

| North West Regional Weed Committee - Meeting # 10 | |
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| Communication and Action Plan (Minutes) | |
| Thursday August 17 2017 Lightning Ridge Bowling Club | |
| Attendees | Peter Dawson <u>Executive</u> (NWLLS) Andrea Fletcher (CMCC) Lee Amidy, Tony Woods (GUNSC), , Mike Whitney <u>Executive Chair</u> (LPSC) Vicky Lyons <u>Executive</u> (DoI Lands) Ian Schwartz <u>Executive Vice Chair</u> , Phil Blackmore (NSW DPI) Scott McLachlan (GwySC) Clare Felton-Taylor <u>Executive</u> (NSC) Jason Wilson (NWLLS) Cr Jim Maxwell (TRC) Dave Wurst (OEH NPWS) Robyn Henderson (NSW DPI) |
| Apologies | Mal Stein (TRC) Heather Apps, James Browning (NEWA) Matthew Fletcher (Ess En) Shane Green (NWLLS) Penny Fraser (TRLA) Richard Chamen <u>Executive</u> (NSWF) Don McKenzie (Moree Plains SC) Don Ramsland (WSC) Phil Spark (NCC) Conan Rossler, Simon Schuman (FC) Marcela Lopez (NSC) Phil Spark (NCC) Cr Rob Hooke (Gun SC) Wayne Deer (NEWA) Ben Sharpham (ARTC) Conrad Bolton (NWLLS) Mary Knowles (Water NSW) Nick Brown (ARTC) Shane Green (NWLLS) Matt Hellyar (RMS) Saul Standerwick (Gwy SC) Tim Wiseman (ARTC) Warren Faulkner (RMS) Wayne Garnsey (NWLLS) Ross Briggs (TRC) Stephen Kneller (GwySC) Peter Scott (LPSC) Gerard O'Connor (NWLLS) Cr Maxine Booby (NSC) Matt Davidson (NWLLS) Michael Hooper (JHR) Fay Anderson (NWLLS) Andrew Wright (White Haven) Cr Ron Campey (NSC) |
| Purpose | Implementation of North West Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan. |
| Review and update Actions Carried Forward - Nil | |
| Agenda Item #1: | Welcome, Introductions and Apologies |
| Discussion /Options / Points Raised: | Summary of discussion : Meeting opened 10:10am Welcome to Country Country by Jason Wilson NWLLS, Apologies, Housekeeping & Introductions. Apologies accepted; Moved: Scott McLachlan Seconded: Ian Schwartz |
| Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation | Nil |
| Agenda Item #2: | Correspondence |
| Discussion /Options / Points Raised: | Correspondence sent out: 1. Agenda and Minutes of previous meeting. Correspondence received: 1. Gunnedah SC – Lee Amidy 2. NSW DPI – Scott Charlton 3. Phil Blackmore – email re RMS 4. NW LLS – Thanks from NWLLS Board to NWRWC |
| Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation | Nil |
| Agenda Item #3: | Previous minutes |
| Discussion /Options / Points Raised: | Opportunity was given to discuss previous minutes |

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| Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation | Moved that the previous minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting. Moved: Clare Felton-Taylor Seconded: Tony Woods |
| Agenda Item #4: | Business arising |
| Discussion /Options / Points Raised: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peter D and Matthew D to contact Regional RMS management and arrange meeting to discuss concerns and seek clarification of on-going commitment and representation to NWRWC and assistance to LCAs for operational matters. 2. This need has arisen due to following issues; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. on-going blockages in communication between RMS and LCAs b. No clear financial commitment from RMS to regional weed control c. Issues defining road reserves d. G.B.D responsibilities of RMS e. Lack of collaborative approach to partnership funding |
| Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation | 1. Action - Peter D and Matthew D to contact Senior RMS management. NWRWC to refer this matter to State Weed Committee if no adequate response is received from RMS at the regional level. |
| Agenda Item #5: | NW Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan |
| Discussion /Options / Points Raised: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Terms of Reference review for implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the NW RSWMP has now been published, it was proposed that the current NWRWC Terms of Reference be reviewed to reflect implementation objectives. • Due to changes in Lead Agency arrangements for WAP 2015-2020 program delivery from July 1 2017 it was proposed that the current Participant Agreement be reviewed and amendments made to reflect changes. 2. Implementation Strategy / RDAs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of the NW RSWMP should be linked directly with the Capacity Building, Engagement & Communication strategy currently being developed and needs to identify synergies with NW LLS Regional Delivery Actions and NSW Invasive Species Plan 2016-2023. 3. Priority species for targeted campaigns – Top 6 <p>NW LLS has identified Target Priorities for 2017/2018 NRM Investment program. The Priority Weeds program under Catchment Action NSW will focus on priority invasive species impacting on priority biodiversity assets and their surrounds.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hudson pear 2. Alligator weed 3. Harrisia cactus 4. Mother of Millions 5. Tiger pear 6. Green Cestrum <p>This program will also aim at increasing the awareness and capacity of stakeholders to manage key threatening processes.</p> |

