix X). A regional high risk inspection program and accompanying protocols have also been developed based on a risk assessment of each pathway.

The most effective way to minimize the impacts of invasive weeds is to prevent their initial incursion. By identifying potential areas of high risk along which (new) weeds may spread and inspecting these areas on a regular basis the IDNWA aims to deploy an effective and efficient means by which to identify and then eradicate or contain any new incursion.

Residents and members of the community will also be encouraged to report new weed incursions through either 'phone-ins', reporting any new weeds on the IDNWA website, or providing details on a weed register list to be provided at all education/extension activities.

Regular inspections will also continue of private and public lands within the three member council areas as a means of locating any possible new weed incursions outside of high risk areas.

Outcomes

- ▶ All high risk pathways inspected as per regional; high risk pathway inspection program and protocols.
- ▶ Progressive reduction in number of new weeds/outbreaks recorded.

Operational Program

Aim: To effectively manage noxious weeds and identified high priority non- declared weeds on council roads and reserves.

The IDNWA Operational Weed Control Program will be primarily designed to complement the Inspectorial Program whilst ensuring the IDNWA continues to lead the way by setting the example.

The main focus on Council controlled lands will be –

1. To complement the inspection program by controlling the relevant noxious weeds on all council controlled lands within the inspection area.
2. To continue with existing control operations on council lands previously treated.
3. To expand this program onto untreated lands as time and resources permit.
4. To identify and control emerging high priority non- declared weeds before they become widespread.

This approach will involve the use of integrated techniques aimed at –

1. Preventing the establishment of any new weeds within the district whilst simultaneously slowing the spread and reducing the incidence of existing noxious weeds on council lands within the constituent council areas.
2. Ensuring the impact of (noxious) weeds on council lands as a threat to agriculture and the environment is minimised.

Strategy

The Authority's Operational Weed Control Program will be co-ordinated in such a way as to target all Class 2 and 3 weeds at least annually until all plants are destroyed. Class 4 weeds will be controlled according to local policy and planning settings.

Some roadside and reserve spraying for Class 4 weeds will be undertaken outside programmed areas following special requests by Constituent Councils and/or resident complaints.

As part of the IDNWA ongoing commitment to the NSW ISP a priority list of non declared weeds of concern has also been developed. This list is detailed in Table X (above) and forms the basis for operational control for emerging high risk non declared species found growing on council controlled lands within the three member council areas. The weeds listed here are all in their early stages of establishment (Cat A and B of the Southern Rivers Regional Weed Management Strategy) and will be targeted for control as per the IDNWA annual spraying schedule.

Outcomes

- ▶ All council reserves infested with Class 2 aquatic noxious weeds are to be inspected and treated at least three times annually over the summer growing season (December to April). All other Class 2 and Class 3 weeds on council controlled lands are to be inspected and controlled at least once annually.
- ▶ Class 4 weeds are to be controlled according to strategic operations as detailed in the individual weed policy for that weed.
- ▶ 375km of rural roads and 250ha of public reserve are to be treated for at least one noxious weed annually.
- ▶ At least one (1) biological control agent is to be released annually, circumstances permitting.
- ▶ All identified high priority non-declared weed incursions are to be treated annually.
- ▶ The introduction and establishment of identified high priority new weeds is minimized and there is a gradual reduction in the incidence of all other existing noxious weeds on land under the care and control of the IDNWA.

Communication, Education, Extension and Publicity Activities

Aim: To increase public awareness about noxious weeds and their control and the responsibilities of landowners in relation to the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 in order to encourage a sense of community responsibility about the problem.

Strategy

Education and awareness campaigns will be a major component of IDNWA noxious weed control activities.

Talks to community groups, interest clubs and schools will be widely promoted and actively pursued to ensure increased community understanding and awareness of the noxious weed problem is achieved.

The local print and electronic media will also be utilised to publicise various control programs and disseminate information on all aspects of the Authority's weed control agenda. The Chief Weeds Officer will investigate the establishment of an IDNWA website.

Brochures / flyers and other promotional material will be available at all extension activities and during routine property inspections. Field days / workshops will be held as necessary.

The IDNWA will support other authorities and organisations in the education of the community on noxious weed identification, importance, integrated weed management and sources of information and consultative processes.

Outcomes

- ▶ At least one (1) field day with landholders will be held and three (3) displays exhibited, one (1) within each of the constituent council areas, annually.
- ▶ At least three (3) information talks, one (1) within each of the constituent council areas will be given annually.
- ▶ Weed control notes for each declared noxious weed of priority within the local control authority area will be prepared and distributed to landholders during routine inspections and at extension activities.
- ▶ At least three (3) press releases will be issued annually.
- ▶ At least one (1) radio interview on noxious weeds will be given annually.
- ▶ The IDNWA will produce and distribute relevant weed control brochures as required.
- ▶ A website will be established and receiving feedback by 30 June 2012.

