

Greater Sydney RWC Meeting 15: BUSINESS PAPER

Agenda Item 5

Regional Weed Coordination Report

ATTACHMENTS

- WAP Progress Report – 1 Feb to 7 May 2019
- New Weed Incursion Report – *Houttuynia cordata*

BACKGROUND

Weeds Action Program

Update for the Weeds Action Program – Greater Sydney regional subprogram (GS WAP) for the period 1 February to 7 May 2019 is attached.

New Weed Incursions

- New Weed Incursion Report from City of Parramatta in relation to Chameleon Plant (*Houttuynia cordata*) is attached.
- Status of previously reported incursions updated by relevant LCA as follows:

SPECIES	LGA	WRA Outcome / Management Objective	Status Update - 7 May 2019
<i>Solanum chrysotrichum</i>	Central Coast	Regional Prevention	Contract works are underway currently.
<i>Solanum chrysotrichum</i>	Northern Beaches	Regional Prevention	Site monitored. Size of infestation no change. Secondary control works to be scheduled.
<i>Leonotis nepetifolia</i>	Central Coast	'Destroy infestations'	No plants found on council land. Sydney Trains need to keep on top of seedling regrowth.
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	Central Coast	Regional Eradication	No plants currently growing in infestation area, ongoing monitoring is continuing
<i>Hydrocleys nymphoides</i>	Northern Beaches	Regional Containment (Exclusion Zone eradication)	Site undergone first chemical treatment. Infestation contained to existing area with no new plants observed down stream of infestation.

LCA appointment of Authorised Officers under Biosecurity Act

Only 1 additional LCA (Lane Cove Council) has completed the process to appoint authorised officers under the Biosecurity Act since Meeting 14 of the GS RWC.

LCA submission of weed management data to the BIS

- No increase in the number of LCAs submitting weed management data to the BIS since Meeting 14 of the GS RWC.
- The following LCAs have not reported any data to the BIS: City of Canada Bay, City of Parramatta, City of Ryde, City of Sydney, Georges River, Lane Cove, Willoughby, Waverley and Wollondilly Shire Councils.

Intel from Sydney Flower Markets (26.4.19)

- Pampas Grass is being sold quite actively outside the markets environment i.e. delivered direct from the farm or wholesaler.
- There is strong demand from retailers, driven by demand from brides and stylists.
- Growers are seeking regional support for the following:
 - Retailers to be repeatedly targeted to ensure compliance.
 - Penalty notices to be issued to growers, wholesalers, retailers and stylists if selling or promoting use of this species
 - Any fines issued to be broadly promoted, to act as a deterrent.
 - Industry magazines need to have articles printed to raise awareness levels.
- Growers are extremely concerned that, if the industry does not self-regulate to sell non-saleable species, then they will lose permission to sell the 4 species that are listed on the DPI Biosecurity Permit and these are a major source of income.

Online sales

The Regional Weed Coordinator was advised that the following non-saleable species were being traded online out of Greater Sydney in the reporting period:

- Frogbit (3) – PROHIBITED MATTER
- Opuntoid Cacti spp (5) – MANDATORY MEASURE
- Water poppy (3) – REGIONAL CONTAINMENT
- Water hyacinth (2) – MANDATORY MEASURE
- Water lettuce (2) – REGIONAL ERADICATION

2,4-D Minor Use Permit

The APVMA advised on 6 May that the application for minor use permit is still pending and a decision expected by 14 May.

Crown Reserve Improvement Fund

Grant applications under the 2019-20 Crown Reserve Improvement Fund (CRIF) closed on 22 March 2019. An assessment panel of members of the GSRWC convened on Monday 13 May 2019 to assess the weed applications for the Region.

**FOR
ACTION/DECISION/NOTING**

Noting

**DECISIONS REQUIRED BY
RWC MEMBERS**

Note this business paper