

**Sydney North Regional Weeds Committee  
Meeting No 2014.2  
Tues 19th August 2014  
City of Ryde**

**MINUTES**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Mel Hall (NPWS MNER) Jacqui Vollmer (Hunters Hill) Steven Smith (Mosman) Pam Bateman (Pittwater) Gareth Debney (North Sydney) Nicola Booth (Ryde) Cameron Bennell (Willoughby) James Brisebois (Warringah) Sean Grainger (Manly) Sean Ludeke (Manly)  Anne Duncan (EO Sydney Weeds) Anthony Schofield (WAP PO) HCC	Jill Macintyre (Warringah)

**1. Welcome**

Mel Hall welcomed all participants to the meeting.  
Members present declared pecuniary interests. It was noted that NSW NPWS MNER, Hunters Hill, Hawkesbury County Council, Pittwater and Warringah received WAP funds.

**2. Actions arising**

1. Confirmation of previous minutes (Meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> May 2014):

Moved: Mr Steven Smith  
Seconded: Ms Nicola Booth

2. Matters arising from the previous minutes:

The meeting went through the status of the table of actions arising from the last meeting (documented in attachment 1.)

- Action 2.2.3. Super-ceded by planned Bio-control workshop on 16<sup>th</sup> Sept in conjunction with DPI, to be held at Sydney Olympic Park.
- Action 4.1. Ongoing. Pampas in NPWS regional Pest Mgt Strategy – interested in cooperative programs.
- Action 4.3. Horsetail. Trial underway based on north coast experience. 5 applications of granular Caseron pre-emergent (one has been done)

- Action 7.1. Carried Forward – EO to send out table with whats in/ out i.e. impact of new Order 30 on brochure. Members to give feedback on any changes they would like to see.

### **3. Matters arising from the Board/Steering Group meeting**

#### 3.1. Boneseed (MH)

Chair drew attention to the regional priority for action in relation to Boneseed in upcoming spring, by all members.

#### 3.2 WAP Year 5 (AS)

There were further funds available. The prioritised list from May applications was used to allocate this.

Year 5 also amended to address *Asparagus falcatus* – control and monitoring, follow-up.

#### 3.3 Weed spatial data (EO)

GIS issues and the WAP projects were discussed. It was suggested that the EO request spatial information (e.g. shape files) for all year 3-5 projects and high risk weeds. Response to this request would provide an indication of the issues involved in coordination of this information.

#### **Action 3.3.1** Request WAP spatial information from all WAP partners (EO)

#### 3.4. WAP Stage 2

AS discussed some of the implications of the NRC weed / biosecurity legislation review in relation to WAP stage 2:

- Gosford/Wyong to be added to Sydney region.
- Biosecurity everyone's responsibility
- WAP Stage 2 would have clearly defined priorities for class ½ weeds and actions in relation to class 4 would only be considered in the context of capacity building/education.
- Draft guidelines for WAP stage 2 expected early 2015.
- AS went through the discussion that the Steering group and had had about this including the recommendations adopted:

*1. Each partner will be required to submit one application covering the 5-year period, to ensure certainty of funding. Applications must address regional priorities.*

*2. The Sydney region application will focus on strategies to improve prevention, containment and eradication within the region, and prevention of escape to other regions. Participation in weed management is also an important consideration to increase effectiveness as there are many more communities and stakeholders with capacity to be actively engaged. The issue of low co-contributions (or lack of adequate reporting from partners) would also be addressed as part of the application process.*

*3. Individual applications will be collated to form the Sydney region application. The Board, in its role as WAP Steering Group, will review applications in conjunction with DPI.*

*4. Review of strategic documents, incorporating spatial data needs to be undertaken to inform the Yr. 5 application (High Risk Pathways and Site Management plan and Regional Inspection plan) by 30 April 2015.*

*5. High risk local government areas, with inadequate inspection programs should be identified (as part of spatial planning using GIS) and proactively encouraged to apply.*

*6. A program should be developed to build leadership capacity to feed in to Board/Steering Group and RWCs. Aspects could include leadership, meeting procedures, governance and project management, for example.*

The Board/Steering Group also noted that:

- a regional workshop to review strengths and weaknesses of Stage 1 was a good idea and that it would give consideration to how this should be implemented, along with the adopted recommendations.
- the GIS project was an important aspect of any strategic review, including high-risk pathways etc. SWC needed to get the best information and use it to plan with partners.

As suggested that members could consider sifting the profile of their allocation of resources so that WAP was used to fund inspections, freeing up other funds for widespread weeds.

### 3.5 Sydney Weeds Business Plan

The meeting was informed that the high priorities for SWC 14-15 business plan, agreed by the Board/Steering Group at its last meeting were as follows:

- Boneseed eradication (Members)
- Website. Noting that people were needed to assist with this – enthusiastic volunteers were required (not necessarily weed officer but could be other people in your organisation).
- Media coverage to increase profile of weeds, SWC members and their work –  
e.g. 1. boneseed (coincide with spring), in the Sydney-wide aim to eradicate it, we need everyone to look out for it and send locations to us.  
e.g. 2. aquatic weeds (e.g. use previous Daily Telegraph coverage of Nepean River weed removal)

## **4. Roundtable (including new incursions and significant activities)**

Ryde (N Booth)

Focussing on creek lines.