- ▶ The IDNWA will work with individuals and community groups, to heighten weed awareness and to encourage cooperative weed control strategies to resolve local issues.
- ▶ The IDNWA will actively participate in the Southern Tablelands and South Coast Noxious Plants Committee and other regional and local organisations.
- ▶ Encourage purchasers of property to request Section 64 Certificates to protect purchasers from liability.

Weed Recording, Mapping, Survey and Reporting Activities

Aim: To compile accurate and concise information on the distribution of noxious weeds in the region over time, providing a benchmark for which performance can be measured and appropriate action undertaken.

Strategy

In undertaking both its private property inspection program and operational activities, IDNWA staff will record the weed's presence, density, distribution and location. Weed locations are currently recorded in the format of the Australian Map Grid (AMG) reference system.

Investigations are to be made by the Chief Weeds Officer regarding the purchase of a functional database system that will enable the import of property information and map bases from GIS packages used by the constituent councils.

This information can then be used to effectively communicate noxious weed distribution and as a basis for developing sound innovative, allocative and operative decisions. This action will also conform to Regional Weed Management Plans, program management action milestones.

Outcomes

- ▶ Accurate mapping of all noxious weed locations, extent and infestation densities over time.
- ▶ Centralised property and mapping database system operational and functional by 30 June 2015.

Cooperation

Aim: To effectively and without prejudice, work with all stakeholders within the guidelines of the noxious weed legislation

Strategy

The IDNWA is responsible for noxious weed control within the constituent local government areas of Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council. As part of its strategy aimed at ensuring a cooperative approach to noxious weed management, the IDNWA will actively engage with a variety of stakeholders.

The IDNWA will regularly liaise with and keep informed its constituent member councils' so as to ensure constituent councils' obligations and responsibilities are being met.

The IDNWA will also actively participate in the Southern Tablelands and South Coast Region Noxious Plants Committee and other regional and local organisations.

Representation on the South Coast Zone Regional Weeds Committee will also be held, to help formalise a closer working relationship for the control of noxious weeds within the South Coast region.

The IDNWA will also cooperate and actively work with community groups, private landholders and other (government) organisations so as to assist them in the implementation of their noxious weed control programs.

Outcomes

- ▶ The IDNWA does not receive adverse criticism from the community, constituent councils or government authorities about its noxious weed control strategies.
- ▶ There will be a reduced incidence of noxious weeds throughout the region, in line with strategies for the control of weeds within their respective control classes.
- ▶ There will be a reduction in the number of weed control notices issued by 10% from 2011/12 levels.

Environmental Awareness

Aim: To minimise all adverse impacts on the environment associated with IDNWA activities.

Strategy

The IDNWA will liaise regularly with appropriate Government Authorities, including NSW DPI, Dept. of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources, State Forests, National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Environment Protection Authority, to ensure that weed control measures employed by the IDNWA are appropriate and have little or no adverse impact on the environment.

The IDNWA will be actively involved in regional committees and will liaise regularly with appropriate personnel to ensure that IDNWA staff is operating under “best practice” and with the latest techniques to minimise adverse effects to the environment, while optimising the beneficial effects of integrated weed management.

The IDNWA will also be pro active in the area of environmental weeds, and assist other organisations to achieve their goals, as appropriate. The IDNWA will review its Noxious Weed list annually with the view to declaring any new and emerging weeds.

IDNWA staff will always consider integrated pest management when determining the optimum manner of control of all noxious and other weeds and will be continuously alert as to the effects of its actions on the environment.

Where practical and economically viable to do so, physical removal of weeds may be used in preference to chemical methods.

Only chemicals registered for the purpose will be used and then in accordance with label directions; except where chemicals are used under a Pesticide Permit or Order.

The IDNWA also considers the consequences of weed removal and, where appropriate and economically viable to do so, recommends replacing the weeds with other appropriate vegetation, or means to prevent reinfestation.

Outcomes

- ▶ The IDNWA does not receive adverse criticism from other Government authorities or the community about its control strategies.
- ▶ The IDNWA will be able to justify all its actions, to the satisfaction of relevant Government authorities that may adversely affect the environment.

General Policies

Services Provided

Private Works

Aim: To provide an efficient and effective private works capability

Strategy

The IDNWA has a policy to promote the use of Authority plant for contract weed control for private and government landholders. This policy allows for continuous and efficient use of resources. When demand exceeds resources the IDNWA will employ sub-contractors for either the public or private works.

Inspectors are to quote for control of all noxious weeds, where appropriate to do so, when preparing Reports on property inspections.

The Authority will also promote its contract services as appropriate, to achieve income targets.

The IDNWA shall charge for the provision of all contract weed control services at the rates specified under the relevant “Fees and Charges” schedule for that financial period.

Outcomes

► The IDNWA is to generate an annual gross income from commercial spraying operations in excess of \$20,000 per annum.

Certificates under Sections 64 of Noxious Weed Act 1993

Aim: To provide an efficient and accurate assessment of the noxious weed liability status on any land within the Local Control Authority area within the limits of legislative requirements.

