

## North West Regional Weed Committee - Meeting # 1

### Communication and Action Plan (Minutes)

Minutes Thur 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015 Noel Park House Tamworth

Attendees	Ken Flower, Matt Davidson, Peter Dawson, Shane Green (NWLLS) John Unwin (CMCC) Dave Wurst (OEH NPWS) Stephen Kneller, Saul Standerwick (GwySC) James Treloar, Steve Geddes (TRC) David Quince, Lee Amidy Tony Woods (Gun SC), Peter Scott, Mike Whitney (LPSC) Peter Coterill, Clare Felton-Taylor (NSC) Heather Apps, Wayne Deer (NEWA), Penny Fraser (TRLA) Richard Chamen (NSWF) Bruce Muggleton, Matt Hellyar (RMS) Matthew Fletcher (Ess En) Phil Blackmore (NSW DPI) Anna Cronin (DPI Lands) Ben Sharpham (ARTC)
Apologies	Conrad Bolton (NWLLS) Cr Brendon Munn & Ian Schwartz (Moree Plains Shire Council) Cr Peter Pankhurst (Gwydir Shire Council) Jamie Day (NWLLS) Michael Hooper (John Holland Rail) Brian Waldren (Water NSW) Don Ramsland (WSC) Andrew Wright (White Haven) Bruce Diekman (NCC) Cr Beven O'Regan (NSC) Cr Col Stewart (LPSC)
Purpose	Establishment of NWRWC
<b>Review and update Actions Carried Forward - Nil</b>	
<b>Agenda Item #1:</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	Summary of discussion :  Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies, Housekeeping & Introductions. Ken Flower spoke briefly about the NSW Weeds review and his wishes that the NWRWC be a committee that makes a real difference to the future of weed management across the North West.
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	Introductions were made around the room by each delegate. Correspondence received: Nil
<b>Agenda Item #2:</b>	<b>NWRWC Constitution and Membership</b>
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	Summary of discussion : Peter Dawson provided formal applications for membership to delegates were distributed to all present, completed and returned. The NWRWC Constitution was tabled with copies provided to each delegate. The Aims, Objectives & Processes were discussed to ensure common understanding. Opportunity was provided for questions and clarification.
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	Questions arose about Mining and Forestry company representation. Peter Dawson stated that all Mining, Gas and Forestry companies had been invited and that only WhiteHaven had responded with a nominated delegate. It was proposed that the constitution be amended to include NEWA and CMCC as having the right to vote. Agreed and carried The constitution was adopted unanimously.
<b>Agenda Item #3:</b>	<b>Targets and Timeframes</b>
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	Summary of discussion : Matt Davidson provided an overview of the NSW Weed Review process, the key findings and recommendations and the Government response. Other key points included the implications for LLS, allocation of weed management responsibility and the need for coordinated delivery and regional weed management plans. In Scope – out of scope & proposed timeframes.

<p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p>	<p>Main points included;</p> <p>The prescribed tenure neutral approach to weed management across all government, public and private land managers will represent some additional challenges for all but should also provide new opportunities for improved communication and collaboration.</p> <p>Clarity is required in relation to some boundaries and responsibilities for roadside weed control between government agencies and public land managers.</p> <p>NWLLS, RMS, DPI Crown lands and Local Gov to meet and resolve.</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item #4:</b></p>	<p><b>State Weed Committee</b></p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<p>Summary of discussion : Phil Blackmore provided an update on the status of the State Weed Committee. Phil provided an explanation of the Invasion curve</p>
<p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p>	<p>Invasive Species plan should be signed off in early 2016, Regional weed management plans, WAP 2015 – 20 Representation on the State Weed committee was discussed but nothing confirmed yet.</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item #5:</b></p>	<p><b>Election of Executive Committee Members</b></p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<p>Summary of discussion : Peter Dawson called for nominations from the delegates for office bearers for the NWRWC. Chair &amp; Vice 3 Ordinary members</p>
<p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p>	<p>The following were delegates nominated with all in favour;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chair – Conrad Bolton or delegate NWLLS</li> <li>2. Vice chair – Peter Scott – Liverpool Plains Shire Council</li> <li>3. Ordinary member – David Quince – Gunnedah Shire Council</li> <li>4. Ordinary member – Richard Charmon – NSW Farmers</li> <li>5. Ordinary member – Clare Felton Taylor – Narrabri Shire Council</li> <li>6. Secretary &amp; returning officer – Peter Dawson - NWLLS</li> </ol>
<p><b>Agenda Item #6:</b></p>	<p><b>Regional Weed Strategies and Plans</b></p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<p>Peter Dawson provided an overview of NWLLS Invasive Species Prioritisation and Implementation Framework, NSW Invasive Species Plan &amp; Existing Regional Weed Plans</p>
<p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p>	<p>Web link to NWLLS Invasive Species Prioritisation plan to be provided to delegates. Strategy should cover BMP for various weed species or classes Need a list of species to be mapped outside of Noxious weeds i.e Key emerging species. Utilise weed tracer and BIS</p>

