

North West Regional Weed Committee - Meeting # 7	
Communication and Action Plan (Minutes)	
Thursday April 6 2017 Creative Arts Centre - Gunnedah	
Attendees	Peter Dawson (NWLLS) John Unwin (CMCC) Dave Wurst (OEH NPWS) Lee Amidy (GUNSC), Peter Scott, Mike Whitney (LPSC) Clare Felton-Taylor (NSC) Matt Davidson (NWLLS) James Browning (NEWA) Anna Cronin, Vicky Lyons (DoI Lands) Richard Chamen (NSWF) Andrew Wright (White Haven) Ian Schwartz, Don McKenzie (Moree Plains SC) Cr Rob Hooke (Gun SC)
Apologies	Wayne Deer (NEWA) Phil Blackmore (NSW DPI) Don Ramsland (WSC) Phil Spark (NCC) Conan Rossler, Simon Schuman (FC) Marcela Lopez (NSC) Phil Spark (NCC) Mal Stein, Ross Briggs (TRC) Stephen Kneller, Scott McLachlan (GwySC) Heather Apps(NEWA) Jamie Day (NWLLS) Matthew Fletcher (Ess En) Shane Green (NWLLS) Penny Fraser (TRLA)
Purpose	Review of draft North West Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan Post Public Consultation
Review and update Actions Carried Forward - Nil	
Agenda Item #1:	Welcome & Introductions
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	<p>Summary of discussion :</p> <p>Meeting opened 10:00am Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country by Peter Dawson NWLLS, Apologies, Housekeeping & Introductions.</p> <p>Apologies accepted; Moved: Don McKenzie Seconded: Richard Chamen</p>
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	<p>Introductions were made around the room by each delegate including comments about what they want and need to get out of the meeting.</p> <p>Correspondence sent out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Letter from NWRWC Chair Mike Whitney to SWC Secretariat regarding WAP Lead Agency arrangements. Emailed and hard copy. <p>Correspondence received:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Anna Cronin DoI Lands informed Peter Dawson that Vicky Lyons has been nominated as the DoI Lands representative on the committee as Anna heads off on maternity leave in June. Vicky Lyons is nominated for vacant position of Ordinary member on the Executive committee. Phil Blackmore – NSW DPI Biosecurity Act online training delayed until April 10. Dave Wurst OEH – Endorsement of NWRSWMP by OEH <p>Action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> OEH correspondence to be included in Public consultation feedback for consideration in final plan. Vicky Lyons nomination for vacant position of Ordinary member on the Executive committee to be accepted by NWRWC.