Strategy

The IDNWA shall encourage prospective purchasers (and their agents) of land to obtain a certificate under S.64 of the Noxious Weed Act to ascertain whether there are any outstanding Notices and/or charges on the land.

The IDNWA shall charge for the provision of these certificates at the rates specified under the relevant “Fees and Charges” schedule for that financial period.

Outcomes

► To generate a gross income in excess of \$1,000 per annum.

Advice

Aim: To be a respected advisory body on issues of noxious weed management.

Strategy

Staff are to keep up to date on the latest technological and biological advances in noxious weed management by regular contact with appropriate organisations and individuals. In turn they are to provide accurate, clear and up to date technical, biological and economic advice.

The IDNWA will provide advice to the general public within the level of expertise of the individual staff member. Staff are encouraged to refer clients to qualified professionals when appropriate.

The IDNWA will produce some of its own brochures, and assist other organisations, such as the South Coast Weeds subgroup, in the preparation of their material. The IDNWA will source promotional material from many outside organisations.

Complaints Procedure

Aim: To provide a professional and competent service satisfactory to the needs of the local community.

Strategy

All noxious weed complaints are to be inspected for confirmation within five (5) working days of the complaint being received. Complaints are to be recorded in the complaints file proforma located under “Noxious Weeds – Complaint Forms”.

Following confirmation of the weeds presence and where the complaint relates to council owned land the IDNWA is to undertake control of that weed at the earliest appropriate time giving consideration to seasonal requirements and programmed activities.

Where the complaint relates to private or government land the IDNWA will undertake official inspections of the target property and all surrounding lands so as to ensure a fair and equitable approach is undertaken and no one landholder is singled out for attention. Official inspections will be undertaken at the earliest appropriate time giving consideration to seasonal requirements and programmed activities.

All complaints are to be addressed within six (6) months of being recorded and informants kept updated and notified of action taken by the IDNWA.

Complaints in relation to environmental weeds are to be referred to the relevant council’s technical staff for appropriate action unless

Outcomes

► All complaints are addressed within the time frames laid down and to the satisfaction of the informants.

Staff Training

Aim: To retain a well motivated staff who are trained to effectively implement the service which the Authority aims to provide.

Strategy

The IDNWA has a policy to develop staff to enhance their employment prospects, and to enable them to provide optimum levels of service to each constituent council and to the community. A human resource policy has been developed which includes a Performance Review strategy for all staff. Refer to Manager of Human Resources Kiama Council.

Position descriptions were developed for all positions in 2002 and updated in 2009. Performance assessment criteria have been developed for each staff position, culminating in formulations of career development action and training plans.

Staff are encouraged to undertake relevant training to enhance their promotional opportunities within the Authority and within the public and private sectors of the industry. Financial allowances are made to staff to undertake appropriate study relevant to their current field of employment.

Outcomes

- ▶ All staff appropriately trained and accredited.
- ▶ Provision of a competent and professional staff providing optimum levels of service to the communities they represent.
- ▶ The IDNWA does not receive adverse criticism about its staff's performance.

Occupational Health and Safety

Aim: To provide a safe working environment for IDNWA staff, contractors, visitors and clients.

Strategy

Refer to IDNWA Spray Operators Safety Manual and Risk Management Plan for detailed OH&S Policy Guidelines

All field staff are trained in the safe handling and use of chemicals through the National Farm Chemical Users Program.

Relevant safety equipment is provided, with staff appointed to maintain it in sound condition. Staff are actively encouraged to use the appropriate equipment. Protective clothing and equipment are supplied to all outdoor staff. This includes overalls, long sleeved shirts, long trousers, hats, sunscreen etc. Outdoor staff are required to use this equipment and clothing.

The Chief Weeds Officer is responsible for regular workplace hazard detection inspections and the development of subsequent management strategies.

It is IDNWA policy that urine samples from all Spray staff be tested for herbicide levels of those herbicides used by the Authority, where tests are available for those herbicides, at least once per year.

Outcomes

- ▶ Number of OH&S issues is minimised.

Revenue

The IDNWA is financed from assessments to its constituent Councils, from annual State Government Grants through the NSW Noxious Weeds Advisory Committee and Crown Land Grants from the Dept of Lands, and, to a lesser extent, from funds generated by Economic Affairs (weed control for landholders, issue of certificates, and from fines and costs.)

The State Government funds are provided as a regional allocation to assist LCAs develop partnerships to effectively target high priority weeds, identify and stop new weeds early and increase community involvement in weed management. Funding is tied directly to supporting outcomes in the NSW Invasive Species Plan.

The IDNWA also receives a grant for the control of noxious weeds on (Vacant) Crown Land (VCL).

Because financial resources for noxious weed control are limited, the IDNWA endeavors to gain the optimum cooperation and participation of all occupiers of land to enhance the effectiveness of its noxious weed control program.

From time to time additional sources of funding are secured from other avenues such as Federal Government and other environmental programs. These funds are used to supplement traditional income streams helping to maintain operational programs.