<b>Agenda Item #7:</b>	<b>WAP 2015/20</b>
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	<p>Summary of discussion :</p> <p>Wayne Deer (NEWA) provided an update on WAP 2015 – 2020 programs and funding allocations.</p> <p>There is a Statewide decrease of approximately 7% for WAP funding which will probably continue to decline. Some regions have been heavily impacted due to the new funding allocation criteria being employed by NSW DPI.</p> <p>Weed tracer system is established across the region and data can be integrated into Biosecurity Information System (BIS)</p>
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	<p>NEWA as lead agency for WAP 2015-20 is to provide assistance to NWRWC in preparation of draft Regional Weed Plans and Communication Plans.</p>
<b>Agenda Item #8:</b>	<b>Regional roundup – current activities / issues</b>
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	<p>Summary of discussion : Updates from each member org on current programs (5 min each)</p> <p>Shane Green NWLLS provided an update on the NWLLS Community Advisory Committee (C.A.G) including the Aboriginal Community Advisory Committee (A.G.A.G) which is managed by Jamie Day.</p> <p>DPI Crown Lands – Anna Cronin, 3000 reserves managed by 2 staff members. Looking for synergy with current available funding.</p> <p>RMS - Bruce Muggleton, Mowing the NE Hwy, cleaning of machines by placing residue in bags and bins. These works are normally carried out by contractors. It is unclear on who controls noxious weeds on roadsides – local government or RMS?</p> <p>OEH NPWS - Dave Wurst, currently developing weed management plans for reserves.</p> <p>NSW farmers – Richard Charmon, Government needs to show greater commitment and responsibility for control of weeds on roadsides.</p> <p>ARTC - Ben Sharpham, ARTC employs agronomist to provide advice on weed control, mulching mimosa bush along rail corridor from Moree to Narrabri.</p> <p>LPSC – Peter Scott, there has been a very small window of opportunity to conduct weed treatment due to adverse climatic conditions.</p> <p>Gunnedah SC – Lee Amidy, focussing on St John’s Wort control program, Big effort on making roads tidy, current Honey Locust control program with NWLLS funding.</p> <p>CMCC - John Unwin, Hudson pear control on lower flood plain country, some plants up to 8 ft high, very concerned about the spread of Harrisia cacti, Parthenium and Parkinsonia in some areas.</p> <p>Gwydir SC – Steve Kneller, Inspection and control programs have been focused on Harrisia, Green cestrum and Parthenium and a big season on St John’s wort.</p> <p>TRC – Steve Geddes, roadside control programs for St John’s wort, Sweet briar and Chilean needle grass. NWLLS funded projects for Scotch broome at Hanging Rock, Espartillo at Duri, Madeira vine biological control program at Dungowan and Alligator weed eradication program along Peel river.</p>

	<p>TRLA - Penny Fraser, New Regional Landcare Facilitator for Narrabri, Liverpool Plains, Tamworth and Gunnedah is Felicity Steel, NLP competitive funding program for various projects across the district.</p> <p>Narrabri SC – Clare Felton Taylor, extensive Green cestrum program around Eulah and Maules creeks, dealing with mines and St J W, continuing program on African box thorn and pear species, Alligator weed inspection program set down for early 2016 along Namoi river.</p>
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	Shane and Jamie will act as conduits between NWRWC and the CAGs to ensure communication and information is improved.
<b>Agenda Item #9:</b>	<b>Communications</b>
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	Summary of discussion :
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Media release to be sent out in relation to formation of NWRWC</li> </ol>
<b>Agenda Item #10:</b>	<b>Future Agenda items</b>
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	Summary of discussion :
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	<p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Set up email network for updates</li> <li>2. Delineation and responsibilities for roadside weed control</li> <li>3. Draft Regional Weed plan for comment</li> <li>4. Update on NSW Biosecurity Act and Regulations</li> </ol> <p>Any additional agenda items are to be sent to the Secretary – Peter Dawson – NWLLS no later than 3 weeks prior to the next meeting.</p>
<b>Agenda Item #11:</b>	<b>Confirm actions/agreements</b>
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	Summary of discussion : Key outcomes – media & coms
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	<p>Actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NWLLS TSR staff to attend upon request.</li> <li>2. NWLLS, RMS, DPI Crown lands and Local Gov to meet and clarify delineation and responsibilities for roadside weed control.</li> <li>3. List of member contact details to be sent out to all.</li> <li>4. Amended NWRWC Constitution to be sent out to members.</li> <li>5. Web link to NWLLS Invasive Species Prioritisation plan to be provided to delegates.</li> <li>6. NWRWC to provide calendar dates for next meetings. Proposed meeting dates are as follows; Tue 5th April 2016 Tue 7th June 2016 Tue 6th September 2016 Tue 6th December 2016</li> </ol>
<b>Meeting closed at 3.30 pm</b>	