Agenda Item #2:	Previous Minutes
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	Summary of discussion : Opportunity was provided for questions and clarification.
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	The previous minutes were taken as read and moved that they are a true and accurate record. Moved: Lee Amidy Seconded: Richard Chamen
Agenda Item #3:	Business arising
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Vicky Lyons nomination for vacant position of Ordinary member on the Executive committee to be accepted by NWRWC. Moved: Anna Cronin Seconded: Lee Amidy All in favour - Passed Correspondence to SWC Secretariat regarding WAP Lead Agency arrangements. No response has been received to date.
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	Nil
Agenda Item #4:	NW Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan Weeds Risk Assessment
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	Peter Dawson took the Committee through the latest Draft NWRSWMP version including standard statewide text. This version incorporates the majority of the previous regional content into the approved state wide standard template.
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	<p>Peter D tabled recommended changes to Appendix 1 & 2 tables following public consultation for consideration by the committee.</p> <p>Key changes suggested to Table A1.2 Regional Priority Weeds include;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Updating Control measures, Strategic responses or Documentation to support regional objectives for some species. Refining Regional or Sub-regional Objective and Land use and/or area where specific requirements apply for some species. Clarifying Specific requirements to discharge the GBD in North West LLS Region for some species
Agenda Item #5:	Weed Management Priority Categories – Appendix 1 & 2
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	<p>Following concerns raised by the committee at the March meeting that some species were not given the correct priority allocation within Appendix A1.2 and further reflection and discussion through the Public Consultation process the committee reviewed the following species against the original NW Weed Risk Assessment.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sagittaria = Eradication Green Cestrum = Containment Rope pear = Asset protection Mother of Millions = Asset protection <p>Key changes have been made to Appendix 2: Other regional weed lists include;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A2.1 Key Alert Weeds Watch list and A2.2 Key Emerging - removal of priority ranking column as it is not warranted and may lead to confusion by general public.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Remove entire A2.3 Widespread weed table as there was potential for confusion and GBD applies to all species. 3. Feral Fruit and Nut trees have been removed from Widespread weed table and included into the Key Emerging table A2.2 as this is where they were originally ranked.
<p style="text-align: center;">Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p>	<p>It was noted that there may be some additional changes to the appendices following final review by the SWC Technical Review Committee but these should be limited to; Clarification of State and Regional objectives for Containment Vs Asset protection and some formatting.</p>
<p>Agenda Item #6:</p>	<p>NW Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan – Public Consultation</p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<p>Peter Dawson undertook Public information sessions at 11 locations across the North West region throughout February. 8 formal responses were reviewed by the NWRWC. All responses were taken into consideration and treated with respect with comments made where possible to respond to issues raised. Many responses contained general statements and / or opinions which whilst appreciated are outside the scope of the Plan and the NWRWC. Key points or issues raised include;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Some community members would like to see a greater range of widespread weeds listed as priorities - GBD applies to all. 2) Highlights the requirement for on-going Education and Awareness engagement programs both around priority weeds the Weed Risk Assessment process and Biosecurity Act, Regulations and GBD. 3) Need to identify opportunities to increase resources at the state, regional and local scale to implement coordinated weed control programs into the future. <p>Peter Dawson stated that he had reviewed cross-regional comparison of appendix 1 & 2 of adjoining RSWMPs including Central West, Western, Northern Tablelands and Hunter LLS regions.</p> <p>Recommendations for Plan finalisation</p> <p>Timeframe & Deadlines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution of key state level issues and negotiation with DPI and through SWC – April 14 <p>Quality Assurance Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Window for state level QA checklist – May 5 <p>Governance Signoff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWRWC stakeholder consideration and signoff – May 12 • NWRWC window for final stakeholder signoff and endorsement – May 19 • NWLLS Board consideration and endorsement – May 26 • Briefing package provided to Minister – May 31 <p>Dave Wurst noted that he had been advised that the endorsement of the finalised plan cannot be undertaken by the OEH representative on the NWRWC, the committee Chair should seek OEH endorsement via Michael Wright Executive Director Park Programs, National Parks and Wildlife Service. This was accepted by the committee.</p>

	Peter Dawson also stated that it was up to each individual representative to ensure that the final plan is endorsed by an appropriate level of management with due authority within their respective organisations and that no individual organisation has right of veto as per NWRWC constitution.
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	Motion for NWRWC Executive committee to meet offline if required prior to next meeting to sign off final plan for endorsement to NWLLS Board. Moved: John Unwin Seconded: Don McKenzie All in favour - Passed
Agenda Item #7:	NW WAP 2015-20
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	Heather Apps (NEWA) was an apology and was not able to provide an update on the North West WAP 2015 – 2020 Heather is currently working on mandatory WAP documents that must be completed by June 30 2017 – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional high risk pathways and sites management plan 2. Incursion plan for high risk weeds 3. Rapid response plan 4. Regional inspection program 5. Communication strategy 6. MERI Plan Heather is seeking clarification from NSW DPI as to whether there will be new templates for these documents in line with final RSWMPs.
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	Nil
Agenda Item #8:	General business
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	It was agreed that General business for this meeting had been heard under Business arising from earlier in the meeting.
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	Nil
Agenda Item #9:	Future Agenda items
Discussion /Options / Points Raised	Recommendations for Plan finalisation SWC TSC feedback NWRWC stakeholder consideration and signoff NWRWC window for final stakeholder signoff and endorsement
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	Actions: Confirm meeting dates and locations for future meetings May 11 – Quirindi Jockey Club June 8 – Narrabri – Bowling Club
Meeting closed at 3.00pm	