

**Sydney South West Regional Weeds Committee  
Meeting No 2015.1  
Wed 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015  
Bankstown**

**MINUTES**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Alex Burgess (Wollondilly) Joel Daniels (Liverpool) Paul Angel (Bankstown) Lyndal Kaye (NPWS) Mitchell Clarke (Campbelltown) Erin Fardy (Sutherland) Charmaine Robertson (Bankstown) Dennis Ashton (Water NSW) Matt McNaughton (Camden) (on phone)  Anne Duncan (EO Sydney Weeds) Anthony Schofield (WAP PO) HCC	Dawn Emerson (Sutherland Community) Bart Schiebann (Bankstown) Stewart Harris (Sutherland) Eddie Ferry (Fairfield)

**1. Welcome**

The Deputy Chair, Alex Burgess welcomed all participants to the meeting. Members present declared pecuniary interests: it was noted that Wollondilly, Sutherland, Campbelltown, Liverpool, National Parks, Camden and Hawkesbury County Council received WAP funds.

**2. Actions arising**

2.1. Confirmation of previous minutes (Meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2014)(noting that Dennis Ashton had been present and that Stewart Harris was an apology):

Moved: Mr Mitchell Clarke

Seconded: Mr Dennis Ashton

2.2. Matters arising from the previous minutes:

The table of actions arising from the previous meetings in 2014 was discussed and it was concluded that all actions (Attachment 1) were in progress, had been completed or superseded.

**3. High Risk Weed Review**

The collated draft High Risk Weed table was examined and members expressed satisfaction with SW categories when compared to the other three regions.

### *Regionally significant weeds*

The idea of “regionally significant weeds” was discussed and nominations from the SSW region were identified. It was agreed that the final table should also include a justification of why they were considered to be regionally significant. It was agreed that the list would be circulated for members to contribute to this.

The *Regionally Significant Weeds* nominated were:

Plant	Reason
Boneseed	Remains problematic. Significant investment already.
Corky passionflower	Intractable – proving hard to treat Spread by birds
Alligator Weed	Impact on regional ecosystem services if not continued to be treated.
Sea Spurge	On the coast – a significant threat to coastal ecosystems
Kei apple	Relatively new incursion. Spread by birds.
Ludwigia longifolia	
Cooletai Grass	A significant problem along roadsides and in poorly maintained agricultural areas.

Action 3.1. EO to re-circulate regional weed table and list of regionally significant weeds.

Action 3.2. Members to review regionally significant weeds and contribute to reasons for regional significance.

### *Regional Priorities*

The regional priorities identified on the existing regional map and strategy were discussed and it was agreed that they were still applicable:

- i.e. continuing regional focus on:
  - Boneseed
  - Other high priority species of limited distribution
  - Containment lines for African olive
  - Alligator Weed

Corky passionflower was discussed in this context and it was agreed that the Weed Risk Assessment should be reviewed to determine whether it should be considered.

Lyndal Kaye noted that the Tree of Heaven *Alicanthus altissima* was becoming more visible in riparian areas, along roadsides and after fire. It was agreed that it should be included in the regional High Risk weed list.

Action 3.3. EO to include *Alianthus altissima* HRW list.

### *Proposed SWC regional projects*

Projects relating to central coordination of training, GIS capacity building and the Sydney Weed App were discussed and were supported.

Prospect of involving the railways in a project to map weeds was discussed and supported.

#### **4. High Risk Pathways and Sites (AS)**

As thanked everybody for their inputs to the list which had been finalised. Dennis Ashton noted that there was no Alligator Weed in the Wollondilly River.

Any further changes to the lists to be forwarded to Anthony Schofield asap.

#### **5. WAP Stage 2**

AS advised that:

- closing date was COB April 2.
- the application form was available on the HRCC website
- Letters had been sent to all Council CEOs, NPWS from HRCC
- Contingency funds were built in (30K pa)
- All applicants expected to contribute cash/in kind at least matching.

AD asked that all applications be CCed to her for SWC records.

JD asked about the issue of lead agency and it was noted that this was still to be discussed and resolved.

Action 5.1. All to submit WAP applications by COB April 2.
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#### **6. Roundtable reports (including new incursions and significant activities)**

Camden (Matt McNaughton phone)

- Green army project
- Aquatic weeds in Nepean in progress
- 2nd round of inspections.

