

North West Regional Weed Committee - Meeting # 12	
Communication and Action Plan (Minutes)	
Thursday 8 February 2018 Moree Services Club, Albert Street Moree	
Attendees	Peter Dawson <u>Executive Officer</u> (NWLLS) Mike Whitney <u>Chair</u> (LPSC) Vicky Lyons <u>Executive</u> (DoI Lands) Ian Schwartz <u>Vice Chair</u> , Scott McLachlan (GwySC) Clare Felton-Taylor <u>Executive</u> (NSC) Cr Jim Maxwell (TRC) Don Mackenzie (MPSC) Rob Burr (TRC) Geoff Cruickshank (NWLLS) Wayne Garnsey (NWLLS) Andrea Fletcher, Matt Savage (CMCC) Tony Woods (GUNSC) Andrew Wright (White Haven Coal) Phil Blackmore (NSW DPI)
Apologies	Pete Turner (NSW DPI) Keith Harris (NWLLS) Richard Chamen <u>Executive</u> (NSWF) Don Ramsland (WSC) Phil Spark (NCC) Conan Rossler (FC), Simon Schuman (FC) Marcela Lopez (NSC) Cr Rob Hooke (Gun SC) 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) Ross Briggs (TRC) Cr Maxine Booby (NSC) Matt Davidson (NWLLS) Michael Hooper (NWLLS) Cr Ron Campey (NSC) Robyn Henderson (NSW DPI) Scott Charlton (NSW DPI) Dave Wurst (OEH NPWS) Raj Shilpakar (NWLLS) Mal Stein (TRC) Stephen Kneller (GwySC) Peter Scott (LPSC) Julie Clancy (TRLA) Brett Hanly (Whitehaven Coal) Lee Amidy (GUNSC)
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 9.45 am Acknowledgement of Country, Apologies, Housekeeping & Introductions. The committee welcomed local NWLLS Board member Geoff Cruickshank to the meeting. Apologies accepted; Moved: Don Mackenzie Seconded: Ian Schwartz
Agenda Item #2:	Correspondence
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	Correspondence sent out: 1. Agenda and Minutes of previous meeting. 2. NWRWC Letter to SWC Correspondence received: 1. OEH NPWS 2. Conan Rossler, Forestry Corp update on activities With respect to spraying – late last year we sprayed about 40ha’ s of heavily infested Mother of Millions in Janewindi SF. We plan to follow up on this in the next 6 weeks or so once the heat comes off. They are also planning to spray some Common Pear in Spring Ridge SF in the next 2 months or so.
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	These items are covered within the agenda and minutes.
Agenda Item #3:	Previous minutes
Discussion /Options / Points Raised:	Opportunity was given to discuss previous minutes
Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation	Moved that the previous minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting. Moved: Cr Jim Maxwell Seconded: Tony Woods

<p>Agenda Item #4:</p>	<p>Business arising</p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<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. Lee Amidy tabled a draft GBD fact sheet to send out to Rate payers including FAQs with a local flavour and contact LCA Authorised Officer contact details. It was stated that whilst there is a lot of information on the NSW DPI Web site, it is not as easily accessible to those landholders who don't have computer access. Phil Blackmore has edited this document to be finalised 3. Local Weed BMPs are now known as "Regional Best Practice Guides" RBPGs
<p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Action – NW Weeds Officers to forward final Word versions of Local RBPGs to PD& MW 2. Action - Peter D and L Amidy to forward final GBD fact sheet to NSW DPI for any further technical review and comment prior to release.
<p>Agenda Item #5:</p>	<p>State Weed Committee update</p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delegates were shown a copy of the letter from NW RWC Chair to State Weed Committee regarding Regional Weed Committee Stakeholder commitment. 2. Biosecurity Act & Regulation Fact sheet received "Weed management on roads" was reviewed. Opinion around the room was that this was a feel good exercise with no new information of any use to delegates.
<p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p>	<p>Action – NW Weeds Officers and other stakeholders to document local issues and examples of problems with dealings with RMS and their employees or contractors in undertaking "Weed management on roads" to be reviewed.</p>
<p>Agenda Item #6:</p>	<p>North West WAP 2017/2018</p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<p>Mandatory documents,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. North West Regional Weed Incursion Plan 2017-22 2. North West Regional Rapid Response Plan 2017-22 3. North West Regional Inspection Program 2017-22 4. North West Regional Communications Strategy 2017-22
<p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p>	<p>Current draft plans were reviewed in their entirety. It is recognised that these are only semi-public documents not for consultation. They should be read as operational actions plans which are clear and concise and can be followed accurately by any level of employee or stakeholder.</p> <p>Action – Pete D to amend all documents with relevant changes as agreed for further review at next meeting.</p> <p>Meeting was suspended at 11:30am for a short break</p> <p>Meeting reconvened at 11:45 am</p>

