



Local Land
Services
Riverina

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Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-22

FACTSHEET

What are the Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans?

The plans set the vision for weed management across the Local Land Services regions for 2017-2022 and outline strategies and actions to achieve goals that focus on shared responsibility for weed management, sustainable landscapes and collaborative leadership and innovation.

The 11 plans support the reform process for weed biosecurity legislation by providing a sound basis for a cooperative and coordinated approach to landscape-scale weed management in the Local Land Services regions.

The plans articulate how the region's communities and stakeholders will work together to identify, minimise, respond to and manage high-risk weeds, supporting the principle of a shared responsibility.

Why have the plans been produced?

The Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans focuses on managing weed biosecurity.

The plans support the regional implementation of the *NSW Biosecurity Act 2015* through articulating community expectations in relation to effective weed management and facilitating a consistent and coordinated approach to weed management in the region.

The plans relate to all lands and waters (excluding marine).

How were the plans developed?

The Regional Weed Committees developed the plans which includes representatives from local government and county councils, NSW Department of Primary Industries, state government agencies managing crown lands (including the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Forestry Corporation of NSW, Roads and Maritime Services and Department of Industry – Lands), NSW Farmers, Landcare, Aboriginal land managers, environmental interests, rural landholders and Local Land Services.

The plans are based on the:

- Natural Resource Commission's recommendations for weed reform adopted by the NSW Government
- *Biosecurity Act 2015*
- Natural Resource Commission's 2015 Performance Standard for Local Land Services.

The plans are based on best available local knowledge, research and technology and a rigorous assessment of the biosecurity risks posed by weeds.

A key part of developing the plans was the review and prioritisation of weeds in the regions. This resulted in the priority weed list (Appendix 1 of the plans) and other regional weed lists (Appendix 2 of the plans), using a risk-based approach that is internationally recognised.

What are the main priorities of the plans?

The goals and objectives of the plans align with those of the NSW Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2021 and the Local Land Services Strategic Plan 2016-2021, which provides the overarching policy framework.

The goals of the Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans are that:

1. Responsibility for weed biosecurity is shared by all people of the region.
2. Weed biosecurity supports profitable, productive and sustainable primary industries.
3. Weed biosecurity supports healthy, diverse and connected natural environments.
4. Weed biosecurity is supported by coordinated, collaborative and innovative leadership.

The outcomes expected to be achieved by these goals and more specific and measurable objectives and strategies are outlined in the plans.



How will the plans be implemented?

A key element of this plan is a collaborative and coordinated approach to weed management across all tenures. Business planning components will include policies, processes and procedures for collaborative planning and action with key stakeholders in the region. Business planning will focus on:

- Regional Weed Committee Coordination
- Local implementation roles and responsibilities
- Processes for integrating regional delivery and projects
- Compliance planning
- High-risk weed incursion planning
- Rapid response planning
- Local control authority planning
- State Guidelines and best practice codes
- Communication and marketing
- Key performance indicator development
- Monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement coordination
- Research and development collaboration
- Investment planning
- Procedures for review of weed listings in the plan.

How will we know if the plans are achieving their goals and actions?

Measuring and reporting on progress against key performance indicators, is particularly important, as are practices that promote reflection and learning to inform decision making.

Performance measures will be further developed following approval of the plans and will allow the reporting of progressive impacts of interventions and investment in priorities.

Review and reporting of the performance against the plans will occur annually. A component of the review will be an evaluation of the regional contribution to the new biosecurity reforms and their influence on weed management across the regions.

Who can comment on the Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans?

Anyone is welcome to provide feedback on the draft plans. Visit open.lls.nsw.gov.au to read through your regional plan and submit your feedback.

The plan will be on public exhibition until 29 March 2017.

For further information about the plan phone 1300 795 299.

Example weed scenarios (pictured) can be found online at: open.lls.nsw.gov.au.

Scenario: Plant at nursery listed in the Regional Priority Weed list in Appendix 1 of Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan (RSWMP)

Weed 'X' - *Grownium likecrazy*



Outcomes and recommended measures to meet the General Biosecurity Duty listed in Appendix 1 of the Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan (RSWMP)

Authorised Officer discusses Priority Weed list with the owner of the business. Expected control outcomes and management options are discussed and the owner/manager referred to the outcomes and recommended measures in Appendix 1 of the RSWMP.



Authorised Officer negotiates a Biosecurity Undertaking with the owner of the business. Expected control outcomes and management options are discussed and the owner/manager referred to the outcomes and recommended measures in Appendix 1 of the RSWMP.

Authorised Officer conducts routine inspection of nursery / greenlife retailer and identifies Weed X for sale.



Authorised Officer inspects a month later and business has not addressed the required outcomes. Biosecurity direction issued requiring removal of plants. Failure to comply with a Biosecurity Direction is an offence.

Further inspection shows work still not done and penalty notice is issued.

Scenario: Plant in the Priority Weed list in Appendix 1 of Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan (RSWMP)

Weed 'X' - *Grownium likecrazy*



Outcomes and recommended measures to meet the General Biosecurity Duty listed in Appendix 1 of the Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan

Expected control outcomes promoted through regional stakeholders and community education.



Authorised Officer discusses problem with the owner of the property and ensures the landowner understands the accepted measures for Weed X under the General Biosecurity Duty. Management options are discussed which may include referral to Best Practice guidelines if available. Authorised Officer may negotiate a Biosecurity Undertaking.

Authorised Officer identifies dense stands of Weed X along boundary fence of a property.



Authorised Officer inspects a month later and landowner has not implemented recommendations. Biosecurity direction issued - failure to comply with is an offence.

Further inspection shows work still not done. Authorised officer has work undertaken by a local contractor and costs are recovered from the owner. Penalty notice may be issued.