Queried whether there was WAP funding for weed compliance inspections?

SG (Manly) queried about whether there was a standard inspection process, use of inspection fees, coordination with neighbours etc.

Warringah (JB) indicated they had recently done some process mapping and would be happy to share this.

Action 4.1. Warringah Council (JB) to share info on inspection processes with Manly.

Pittwater (P. Bateman)

New incursion reports – *Asparagus falcatus*, Sea Spurge.

Fountain grass – finding on bush edges, asked if others had it. Noted that there was a sterile (purple) variety.

CB indicated that it was used by landscapers and that he was removing as resources became available, as it was appearing in “good bush” i.e. was not dependent on disturbance.

Queried whether there was /or should be a risk assessment?

WAP Project (A. Schofield)

Annual report for WAP due end of August – draft ready by end of this week.

Willoughby (C Bennell)

Recently completed weed mapping (5 yrly). Use STEP method.

Queried whether a weed APP was possible with photos, description based on brochure.

On –ground: Using a “hot mix” of glyphosate and metasuphate on asparagus and madeira vine. Working on boneseed targets, and broom (streescapes).

Noted that the major day out (bushcarers) was coming up as an opportunity to encourage community to take responsibility for weed management.

Manly (S. Granger and S Ludeke)

Legal training and capacity building

Received Crown Land funding for asparagus.

Found new locations of boneseed, but controlled.

Hunters Hill (J. Vollmer) - business as usual.

Mosman (S. Smith) – Crown Land funds, business as usual.

North Sydney (G Debney), business as usual.

NPWS (M. Hall)

Boneseed – WAP funded

North Head and Middle Harbour stakeholder meetings to increase engagement with weeds

Biocontrol Workshop 16<sup>th</sup> September

Interest in partnership projects? Contact her.

Attending Australasian Weed Conference in early October

Warringah (J. Brisebois)

Service Review

Jill M continuing threat management

Crown Land grant for vines and scramblers

## **5. Board representative elections**

Mel Hall indicated that she would be stepping down as Chair.  
Steven Smith indicated that he was happy to continue.

Steven Smith (Mosman) was nominated as Chair:  
Proposer: Gareth Debney (North Sydney)  
Seconder: Jacqui Vollmer (Hunters Hill)

Gareth Debney (North Sydney) was nominated as Deputy Chair:  
Proposer: Steven Smith  
Seconder: Sean Granger (Manly)

It was noted by the EO that all members concerned were financial members.  
As the number of nominations was equal to the number of positions no vote was carried out.

There was a sincere vote of thanks by the meeting to Mel Hall for all her hard work and dedication as Chair.

## **6. Other Business**

6.1. Next meeting and host.  
*Host:* North Sydney  
*Date:* Tues 25<sup>th</sup> November 10 AM

6.2. Implications of Rural Fire Service 10/50 Vegetation Code of Practice for weed management.  
This was discussed, including whether the committee should take any action. It was suggested that occurrence of noxious weeds may be encouraged by aspects of the code. No actions were agreed.

## **7. Alligator Weed Strategy – Risk assessment review**

Members with Alligator weed worked with A Schofield to update the risk assessment for patches in their areas (A WAP target). Please contact AS if you wish to have input.

## 2.2. Actions Arising from Sydney North RWC Meeting 1st May 2014 -- Status @ 19 August

AI	Action No.	Who	Action	Due Date	Status
2	2.2.1	Pam Bateman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send updated local information using new Order 30 to EO for circulation to other members.</li> </ul>	30 June	Superseded
	2.2.2	Anthony Schofield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approach DPI to find out when Order 30 will be fully implemented on DPI website</li> </ul>	30 June	Completed
	2.2.3	Mel Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send information re Lantana bud mite out of session to EO for circulation.</li> </ul>	30 June	Superseded
3	3.1	Mel Hall	Provide new incursion report form to EO.	30 June	EO to check whether received
4	4.1	Mel Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider revival of Pampas etc in the context of revision of NPWS regional pest management strategy.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Ongoing
	4.2	Mel Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise issue of need for market inspections as a high priority project for funding from WAP funding at Central RWC meeting.</li> </ul>	Completed	Completed
	4.3	Anthony Schofield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek DPI assistance with horsetail through Rod Ensbey</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Trial under way
6	6.1	Members	Finalise additional WAP applications.	Completed	Completed
7	7.1	All members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider what revisions needed to regional weed brochures and respond.</li> </ul>	Respond to request	Carried Forward
	7.2	All members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comments and ideas on website to inform review.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Carried Forward
8	8.1	Jill Macintyre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send copy of Warringah application for off-label 24D permit to EO</li> </ul>	30 June	Superseded
	8.2	EO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise ideas about SWC activities from members with steering group in context of business plan.</li> </ul>	10 July	Completed
9	9.1	EO	Email re 2014-15 meeting dates.	30 June	Completed