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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Local Weed Management plans / BMP A key deliverable under the NWRSWMP is to develop Local Weed Management plans or BMPs for priority species. Two potential templates were discussed with agreement around the room to use one existing template based on African box thorn. Discussion was held around which priority species should be focused on for the upcoming Spring Summer control season. It was agreed that Peter D would allocate species to each LCA Officer for them to develop draft LWMPs to share the workload and to provide local expertise. Draft LWMPs will be reviewed by NWRWC at the next meeting. 5. Upcoming Education and Awareness activities will include Ag Quip at Gunnedah. There was discussion and agreement to work with Northern Tablelands LLS and NEWA to revise the Weed Management Guide for the North West (Dead cow book) as soon as possible as this is a valuable resource and requires updating to bring it in line with the Biosecurity Act. 6. Lee Amidy offered to develop a draft GBD fact sheet to send out to Rate payers including FAQs with a local flavour and contact LCA Authorised Officer contact details. 7. Dave Wurst reported that OEH NPWS is currently undergoing major structural changes. NPWS Priority control programs will need to be linked to State plans as well as linking to RSWMPs with quarterly review of progress against plans. 8. Peter D reported that State TSR Management Plans were currently under development and would need to recognise linkages to RSWMPs and demonstrate G.B.D compliance with improved mapping targets for spacial representation and reporting. 9. Vicky Lyons reported that the NWRSWMP had been circulated to all on-ground NRM staff. Vicky also commented that DOI Lands & Forestry has no current standardised mapping or reporting system for weed control on crown lands. Relevant DOI Lands & Forestry staff are to undertake online Biosecurity training as soon as practicable. 10. Mike Whitney raised concern about changes to Crown Land Title searches with the privatisation of LPI and asked for clarification on LCA access to this information into the future. |
| <p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Action – Peter D to review NWRWC Terms of Reference to reflect implementation objectives for next meeting. 2. Action – Peter D to send web link to NWLLS Funding page to NWRWC members 3. Action – Peter D to send Template and allocate priority species to each LCA Officer for them to develop draft LWMPs. 4. Action – LCA Officers to develop draft LWMPs and check against Weed Wise BMPs for review by NWRWC 5. Action – Peter D to discuss revision of the Weed Management Guide for the North West (Dead cow book) with Heather Apps NEWA and NT LLS. 6. Action – Lee Amidy to develop draft GBD fact sheet to send out to Rate payers. 7. Action – Vicky Lyons to confirm LCA access to Crown Land Title searches and report back to next meeting. <p style="text-align: center;">Meeting was suspended at 10.26 am for a short break Meeting reconvened at 10.46 am</p> |