Strategic Objectives-Chief Weeds Officer

1. To develop and implement appropriate inspectorial and operational strategies for each noxious weed throughout the three constituent council areas. (ongoing)
2. To oversee the eradication of all Class 1 and 2 noxious weeds and a reduction in the incidence of all other classes of noxious weeds within the local area. (ongoing)
3. To develop a professional network of contacts throughout the Illawarra, NSW and interstate. (ongoing)
4. To establish a fully functional database system which will enable the import of property information and map bases from GIS packages used by the constituent councils. (by 30 June 2015)
5. To establish an IDNWA website. (by 30 June 2012)
6. To inspect 150 properties annually.
7. To ensure biological control agents are distributed throughout the local control authority area. (ongoing)
8. To review annually the current list of declared noxious plants and high priority non - declared weeds and evaluate the potential for other plants to be declared noxious. (ongoing)
9. To initiate public awareness campaigns about noxious weeds and promote IDNWA programs and activities (ongoing)
10. To have in place an efficient, well organised and functional organisation. (ongoing)

Strategic Objectives- Noxious Weed Inspector/ Operator

1. To inspect 150 properties annually.
2. To inspect all High Risk Pathways as per the regional high risk inspection program and accompanying protocols.
3. To inspect, treat and enforce control of all Class 2 and aquatic noxious weed infestations annually.
4. To eradicate all Class 2 weeds. (ongoing)
5. To fully control all Class 3 noxious weeds on council roads and reserves and control Class 4 weeds according to strategic objectives for that weed. (ongoing)
6. To fully survey all management areas. (ongoing)

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority

African Boxthorn Management Plan

The control objective for weed control class 4 is to minimise the negative impact of those plants on the economy, community or environment of NSW.

NAME OF WEED(S):

Common name: African Boxthorn

Scientific name: *Lycium ferocissimum*

The above mentioned weed(s) is a noxious weed declared under section 7 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

AREA OF OPERATION:

Council(s): Local Government Areas of Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council.

CONTACT PERSON(S)

Organisation: Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority (IDNWA)

Chief Weeds Officer: David Pomery

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Kiama NSW 2533

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PLAN PERIOD (not to exceed weed control order)

Starting date: 1 April 2012

Completion date: 31 March 2017

CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE WEED(S) AS PER ORDER 28

The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its numbers spread and incidence and continuously inhibits its reproduction.

CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR THESE WEEDS IN THE AREA OF OPERATION

The growth and spread of all African Boxthorn must be fully controlled by undertaking any one or any combination, of the control measures specified below. These control measures must be implemented on an annual basis until all plants are destroyed.

Control Measures

1. Use of Herbicides.

Plants shall be treated with a herbicide registered or permitted for control in the manner according to the label and permit for that herbicide.

2. Physical / Mechanical Control.

Manually or mechanically remove the entire plant so as to eliminate all growth.

LINKAGES TO OTHER PLANS, STRATEGIES (Local, Regional, State and National):

Southern Rivers Regional Weed Management Strategy
Southern Rivers Catchment Action Plan
NSW Invasive Species Plan
National Weeds Strategy

SECTION 12 OBLIGATIONS (from the Noxious Weeds Act 1993)

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.

An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority

Pampas Grass and African Lovegrass Management Plan

The control objective for weed control class 4 is to minimise the negative impact of those plants on the economy, community or environment of NSW.

NAME OF WEED(S):

Common name: Pampas Grass

Scientific name: Cortaderia species

Common name : African Lovegrass

Scientific name: Eragrostis curvula

The above mentioned weed(s) is a noxious weed declared under section 7 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

AREA OF OPERATION:

Council(s): Local Government Areas of Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council.

CONTACT PERSON(S)

Organisation: Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority

Chief Weeds Officer : David Pomery

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PLAN PERIOD (not to exceed weed control order)

Starting date: 1 April 2012

Completion date: 31 March 2017

CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE WEED(S) AS PER ORDER 28

The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its numbers spread and incidence and continuously inhibits its reproduction.

CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR THESE WEEDS IN THE AREA OF OPERATION

The growth and spread of all Pampas Grass must be fully controlled by undertaking any one or any combination, of the control measures specified below. These control measures must be implemented on an annual basis until all plants are destroyed.

The growth and spread of all African Lovegrass excluding designated core infestation areas* must be fully controlled by undertaking any one, or any combination, of the control measures specified below. These control measures must be implemented on an annual basis until all plants are destroyed.

* Core infestation areas are defined as Picton Rd, the Old Princes H'way / F6 Freeway north of Bulli Tops and Appin Rd. Private properties adjoining such roads will be subject to limited control measures as advised by the IDNWA Weeds Officer upon inspection.

Control Measures

1. Use of Herbicides.

Plants shall be treated with a herbicide registered or permitted for control in the manner according to the label and permit for that herbicide.

2. Physical / Mechanical Control.

Manually or mechanically remove the entire plant so as to eliminate all growth.

