

**Sydney West Blue Mountains Regional Weeds Committee
Meeting No 2015.1
Wed 11th March 2015
HRCC**

MINUTES

Present	Apologies
Chris Stanfield (HRCC) Karen Jenkin (HRCC) Dan Cacatian (HRCC) Janet Rannard (Penrith CC) Eric Mahony (Blue Mountains CC) Michael Pattison (Hawkesbury CC) Steve Parker (NSW OEH) Anne Duncan (Sydney Weeds) Anthony Schofield (WAP PO, HRCC)	Pino Todarello (Parramatta CC) Scott Herring (NSW PWS) Justine Clarke (Blacktown CC)

1. Welcome

The Chair (CS) welcomed all participants to the meeting. Members present declared any pecuniary interests: NSW NPWS, Blue Mountains CC and HRCC, indicated that they received WAP funds.

2. Actions arising

2.1. Confirmation of previous minutes - Meeting of 28th Nov 2014

Moved: Steve Parker
Seconded: Dan Cacatian

2.2. Matters arising from the previous minutes.

The meeting went through the status of the table of actions arising from the previous meeting – it was noted that most had been completed apart from the following:

Action No	What	Who	By when
3.3.1	Provide HRCC boneseed location for SWC boneseed mapping.	CS	11-Mar-15
3.6.1	Send applications for passes for railway surveys to EO for coordination of railway weed surveys (e.g. for boneseed next spring).	MD	11-Mar-15
3.6.2	Supply raw data of all the Sydney Train surveys to SWC	MD	Ongoing

3. High Risk Weed Review

Chris Dewhurst (HRCC) attended for this part of the meeting.

It was noted that the collated list of “high risk weeds” for the whole region (all RWCs) had been circulated. It was noted that this draft list could be used for WAP applications.

It was discussed how the current list was a list of high risk weeds present in the region (ie a priority list) but that there was also a need to have a weed alert list of weeds not currently present in the region, which were a threat.

It was recognised that this was important but that it was another separate task, to be completed as part of ongoing work on a strategic approach to weeds.

Regionally Significant Weeds

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

The problem of regional variation in the Sydney region as a whole was discussed. For example for the BMCC at the edge of the African olive distribution, it is a priority, but in other areas it is widespread. The continuing use of containment lines to strategically manage some species, such as African olive was therefore still relevant. It was suggested that a similar approach may be required for serrated tussock.

The *Regionally Significant Weeds* nominated were:

African Olive	Priority at the edge of distribution to prevent spread. Other places strategic approach required.
Boneseed	Containment in this region but in regional context goal is eradication
Broom	Potential to spread.
Corky passionflower	Difficult to treat. Bird dispersed. Distribution still relatively limited.
Horsetail	Very limited distribution and significant potential impact
Kidney Leaf Mud Plantain	Very limited distribution and significant potential impact
Senegal Tea	

There was a question whether Cooletai grass should also be included.

Regional priorities

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

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

However it was suggested that Cats Claw Creeper should be removed as an identified priority.

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 documentation of reasons for regional significance.

SWC region wide projects

Ideas for region-wide projects were sought.

- Training in identification of A-list species and species not currently present (but high risk) was suggested. Perhaps a workshop/kit.
- Community education.

4. High Risk pathways and Sites

As thanked everybody for their inputs to the list which had been finalised and was available on the HRCC website.

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

Action 4.1. All to submit any final changes to HRPs and Sites review asap

5. WAP Stage 2

AS advised that:

- the application form was available on the HRCC website
- Draft HRW list and HRP etc are on 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.
- closing date was COB April 2.
- AS noted that:
 - Prevention included noxious weed inspections and surveillance
 - Control was based around species
 - Asset protection was area focussed
 - Capacity building included Community education/training etc. It could also include GIS capability (ie to meet the requirements of BIS/ weed metadata standards by 2 years time)

- EM sought clarification of privacy requirements about location data on private land, and whether the government could access this at a State level.
- AS to seek clarification from DPI.

Action 5.1. All to submit WAP applications by COB April 2.

Action 5.2. AS to seek clarification from DPI re privacy issues and weed data on private land.

Janet Rannard left 12:15 PM

6. Roundtable reports (including new incursions and significant activities)

HRCC (Chris Stanfield)

- Class 1's are current priorities – Senegal tea; boneseed – germination has skyrocketed e.g. Bilpin Oval.
- Aquatic weed program – HN catchment; North Richmond and Lower Portland – coming out of feeder creeks. Using flea beetle on alligator weed plus brush off. Beetle has seeded throughout the catchment – weather has flushed it through the system.
- Green cestrum has “gone bananas”.
- No New incursions

HCC (Michael Pattison)

NPWS (Steve Parker)

- Salvinia on Longleaf lagoon – 3 treatments
- St Johns Wort – Cumberland and Nattai reserve
- *Senecio glastifolius* – Bundeena only
- Senegal tea in Port hacking but optimistic prognosis – source 2 km upstream from weir (not below).

BMCC (Eric Mahony)

- Cabomba – preliminary treatments doing OK. Using divers to get remnants (will update next meeting).
- Will chase up horsetail and report on that situation next time.
- Reviewed 70 weed profiles – on website
- Done some township-based publications (neighborhoods) – tied to next years weed inspections. With some assistance from Council environmental education.
- GSLLS funded African olive containment line

Sydney Weeds (EO)

- 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.
- Weed alerts for Kei apple and *Senecio madagascarensis* now on website.
- Opportunity for crofton weed biocontrol – info also on website
- Sydney weeds app, DPI weed app – details on website
- GIS contractor to catch up new incursion and boneseed coverages would be based with GS LLS.

7. Other Business

Update and powerpoint was provided on Weed Eradication Detector Dog project.
Noted that Crown Lands grants now open – close 10 April.
Noted that there were no formal resolutions to present to the Board.

Next meeting and host.

Host: Hawkesbury City Council Nursery

Date: Thurs 9th July 10 AM – 1 PM

Summary of actions arising from this meeting (2015.1)

Action Number	What	Who	By when
1.3.1	Re-circulate regional weed list table and list of regionally significant weeds.	EO	Asap
1.3.2	Review regionally significant weeds and contribute to documenting reasons for regional significance	All	3-Jul
1.4.1	Submit any final changes to HRPs and Sites review	All	Asap
1.5.1	Submit WAP applications	All	2 Apr
1.5.2	Seek clarification from DPI re privacy issues and weed data on private land.	AS	9 Jul