# CENTRAL SUBNETWORK MEETING

## Draft MINUTES

## Tuesday 2nd August 2022

| Members attending | |
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| Christopher Stanfield (Chair) - Parramatta | Travis Roberts – Ku-ring-gai |
| Sahiza Ali – Canterbury-Bankstown | Jacqui Vollmer – Hunters Hill |
| Pretisha Ram - Ryde | Paul Angel - Canterbury-Bankstown |
| Kathryn Schott - Canterbury-Bankstown | Whitney-May Lever - Strathfield |
| Dayna Mellor – Georges River | Stephen Pym – Hornsby? |
| Rob Gibson – Lane Cove | Jason Dalgleish - Canterbury-Bankstown |
| **Associate Members, Supporters and Guests attending** | |
| Maddy Humphrys– GS LLS | Cameron Stuart Adama Australia |
| **Member apologies** | |
| Sybylla Brown – Ku-ring-gai | Pino Todarello - Parramatta |
| Sandra Payne - Ryde | Peter O'Connor – Inner West |
| Mario Mouxouris – Inner West | Kylie Burrows – Canada Bay |
| Brenna Ross - Strathfield | Bradley Lloyd - Cumberland |
| **Associate Members and Supporter apologies** | |
| Nicola Dixon - DPI | Nick Stroinovsky – Sydney Water Corp. |
| Amanda Kotlash - SWN | |

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| Item 1 | The Chair Chris Stanfield welcomed everyone and asked for any apologies and declarations.<br>The apologies noted above were given and there were no declarations.<br>Thanks to our host Rob Gibson ! |
| Item 2 | **Injecta and Di-Bak technologies –** Cameron Stuart Adama Australia<br>Cameron Stuart gave a really great presentation with lots of interactions and questions.<br>• ADAMA presentation – tree injection and plugs using capsules of herbicide, safe for vollies, no direct contact with herbicide for the user, no adverse response from treated weed species. Injecta 400 control system.<br>• A number of herbicides being looked at for the injection system. |

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| Item 3 | **Minutes of the last meeting** – Chris Stanfield<br>The minutes of the last meeting held on 16 March 2022 can be found in *ATTACHMENT – Item 3*.<br>MINUTES note confirmed – carried over until next meeting |
| Item 4 | **Update from DPI** – Maddy Humphrys GSLLS on behalf of Nicola Dixon State Priority Weeds Coordinator<br><br>1. PROHIBITED MATTER RESPONSES<br>Karoo acacia (South East); Mexican feather grass (Greater Sydney); Rubber vine (Western); Hawkweed (South East); Miconia (North Coast); Frogbit (statewide); Parthenium weed (statewide) responses are ongoing.<br><br>2. OTHER STATE PRIORITY WEEDS<br>**Tropical soda apple:**<br>DPI convened TSA Task Force meeting 31 in May. The next Task Force meeting will be held in July.<br>**Alligator weed**:<br>DPI coordinated an alligator weed surveillance event in Griffith and Carrathool Shires. These are high priority areas for alligator weed in the Murray/Darling basin. Surveillance occurred 10 – 12 May and involved 14 staff from Council, LLS and DPI.<br>**Parkinsonia and other State Priority Prickle Bush**es<br>Task Force meeting held on 7 April 2022. The first NSW Parkinsonia site rep was released 19 May 2022 – see extranet.<br>**Boneseed**<br>All LCAs that are managing boneseed have been invited to participate in the newly formed Boneseed Task Force. The first meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 July. One of the first tasks for the Task Force will be to develop a Boneseed Strategic Plan to guide management of this species in NSW.<br>**Chinese Violet**<br>All LCAs that are managing Chinese violet were invited to participate in the newly formed Chinese Violet Task Force. The first meeting was held on Monday 27 June. One of the first tasks for the Task Force will be to develop a Chinese Violet Strategic Plan to guide management of this species in NSW.<br>**Control Order review**<br>The 2017 Biosecurity Control Orders for boneseed, Parkinsonia and Tropical soda apple expired on 30 June. New Control Orders were established from 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2027 and are available at https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/about-us/legislation/list/biosecurity-act-2015<br>**Schedule 3 Weeds**<br>DPI will convene a working group with members of the State Weed Committee and regional weeds coordinators to develop a list of criteria for species to meet to be listed in Schedule 3 of the NSW Biosecurity Regulation. This could result in several new species being added and several being removed. This process is occurring independently from the Biosecurity Act review.<br><br>3. COLLABORATION<br>**Regional strategic weed management plans**<br>DPI has been working closely with LLS as part of the working group responsible for developing the RSWMP template and reviewing the submitted draft plans. DPI has also reviewed 200+ regional weed risk assessments submitted through the WIDX-WRM subsystem.<br>**WeedScan** |