Note: The slashing of any exotic noxious perennial grass is NOT an acceptable method of control when used in isolation as slashing merely temporarily suppresses growth and does not destroy the plant. It can also aid distribution and spread.

NB. Following the control of any exotic perennial grass it is an essential management strategy to replace it with a dense cover of desirable species. Seedlings and root-stock regrowth will readily establish after any initial control program and management strategies such as pasture establishment and improvement, grazing management and native plant regeneration should all be used to prevent exotic perennial grasses re-establishing.

LINKAGES TO OTHER PLANS, STRATEGIES (Local, Regional, State and National):

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority Action Plan for the control of Pampas Grass within Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council areas.

South Coast Regional African Lovegrass Management Plan

Sydney Regional Pampas Grass Management Plan

Southern Rivers Regional Weed Management Strategy

Southern Rivers Catchment Action Plan

NSW Weeds Strategy

National Weeds Strategy

SECTION 12 OBLIGATIONS (from the Noxious Weeds Act 1993)

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.

An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority

Bitou bush Management Plan

The control objective for weed control class 4 is to minimise the negative impact of those plants on the economy, community or environment of NSW.

NAME OF WEED(S):

Common name: Bitou Bush
monilifera ssp

Scientific name: Chrysanthemoides
rotundata

The above mentioned weed(s) is a noxious weed declared under section 7 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

AREA OF OPERATION:

Council(s): Local Government Areas of Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council.

CONTACT PERSON(S)

Organisation: Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority (IDNWA)

Chief Weeds Officer : David Pomery

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PLAN PERIOD

Starting date: 1 April 2012

Completion date: 31 March 2017

CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE WEED(S) AS PER ORDER 28

The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its numbers spread and incidence and continuously inhibits its reproduction.

CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR THESE WEEDS IN THE AREA OF OPERATION

The growth and spread of all Bitou bush plants on private lands and all infestations on public lands in Kiama, Shellharbour and areas north of Bulli and west of the Princes H'way in Wollongong must be fully controlled by undertaking any one, or any combination, of the first two control measures specified below. These control measures must be implemented on an annual basis until all plants are destroyed.

Heavy* infestations on public land must be contained, prevented from spreading, have appropriate biological controls applied and be gradually reduced in density and distribution over the life of this plan. This will be achieved by undertaking any one, or any combination, of the control measures specified below. Note that biological control agents used in isolation will not achieve this level of control.

Control Measures

1. Use of Herbicides.

Plants shall be treated with a herbicide registered or permitted for control in the manner according to the label and permit for that herbicide. (refer to <http://www.apvma.gov.au>)

2. Physical / Mechanical Control.

Manually or mechanically remove the entire plant including the root system so as to eliminate all growth.

3. Biological Control

Several biological agents will affect the growth and seed setting ability of bitou bush. Agents shall be applied as directed by the IDNWA to pre-determined suitable heavy and dense infestations on public land only. Biological agents will be used as an interim measure to suppress seed production and plant vigour. The presence of biological agents on any Bitou bush infestation on private land will not be considered an acceptable excuse for failing to undertake chemical and/or mechanical control.

More detailed control options for Bitou Bush are detailed in the *Best Practice Management Guide 3-Bitou Bush* published by the Cooperative Research Centre for Weed Management Systems (Weeds CRC).

NB. Following the control of any Bitou Bush infestation it is an essential management strategy to replace it with a dense cover of desirable species. Seedlings and root-stock regrowth will readily establish after any initial control program and management strategies such as native plant regeneration should be used to prevent Bitou Bush from re-establishing.

LINKAGES TO OTHER PLANS, STRATEGIES (Local, Regional, State and National):

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority Action Plan for the control of Bitou Bush and Boneseed within Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council areas.

South Coast Regional Bitou Bush Strategy and Management Plan
Southern Rivers Regional Weed Management Strategy
Southern Rivers Catchment Action Plan
NSW Weeds Strategy
NSW Bitou Bush Strategy
National Weeds Strategy
National Bitou Bush/ Boneseed strategy

SECTION 12 OBLIGATIONS (from the Noxious Weeds Act 1993)

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.

An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.

* Refer to NSW NP&WS Bitou Bush 2001 Mapping report within Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council areas for mapping classification and corresponding zones.

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority

Blackberry Management Plan

The control objective for weed control class 4 is to minimise the negative impact of those plants on the economy, community or environment of NSW.

NAME OF WEED(S):

Common name: Blackberry species

Scientific name: Rubus fruticosus aggregate

The above mentioned weed(s) is a noxious weed declared under section 7 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

AREA OF OPERATION:

Council(s): Local Government Areas of Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council.

CONTACT PERSON(S)

Organisation: Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority (IDNWA)

Chief Weeds Officer : David Pomery

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PLAN PERIOD (not to exceed weed control order)

Starting date: 1 April 2012

Completion date: 31 March 2017

CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE WEED(S) AS PER ORDER 28

The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its numbers spread and incidence and continuously inhibits its reproduction and the plant must not be sold propagated or knowingly distributed.

CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR THESE WEEDS IN THE AREA OF OPERATION

The growth and spread of all Blackberry must be fully controlled by undertaking any one, or any combination, of the control measures specified below. These control measures must be implemented on an annual basis until all plants are destroyed.

Where IDNWA staffs deem the extent of the Blackberry problem to be such that a long term management program is required, IDNWA staff will work with the affected landholder to develop and implement an agreed property management plan. Such management plans will require regular inspections to ensure short and long term targets are achieved. The agreed staged control program for the property must be fully implemented.

Blackberry must not be grown for commercial trade or for personal use.

Control Measures

1. Use of Herbicides.

Plants shall be treated with a herbicide registered or permitted for control in the manner according to the label and permit for that herbicide.

2. Physical / Mechanical Control.

Manually or mechanically remove the entire plant so as to eliminate all growth.

Note: The slashing of Blackberry is NOT an acceptable method of control when used in isolation as slashing merely temporarily suppresses growth and does not destroy the plant.

More detailed control options for Blackberry are detailed in the *Best Practice Management Guide 5 -Blackberry* published by the Cooperative Research Centre for Weed Management Systems (Weeds CRC).

NB. Following the control of Blackberry it is an essential management strategy to replace it with a dense cover of desirable species. Seedlings and root-stock regrowth will readily establish after any initial control program and management strategies such as pasture establishment and improvement, grazing management and native plant regeneration should all be used to prevent Blackberry from re-establishing.

LINKAGES TO OTHER PLANS, STRATEGIES (Local, Regional, State and National):

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority Blackberry Action Plan
South Coast Regional Blackberry Management Plan
Southern Rivers Regional Weed Management Strategy
Southern Rivers Catchment Action Plan
NSW Weeds Strategy
National Weeds Strategy
National Blackberry Strategy

SECTION 12 OBLIGATIONS (from the Noxious Weeds Act 1993)

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.

An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority

Lantana Management Plan

The control objective for weed control class 4 is to minimise the negative impact of those plants on the economy, community or environment of NSW.

NAME OF WEED(S):

Common name: Lantana

Scientific name: Lantana species

The above mentioned weed(s) is a noxious weed declared under section 7 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

AREA OF OPERATION:

Council(s): Local Government Areas of Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council.

CONTACT PERSON(S)

Organisation: Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority (IDNWA)

Chief Weeds Officer : David Pomery

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PLAN PERIOD (not to exceed weed control order)

Starting date: 1 April 2012

Completion date: 31 March 2017

CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE WEED(S) AS PER ORDER 28

The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its numbers spread and incidence and continuously inhibits its reproduction and the plant must not be sold propagated or knowingly distributed.

CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR THESE WEEDS IN THE AREA OF OPERATION

The growth and spread of all *Lantana montevidensis* (creeping lantana) and all ornamental varieties of *Lantana camara* (Lantana) must be fully controlled by undertaking any one, or any combination, of the control measures specified below. These control measures must be implemented on an annual basis until all plants are destroyed.

The growth and spread of *Lantana camara* (Pink lantana) will be required to be controlled so as to reduce its numbers, spread and incidence within areas of low weed abundance, sites of community concern, where cooperative programs are in place, or where critical assets need protecting. These sites will be determined on a priority basis according to the IDNWAs financial ability to effectively manage the weed within the requirements of the Class 4 control measure and will be identified in Schedule 1 of the Lantana Management Plan. Control will be achieved by undertaking on an annual basis at least one of the control measures specified below.

All species of Lantana must not be sold, propagated or deliberately distributed. Plants must not be grown for commercial trade or ornamental use.

Control Measures

1. Use of Herbicides.

Plants shall be treated with a herbicide registered or permitted for control in the manner according to the label and permit for that herbicide.

2. Physical / Mechanical Control.

Manually or mechanically remove the entire plant so as to eliminate all growth.

More detailed control options for Lantana are detailed in the *Weed Management Guide - Lantana* published by the Cooperative Research Centre for Weed Management Systems (Weeds CRC).

NB. Following the control of Lantana it is an essential management strategy to replace it with a dense cover of desirable species. Seedlings and root-stock regrowth will readily establish after any initial control program and management strategies such as pasture establishment and improvement, grazing management and native plant regeneration should all be used to prevent Lantana from re-establishing.

3. Biological Control

Biological control agents will be encouraged in Lantana programs where deemed appropriate by the IDNWA after consultation and agreement with the landholder. Biological agents will be used only to suppress Lantana growth and plant vigour in areas considered too difficult to control by conventional control methods by virtue of accessibility difficulties and heavy density. The presence of biological agents on Lantana will not be considered an acceptable excuse for failing to undertake one of the above prescribed control measures on all other infestations.