<p>Agenda Item #7:</p>	<p>North West WAP 2017/2018</p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<p>North West Weeds Guide – “Dead Cow book”</p>
<p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p>	<p>Information supplied from Heather Apps NEWA indicates that to print 20,000 copies of the North West Weeds Guide it will cost roughly \$22,000, and 20,000 copies will be \$37,000</p> <p>NT LLS could likely put in \$5,000, hoping NWLLS can do \$5,000 and DPI \$5,000 – what is the feeling that each WAP stakeholder put in \$1000 out of their extension budget - would give us \$4,000 NT Councils , \$7,000 NW Councils, a few advertisers and we go for 15,000 copies Or just go for 10,000 and put in less per council?</p> <p>Peter D stated that NWLLS has allocated approximately \$10K from 2017-18 WAP budget to contribute towards this publication as it is a high value product with solid market place acceptance and appeal.</p> <p>Action – Pete D to confirm with Heather Apps Action – NW Weeds Officers to review draft document wording in relation to Biosecurity Act & Regs</p>
<p>Agenda Item #8:</p>	<p>BIS</p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<p>There are obviously still on-going challenges in uploading mapping data into BIS with all LCAs reporting difficulties with some Third party products and services.\</p> <p>Phil Blackmore provided the following report;</p> <p>Some LCA websites are out of date A review of local control authority websites has revealed that many are out of date, with references to the <i>Noxious Weeds Act 1993</i> and noxious weed control categories. NSW DPI will assist those LCAs to produce a generic webpage to reflect the change of weeds legislation to the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>, should they wish. Several LCAs have already updated their website to reflect the legislative change and I can provide details of those LCAs to those who may wish to contact them direct.</p> <p>Fees for preparing Individual Biosecurity Directions and Biosecurity Undertakings The <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (s132 and s146) allows for the charging of a fee for preparing and giving a Direction or receiving an Undertaking. This fee must be as provided by or calculated in accordance with, the regulations. A fees regulation has not yet been made for these activities, so no fee can be charged at this stage under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>. However, local control authorities may wish to establish a fee under Section 608 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>.</p> <p>Biosecurity Information System Excellent reports are now coming in for BIS for all LCAs in the region, which is very pleasing to see. For those local control authorities that are still struggling to comply with the requirement to report through BIS, please see the attached letter. (BIS direction letter) to LCA GMs tabled from Bruce Christie, Deputy Director General Biosecurity and Food Safety</p>