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| <p>Agenda Item #6:</p> | <p>NW WAP 2015-20</p> |
| <p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p> | <p>Amended Guidelines for WAP Year 2 Version 1.0 have been sent out to all WAP proponents. The revised guidelines do not require new submissions to be made for the balance of the 2017-20 period. The intent is to guide change implementation which will only require amendments to the existing submissions via the “Project Variation Request” process.</p> <p>Lead Agency Transitions Peter D reported that the review into the NSW DPI WAP allocation process was currently underway and that no further communication has been received to date.</p> <p>WAP Mandatory Documents There are two issues with the mandatory documents. They are very much internal documents for the regions and not something that the department is going to set standards on to a large degree. They do not require the department’s approval. NSW DPI have advised LLS Weeds CoP they have stretched the time for these out to 2018 simply because changes anticipated are still on-going. They are not looking to re-invent the wheel on these. There is seven years’ worth of learning on these documents that needs to be considered as a revision of them and not starting from scratch. It is important to the WAP program and achievement of the target. They will not be mandating a huge amount of the content or standards on these in the future. Implementation and enabling of the document to get a standard approach to things. The Invasive Species Officers are the first point of call for these for any questions.</p> <p>Mandatory documents, Regional Sub-programs Mandatory WAP documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional high risk pathways and sites management plan • Incursion plan for high risk weeds • Rapid response plan • Regional inspection program • Communication strategy • MERI Plan <p>Phil B reported that the NSW Invasive Species Plan 2016-2023 was still under development awaiting the outcome of the Pest Animal review and responses. It is understood that the ISP should be completed within the next 2 months.</p> |
| <p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p> | <p>Peter D confirmed that NWLLS has taken on the role of lead organisation and this decision has been communicated to the General Managers of all LCAs.</p> |
| <p>Agenda Item #7:</p> | <p>General Business</p> |
| <p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p> | <p>NWLLS F18 A.I.P – Priority Weeds Peter D reported on the NW LLS has identified Target Priorities for 2017/2018 NRM Investment program under Agenda Item #5</p> <p>Ag Quip display and attendees were discussed with all LCA Officers to confirm their attendance with Lee Amidy. Lee will be collecting Water weed samples for display, Pete D to provide Hudson pear sample in Bio case. Lee to invite NEWA Officers to attend.</p> |

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| | <p>Confirm access for inspections on Rail Corridors Both John Holland and ARTC have training and induction processes for access to rail corridors under their control for inspection purposes. This matter was discussed at the North West Weeds Officers meeting and will be dealt with as an operational matter for LCAs.</p> <p>Phil B commented that Permits for display and education purposes had transitioned to the Biosecurity Act however all LCAs need to check the current status of any existing permits for validity.</p> <p>Clare FT raised concern about some TSRs which appeared to have no adequate annual control programs in place and asked if there was any opportunity for collaborative partnership projects between LCAs and LLS via MOUs or Tender process. After discussion was held around the room as to whether there was any risk of a potential for a conflict of interest with LCAs undertaking compliance and control works it was agreed that a distinct separation of functions was required.</p> <p>Peter D responded that LCAs were able to put in an expression of interest for the NWLLS F8 Priority Weeds program online at the NWLLS Website.</p> <p>Peter D requested LCA Officers to forward a list of priority TSRs of concern for weed control by NW LLS.</p> |
| <p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p> | <p>Action – LCAs to check the current status of any existing permits for validity. Action - LCA Officers to forward a list of priority TSRs to Peter D</p> |
| <p>Agenda Item #8:</p> | <p>Confirm actions/agreements</p> |
| <p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Action - Peter D and Matthew D to contact Senior RMS management 2. Action – Peter D to review NWRWC Terms of Reference to reflect implementation objectives for next meeting. 3. Action – Peter D to send web link to NWLLS Funding page to NWRWC members 4. Action – Peter D to send Template and allocate priority species to each LCA Officer for them to develop draft LWMPs. 5. Action – LCA Officers to develop draft LWMPs and check against Weed Wise BMPs for review by NWRWC 6. Action – Peter D to discuss revision of the Weed Management Guide for the North West (Dead cow book) with Heather Apps NEWA and NT LLS. 7. Action – Lee Amidy to develop draft GBD fact sheet to send out to Rate payers. 8. Action – Vicky Lyons to confirm LCA access to Crown Land Title searches and report back to next meeting. 9. Action – LCAs to check the current status of any existing permits for validity. 10. Action - LCA Officers to forward a list of priority TSRs to Peter D |
| <p>Agenda Item #9:</p> | <p>Future Agenda items / Confirm meeting dates and locations for future meetings</p> |
| <p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter D moved that the meeting set down for Thursday October 12 in Moree be cancelled for operational reasons – Carried unanimously • Next meeting - Thursday December 14 - Lake keepit Sport & Rec Gunnedah - Confirmed |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Meeting closed at 12.55 pm</p> | |