Wollondilly (Alex Burgess)

- Camden park subdivision stormwater ponds – *Ludwigia peruviana* – 2-3 years old. Green Army team used to cut all out for deep landfilling. Inspection downstream carried out (Stocklands to pay). Going back to cut and paint next week. Will be inspected 4X per annum.
- WAP projects will be complete.

Action 6.1. AB to send new incursion form for <i>L. peruviana</i> at Camden Park.
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NPWS (Lyndal Kaye)

- Nattai - Alligator Weed

- Golara (?) Gorge and Bent's basin – Gleditsia, Acer and Apuntia - Campbells Ford – made a big difference.
- Also working on vines in the creek lines; NW side privet, olive , Apuntia
- Steve Parker has been working on sea spurge; found Alligator weed in a creekline near Royal NP; Erin to contact SP.
- 5 year bush regeneration project at Leacock Regional park
- Another bush regeneration program in Edmondson Park has come across to NPWS.
- Bitou Bush control in coastal areas

#### Sutherland (Erin Fardy)

- Aquatic program stage 2 underway
- Boneseed inspections.
- Boat inspections (with NPWS)
- WAP applications

#### Bankstown (Paul Angel)

- Working on Alligator Weed through all waterways – Little Saltpan Creek and Milperra Creek (using specialist contractor).
- Corky passionfruit in Crest Reserve. Using mechanical control (chemical control prior) in asset protection zones.

#### Campbelltown (Mitch Clarke)

- Aquatic weeds in Georges River
- Upper Nepean River Acer Partnership
- Green Army/ Bushcare
- New incursion: *Gloriosa superba* – from mid north coast; on an old residential site
- Water lettuce – found at trash and treasure by Joel, but lived in Campbelltown. Person had previously been recorded having Salvinia and Water hyacinth.

Action 6.2. MC to send new incursion form for <i>G. superba</i> .
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#### Dennis Ashton (Water NSW)

- Ludwigia at Prospect. Still working on risk assessment and management plan (will be available to this committee when complete). EIA for temporary storage of material in progress. Have permit for 24D but will not be using in catchment.

#### Liverpool City Council (Joel Daniels)

- Market inspections monthly at this time of year – aquatic weeds commonly found.
- Water lettuce was a good example of regional team work
- Found a handful of Bathurst burr plants
- Been busy with 3 Green Army teams

- Alligator Weed program – weather pattern has made it difficult. Cabramatta Ck, Georges River, Kemps Creek
- Salvinia – Georges River. Noted that there had been a fish kill on the Georges River.
- Noted that there was a general issue of having to do more with less for weed officers, which made doing inspections difficult. Should inspection be regarded as a service?

#### Sydney Weeds (Anne Duncan)

- Noted that the GS LLS had a requirement to develop a regional weeds strategy and that HRW lists would be a useful contribution to this.
- Noted weed alerts for Kei apple and Senecio madagascarensis now on website.
- Recent discussion on callery pear
- Opportunity for crofton weed biocontrol – info also on website
- Sydney weeds app, DPI weed app – details on website
- Events team teleconference re event coming up
- GIS contractor to catch up new incursion and boneseed mapping – still to be employed – would be based with GS LLS.

Action 6.3. EO to circulate information on Callery Pear
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## 7. Other Business

Photo from Alex McKenzie (Central RWC) seeking assistance with identification was discussed – AB to follow up. Possibly ornamental paw paw?

Update was provided on Weed Eradication Detector Dog project.

Noted that Crown lands grant now open – close 10 April.

Noted that there were no resolutions to present to the Board.

Next meeting and host.

*Host:* Wollondilly

*Date:* Wed 8<sup>th</sup> July 10 AM – 1 PM

**Attachment 1. Summary of actions arising.**

<b>Action No</b>	<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>
1.3.1	Circulate regional weed table and members to populate table re reasons for regionally significant weeds.	EO
1.3.2	Review regionally significant weeds and contribute to reasons for regional significance.	ALL
1.3.2	Include <i>Alicanthus altissima</i> HRW list.	EO
1.5.1	Submit WAP applications by COB April 2.	ALL
1.6.1	Send new incursion form for <i>L. peruviana</i> at Camden Park.	ABB
1.6.2	Send new incursion form for <i>G. superba</i> .	MC
1.6.3	Circulate information on Callery Pear	EO