	<p>WAP 1520 Grants for Year 3</p> <p>These grants have now been paid after some considerable and unfortunate delays. It is hoped that these delays will not be repeated in Year 4 as Local Land Services becomes more familiar with the process and their role as Lead Agency.</p> <p>Provisions relating to supply of information to prospective purchasers regarding <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> instruments.</p> <p>The <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> commenced more than 7 months ago. Clause 28 to Schedule 7 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> has not yet been declared to be a superseded instrument, so the saving provision in relation to the <i>Noxious Weeds Act 1993</i> s64 still has effect. So local control authorities can continue to issue Section 64 Certificates under the <i>Noxious Weeds Act 1993</i> as they see fit in relation Weed Control Notices or charges on land in relation to Section 20 work carried out under that Act.</p> <p>However, whether local control authorities should continue to issue these certificates for a fee, knowing that they have no outstanding Weed Control Notices or charges on land is a matter for their own conscience.</p> <p>The responsibility for making potential buyers aware of Individual Biosecurity Directions etc issued under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> is now the vendor's responsibility under the implied warranty provisions in relation to adverse affectations on land contained in the <i>Conveyancing (Sale of Land) Regulation 2017</i>.</p> <p>If a potential buyer wanted an LCA to conduct an inspection of the property, this should only done on the basis that it was voluntary inspection that the owner could refuse. Authorised officers from the LCA are not to use their powers of entry under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> in this case. The owner of the property would need to give his or her approval for the results of the inspection to be reported to a third party.</p> <p>Regional Weed Coordination Forum</p> <p>NSW DPI is conducting a forum for new and existing Regional Weed Coordinators in Sydney on 14 February 2018. The purpose of the forum is to identify opportunities to optimise regional weed coordination and collaboration and to provide tools to assist with regional weed coordination and collaboration.</p>
<p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p>	<p>Action-NW LCAs to send BIS compliance report through to Pete D to forward and discuss with NSW DPI</p> <p>Action – LCA Web sites to be updated to reflect NWRSWMP and Biosecurity Act</p> <p>Action – BIS regional report card to be included in future RWC agendas</p>
<p>Agenda Item #9:</p>	<p>Regional Weed Coordinator role</p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<p>Pete D confirmed the Regional Weed Coordinator role description and responsibilities.</p> <p>The North West Regional Weed Coordinator Role Description includes but is not limited to the following;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Function as the Executive Officer for the North West Regional Weed Committee including provision of executive support for operation, logistics, business papers, reporting and communications.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Coordinate and manage implementation of the North West WAP 1520. 3. Development of Mandatory WAP documents including; 4. NW Regional Inspection Plan 5. NW Regional Weed Incursion Plan 6. NW Rapid Response Plan 7. NW Capacity Building, Engagement & Communications Strategy 8. Coordinate implementation of the North West RSWMP. 9. Administer the North West WAP budgets and reporting processes. 10. Report to the NW Regional Weed Committee on weed matters within the region. 11. Report to the NW Regional Weed Committee for the purposes of WAP1520. 12. Liaise with state and regional partners and stakeholders to promote effective cross jurisdictional arrangements. 13. Meet agreed key performance indicators linked to the role description and report to NWLLS management and the NW Regional Weed Committee.
<p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p>	<p>Pete D stated that this role was being undertaken in conjunction with NWLLS NRM Investment programs and other duties as required.</p>
<p>Agenda Item #10:</p>	<p>General Business</p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NSW DPI Weeds Awareness Advisory Committee - first survey has been posted on the weeds extranet, however future contact will be limited to the advisory group. 2. Vicky Lyons informed delegates of Crown Lands Public Reserve Management Fund (PRMF) has opened on Monday 5 February and will close on Friday 9 March. Some members of the NW RWC may be asked to join the assessment panel for North West weed applications. The proposed time frame for assessment is 26 March to 13 April. 3. Peter D proposed to review future NW RWC agenda structures. The aim is to combine NWRWC meetings and Weed Officers meetings with the morning session dedicated to RWC business followed after lunch with a Weed Officers meeting to focus on operational requirements. We are conscious that all delegates have limited time and budgets available to attend meetings and we hope to increase the value of future meeting where possible. 4. Phil B asked if NW were happy to combined NWLLS/ NTLLS RWC meetings
<p>Decision/ agreement/ action/ Recommendation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In response to combined RWC meetings, NW RWC delegates agreed in principle to support the idea of combined meetings where appropriate as it is a good opportunity to maintain cross regional information flow and collaboration. • It is noted that remaining NW RWC meeting dates and locations are locked in for 2018 and are rotated around the North West region which may pose a challenge to combined meetings. • It was agreed that the NW Chair and Exec Officer may be able to attend cross regional RWC meetings as a delegation in the future. • Action – NW Chair and Exec Officer to follow up discussions with NT RWC about possible options for cross regional meetings.

<p>Agenda Item #11:</p>	<p>Confirm actions/agreements</p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Action – NW Weeds Officers to forward final Word versions of Local RBPGs to PD& MW 2. Action - Peter D and L Amidy to forward final GBD fact sheet to NSW DPI for any further technical review and comment prior to release. 3. Action – NW Weeds Officers and other stakeholders to document local issues and examples of problems with dealings with RMS and their employees or contractors in undertaking “Weed management on roads” to be reviewed. 4. Action – Pete D to amend all documents with relevant changes as agreed for further review at next meeting. 5. Action – Pete D to confirm with Heather Apps 6. Action – NW Weeds Officers to review draft document wording in relation to Biosecurity Act & Regs 7. Action-NW LCAs to send BIS compliance report through to Pete D to forward and discuss with NSW DPI 8. Action – LCA Web sites to be updated to reflect NWRSWMP and Biosecurity Act 9. Action – BIS regional report card to be included in future RWC agendas 10. Action – NW Chair and Exec Officer to follow up discussions with NT RWC about possible options for cross regional meetings.
<p>Agenda Item #12:</p>	<p>Future Agenda items / Confirm meeting dates and locations for future meetings</p>
<p>Discussion /Options / Points Raised:</p>	<p>Confirmed future 2018 meeting dates;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. May – Thursday 10th - Narrabri 2. August – Thursday 9th - Lightning Ridge 3. November – Thursday 8th - Lake Keepit
<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting closed at 2.40 pm</p>	