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| | The WeedID model has been trained on 14 priority weeds and can recognise them with relatively high accuracy. Because of this, the WeedID model has been integrated with the WeedScan prototype website. The prototype website continues to be refined in response to user feedback. The next round of user consultation for WeedScan has begun, with stakeholders and prospective users from 11 NRM regions around Australia currently being contacted and asked to provide feedback on the prototype. Workshops will occur in Victoria, NSW and Qld over the coming months, followed by online workshops for NT, SA, Tas and WA. App developers have been engaged and are preparing to build the WeedScan smartphone app with input from CSIRO and NSW DPI.<br><br>**Blue heliotrope best practice management manual**<br>Bill Davidson is leading the development of this manual, expected to be published by the end of 2022.<br><br>4. RESEARCH<br>**African lovegrass biocontrol**<br>A national survey sought stakeholder views on research surrounding the potential biocontrol of African lovegrass. The survey results will be used to establish whether a biocontrol would pose a low or negligible risk in the environment and if so, used to support an application to the national Environment and Invasives Committee to progress research into African lovegrass biocontrol.<br>**Ox-eye daisy**<br>Andrew McConachie is undertaking ox-eye daisy monitoring at 3 sites in NSW and VIC as part of a long-term study into seed bank viability and plant population dynamics, prior to the planned release of two biocontrol agents in the coming years. Two species of insects now in quarantine at Orange.<br>**Feathertop Rhodes grass herbicide resistance testing**<br>Farmers in the Riverina and Central West regions are being invited to send seed for testing to Dr Hanwen Wu – see https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/about-us/media-centre/releases/2022/general/free-feathertop-rhodes-grass-herbicide-resistance-testing<br>**Invasive Grasses project**<br>Dr Hanwen Wu and Dr Ali Bajwa are leading a serrated tussock, African lovegrass and Chilean needle grass research project. 7 x demo sites have been set up for each species to establish best practice management. Field days are being held around the state sharing a range of chemical and non-chemical control options, such as crop/pasture competition, residual and post-emergent herbicides and spray topping techniques.<br><br>5. STATE WEED COMMITTEE<br>The State Weeds Committee met at the NSW/VIC Weeds Conference in March 2022– Outcomes from the meeting can be found on the extranet.<br><br>6. BIOSECURITY INFORMATION SYSTEM<br>A review of the DPI WIDX is under development. State government agencies will have the opportunity to providing priority weed infestation data so that weed presence maps are more accurate for the State. NPWS and WaterNSW have expressed an interest in providing this data to DPI.<br><br>7. BIOSECURITY ACT HANDBOOKS<br>The Weeds and the Biosecurity Act handbooks for local councils and councillors went out by post last week to each council with a letter to the general managers asking them to give a copy to each councillor. |
| Item 5 | **Regional Weed Coordinator update** – Maddy Humphrys (GSLLS)<br>• A discussion was held about how to capture and use BIS data – or more correctly the data that BIS doesn't want about local priority. It was thought by most that |

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| | there was a lot of data not being captured or used.<br>• WAP funding round is open. Please let me know if you need a hand.<br>• All hands are on deck now getting the new GSRSWMP.<br>• Consultation has been broaden from last time, including Bushcare, Aboriginal groups, etc.<br>• The Technical sub-committee made up of 5 expert practitioners will be reviewing the Weed Risk Assessments for the revised plan.<br>• There will be a feedback survey coming around about the old plan and how it worked.<br>• Regional Weeds Committee discussed how we might get better representation from more Councils. At present the Chairs of each of the sub-networks go along to these meetings – they are your reps.<br>• The – Must Not vs Do Not sell – part of the legislation – which is very confusing – is hopefully going to be looked at soon.<br>• Compliance and Regulatory Training courses are being offered by Australian Centre for Financial and Environmental Compliance (ACFEC) for officers from Local Control Authorities. Not mandatory but recommended.<br>• We are thinking of doing an update on the Sydney Weed App training.<br>• We are gearing up to do some Frogbit blitzes – probably first in the Hawkesbury. |
| Item 6 | **SWN Board update** – Chris Stanfield<br>Update on the SWN Board meeting held on 17 February 2022<br>• Planning of the Big Weeds Day Out took up most of the time.<br>• WRA project is going well, and we are going to spend the rest of the money for face-to-face workshops.<br>• Sydney Weeds Website is very popular with the public, but our private page is underutilized. Please start to use the weed forums – they are there to help you. There are four – Biosecurity, Biocontrol, Weed Id and Weed control.<br>• The drone training was really good and any ideas on a way forward are welcome. |
| Item 7 | **Issues to be taken to the next Regional Weed Committee Meeting**<br>Start to develop the process of feeding issues up to the RWC |
| Item 8 | **Executive Officer's Report** – Amanda<br>• Deferred until next meeting. |
| Item 9 | **Roundtable reports including:**<br>Member reports of activities/issues.<br>• Pretisha (Ryde) Chinese knot weed control along Parra/Ryde boundary<br>• Talk of Parkinsonia specific fungi (biocontrol?) unsure of spread<br>• WAP reporting, a reminder for all partners to complete their WAP reporting duties (Maddy)<br>• Requests for strategic plan feedback survey from weeds professionals<br>• Reminder – Pampas grass sales during florist inspections<br>• Sydney Weeds App. Version 3 is out and should uploaded to your devices for use.<br>• Reminder – don't forget about your surveillance activities for WAP<br>• Reminder – don't forget to conduct post flood event surveillance<br>• Pretisha kicked off a group discussion about online trade and the issues facing weeds professional chasing up sellers – group discussion on entrapment when dealing with sellers and prohibited matter. |

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| | • The issue of NSW DPI being the central hub for online activity was raised by the group.<br>• there was discussion about Biz and LLS data compatibility and extraction issue issues of information.<br>• Group discussion of an update to/creation of a Boneseed flyer but I can't remember if it was spoken of as central project or as a whole of network project.<br>• Pretisha was curious as to resources available for weedy vine species. |
| Item 10 | Other business<br>No other business |
| Item 11 | **Next Meeting**<br>Next West subnetwork meeting will be early 2023<br>The AGM will be held on Thursday 23rd November 2023 |