LINKAGES TO OTHER PLANS, STRATEGIES (Local, Regional, State and National):

South Coast Regional Lantana Management Plan
Southern Rivers Regional Weed Management Strategy
Southern Rivers Catchment Action Plan
NSW Weeds Strategy
National Weeds Strategy
National Lantana Strategy

SECTION 12 OBLIGATIONS (from the Noxious Weeds Act 1993)

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.

An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority

Prickly Pear and Harrisia Cactus Management Plan

The control objective for weed control class 4 is to minimise the negative impact of those plants on the economy, community or environment of NSW.

NAME OF WEED(S):

Common name: Prickly Pear
ficus-indica

Scientific name: Opuntia species except O.

Common name: Prickly Pear

Scientific name: Cylindropuntia species

Common name: Harrisia Cactus

Scientific name: Harrisia species

The above mentioned weed(s) is a noxious weed declared under section 7 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

AREA OF OPERATION:

Council(s): Local Government Areas of Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council.

CONTACT PERSON(S)

Organisation: Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority (IDNWA)

Chief Weeds Officer : David Pomery

PO Box 148

Kiama NSW 2533

Tel: 42 331129

Fax: 42 323665

Mob: 0418- 481134

Email: dpomery@southerncouncils.nsw.gov.au

PLAN PERIOD (not to exceed weed control order)

Starting date: 1 April 2012

Completion date: 31 March 2017

CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE WEED(S) AS PER ORDER 28

The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its numbers spread and incidence and continuously inhibits its reproduction and the plant must not be sold propagated or knowingly distributed

CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR THESE WEEDS IN THE AREA OF OPERATION

The growth and spread of all Prickly Pear and Harrisia Cactus must be fully controlled by undertaking any one, or any combination, of the control measures specified below. These control measures must be implemented on an annual basis until all plants are destroyed. Note that biological control agents used in isolation will not achieve this level of control.

Prickly Pear and Harrisia Cactus must not be sold, propagated or deliberately distributed. Plants must not be grown for commercial trade or ornamental use.

Control Measures

1. Use of Herbicides.

Plants shall be treated with a herbicide registered or permitted for control in the manner according to the label and permit for that herbicide.

2. Physical / Mechanical Control.

Manually or mechanically remove the entire plant so as to eliminate all growth. Bag and/or destroy all plant parts so as to prevent any possible further establishment and spread of the weed.

3. Biological Control

Biological control agents such as Cochineal and Cactoblastis will be encouraged in Prickly Pear programs where deemed appropriate by the IDNWA after consultation and agreement with the landholder. Biological agents will be used only to suppress Prickly Pear growth and plant vigour in areas considered too difficult to control by conventional control methods by virtue of accessibility difficulties and heavy density. The presence of biological agents on Prickly Pear will not be considered an acceptable excuse for failing to undertake one of the above prescribed control measures on all other infestations.

LINKAGES TO OTHER PLANS, STRATEGIES (Local, Regional, State and National):

Southern Rivers Regional Weed Management Strategy
Southern Rivers Catchment Action Plan
NSW Weeds Strategy
National Weeds Strategy

SECTION 12 OBLIGATIONS (from the Noxious Weeds Act 1993)

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.

An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority

Rhus Tree Management Plan

The control objective for weed control class 4 is to minimise the negative impact of those plants on the economy, community or environment of NSW.

NAME OF WEED(S):

Common name: Rhus Tree
succedaneum

Scientific name: Toxicodendron

The above mentioned weed(s) is a noxious weed declared under section 7 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

AREA OF OPERATION:

Council(s): Local Government Areas of Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council.

CONTACT PERSON(S)

Organisation: Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority (IDNWA)

Chief Weeds Officer : David Pomery

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Kiama NSW 2533

Tel: 42 331129

Fax: 42 323665

Mob: 0418- 481134

Email: dpomery@southerncouncils.nsw.gov.au

PLAN PERIOD (not to exceed weed control order)

Starting date: 1 April 2012

Completion date: 31 March 2017

CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE WEED(S) AS PER ORDER 28

The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that prevents any above ground part the plant from encroaching within 2 metres of the property boundary and the plant must not be sold propagated or knowingly distributed.

CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR THESE WEEDS IN THE AREA OF OPERATION

All Rhus Tree growing within 2m of any property boundary must be managed by undertaking any one, or any combination, of the control measures specified below. These control measures must be implemented on an annual basis until plants are destroyed or the growth no longer encroaches within 2m of a boundary.

Rhus Tree must not be sold, propagated or deliberately distributed. Plants must not be grown for commercial trade or ornamental sale.

Control Measures

1. Use of Herbicides.

Plants shall be treated with a herbicide registered or permitted for control in the manner according to the label and permit for that herbicide.

2. Physical / Mechanical Control.

Manually or mechanically remove the entire plant so as to eliminate all growth.

LINKAGES TO OTHER PLANS, STRATEGIES (Local, Regional, State and National):

Southern Rivers Regional Weed Management Strategy
Southern Rivers Catchment Action Plan
NSW Weeds Strategy
National Weeds Strategy

SECTION 12 OBLIGATIONS (from the Noxious Weeds Act 1993)

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.

An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority

Scotch/English Broom Management Plan

The control objective for weed control class 4 is to minimise the negative impact of those plants on the economy, community or environment of NSW.

NAME OF WEED(S):

Common name: Scotch/English Broom **Scientific name:** Cytisus scoparius

The above mentioned weed(s) is a noxious weed declared under section 7 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

AREA OF OPERATION:

Council(s): Local Government Areas of Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council.

CONTACT PERSON(S)

Organisation: Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority (IDNWA)

Chief Weeds Officer : David Pomery
PO Box 148
Kiama NSW 2533
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Mob: 0418- 481134
Email: dpomery@southerncouncils.nsw.gov.au

PLAN PERIOD (not to exceed weed control order)

Starting date: 1 April 2012

Completion date: 31 March 2017

CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE WEED(S) AS PER ORDER 28

The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its numbers spread and incidence and continuously inhibits its reproduction.”

CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR THESE WEEDS IN THE AREA OF OPERATION

The growth and spread of all Scotch/English Broom must be fully controlled by undertaking any one, or any combination, of the control measures specified below. These control measures must be implemented on an annual basis until all plants are destroyed.

Control Measures

1. Use of Herbicides.

Plants shall be treated with a herbicide registered or permitted for control in the manner according to the label and permit for that herbicide.

2. Physical / Mechanical Control.

Manually or mechanically remove the entire plant so as to eliminate all growth.

More detailed control options for Scotch/English Broom are detailed in the *Best Practice Management Guide 2-Broom* published by the Cooperative Research Centre for Weed Management Systems (Weeds CRC).

LINKAGES TO OTHER PLANS, STRATEGIES (Local, Regional, State and National):

South Coast Regional Broom and Gorse Management Plan
Southern Rivers Regional Weed Management Strategy
Southern Rivers Catchment Action Plan
NSW Weeds Strategy
National Weeds Strategy

SECTION 12 OBLIGATIONS (from the Noxious Weeds Act 1993)

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.

An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority

Serrated Tussock and Chilean Needle Grass Management Plan

The control objective for weed control class 4 is to minimise the negative impact of those plants on the economy, community or environment of NSW.

NAME OF WEED(S):

Common name : Serrated Tussock

Scientific name: Nassella trichotoma

Common name : Chilean Needle Grass

Scientific name: Nassella neesiana

The above mentioned weed(s) is a noxious weed declared under section 7 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

AREA OF OPERATION:

Council(s): Local Government Areas of Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Council.

CONTACT PERSON(S)

Organisation: Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority

Chief Weeds Officer : David Pomery

PO Box 148

Kiama NSW 2533

Tel: 42 331129

Fax: 42 323665

Mob: 0418- 481134

Email: dpomery@southerncouncils.nsw.gov.au

PLAN PERIOD (not to exceed weed control order)

Starting date: 1 April 2012

Completion date: 31 March 2017

CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE WEED(S) AS PER ORDER 28

The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its numbers spread and incidence and continuously inhibits its reproduction and the plant must not be sold propagated or knowingly distributed

CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR THESE WEEDS IN THE AREA OF OPERATION

The growth and spread of all Serrated Tussock and Chilean Needle Grass must be fully controlled by undertaking any one, or any combination, of the control measures specified below. These control measures must be implemented on an annual basis until all plants are destroyed.

Serrated Tussock and Chilean Needle Grass must not be sold or deliberately distributed – all reasonable precautions must be made to ensure all produce, soil, livestock, equipment and vehicles are clean, and free, of any weed material before sale or movement from an infested area of the property.

Control Measures

1. Use of Herbicides.

Plants shall be treated with a herbicide registered or permitted for control in the manner according to the label and permit for that herbicide.

2. Physical / Mechanical Control.

Manually or mechanically remove the entire plant so as to eliminate all growth.

Note: The slashing of any exotic noxious perennial grass is NOT an acceptable method of control as slashing merely temporarily suppresses growth and does not destroy the plant. It can also aid distribution and spread.

NB. Following the control of any exotic perennial grass it is an essential management strategy to replace it with a dense cover of desirable species. Seedlings and root-stock regrowth will readily establish after any initial control program and management strategies such as pasture establishment and improvement, grazing management and native plant regeneration should all be used to prevent exotic perennial grasses re-establishing.

LINKAGES TO OTHER PLANS, STRATEGIES (Local, Regional, State and National):

Illawarra District Noxious Weeds Authority Serrated Tussock Action Plan.
South Coast Regional Serrated Tussock Management Plan
South Coast Regional Chilean Needle Grass Management Plan
Southern Rivers Regional Weed Management Strategy
Southern Rivers Catchment Action Plan
NSW Weeds Strategy
National Weeds Strategy
National Serrated Tussock Strategy
National Chilean Needle Grass Strategy

SECTION 12 OBLIGATIONS (from the Noxious Weeds Act 1993)

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.

An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.