

Central Coast Council

Weed Management Plan 2023



February 2023

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Cover Image: Spanish Heath – *Erica lusitanica*. Photo courtesy of Louise Murphy

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Central Coast Council acknowledges and pays respect to the traditional owners of Lutruwita (Tasmania), the Palawa–Pakana people.

We acknowledge the Punnilerpanner tribe of the Northern Country, and in doing so, we celebrate one of the world's oldest continuous cultures. We also acknowledge the rich diversity in Aboriginal community including individuals and groups who share a responsibility to care for Country and culture, both now and into the future.

We pay our respects to Elders, past, present, and emerging.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Weed Management Plan provides a framework for weed action within the Central Coast Council area.

The Council has made encouraging progress on tackling weed issues on Council managed land to date. This has been achieved through the combined efforts of local volunteer community groups and Council staff, with strategic planning in local reserves and a coordinated and sustained level of on-ground works. With much of the community supporting native vegetation, forestry, and agricultural land, only a relatively small percentage of land falls under Council management. One of the important challenges within the Central Coast is to take a strategic and collaborative approach to achieve weed management outcomes across the whole of the area.

The Central Coast Council Weed Management Plan 2022 identifies key management issues and addresses the following principal goals:

- . Responsibility for weed control is shared by the Central Coast Council, stakeholders and community. Weed management practices supports healthy, diverse, and connected natural environments
- . Weed management supports profitable, productive, and sustainable primary industries.
- . Weed management is supported by coordinated, collaborative and innovative leadership

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INTRODUCTION

Weed management is an essential component of any activity involving environmental landscapes be they natural or manmade. Weeds pose not only significant economic, but also health and ecological risks to land managers. Left unchecked, weeds can change and impact landscapes in a way that prevents the natural systems of an area operating correctly. This in turn can lead to a lack of biodiversity and loss of species and species habitat. When weed species replace native vegetation, they can form dense areas of vegetation that shade and smother native species and may alter key environmental events such as the frequency of fire.

BACKGROUND

3.1 The Central Coast Council area

The Central Coast Council covers an area of approximately 900 square kilometres and is nestled between Bass Strait on the northern perimeter and Black Bluff range to the south, with the Blythe River forming the western boundary, and the Forth River on the eastern boundary. The landscape is composed of gentle shores and rolling hills which are interspersed with rugged ranges.

The total population of the Central Coast is around 21,000, and of this total approximately 85% live on the coastal fringe. The principal towns are Ulverstone and Penguin, and between them have around 17,500 residents.

The climate is mild maritime, with an average daily maximum of 12°C in the winter, and 20°C in summer. The minimum average annual temperatures range from 6°C in winter, to 12° C in summer. Add to the climate an average annual rainfall of 900 millimetres and rich agricultural land, and the result is primary production contributes to more than 50% of business turnover. Vegetable crops, livestock production and timber harvesting are all traditional mainstay pursuits, while niche markets of essential oil crops, opium poppies, organic vegetables, flowers, fruits and various high-end-farm-to-plate themed produce continue to grow.

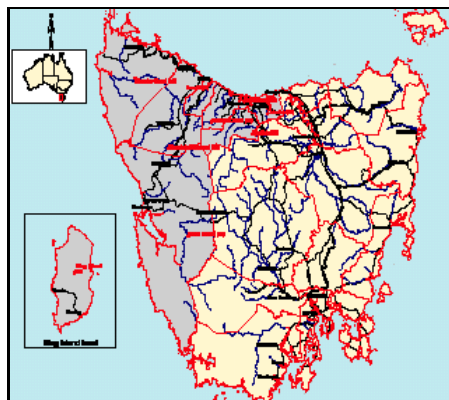


Figure 1: Indicates the National, State and Regional context – Cradle Coast Region shaded.

Source: Cradle Coast Authority.

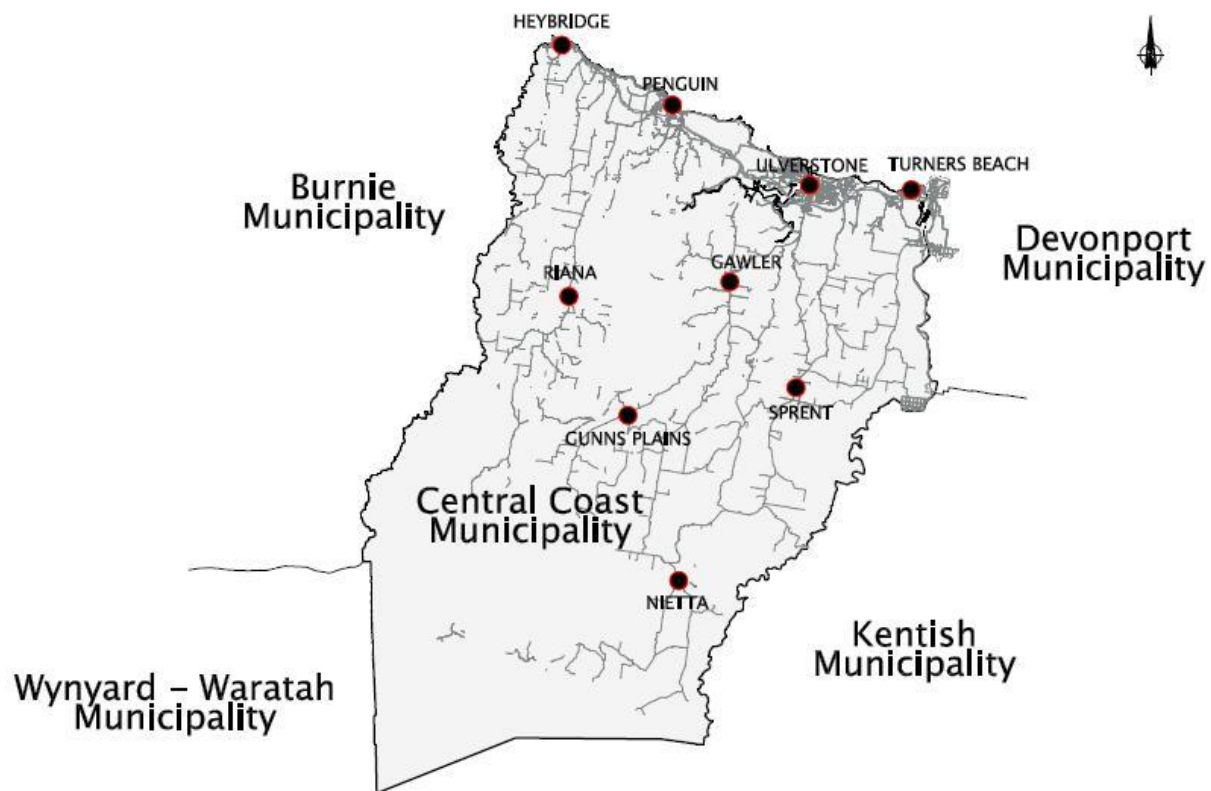


Figure 2 – Central Coast and its neighbours.

Source: Central Coast Council.

3.2 Central Coast Council Municipal Weed Management Plan 2007

Funding was made available through the National Heritage Trust Weeds Program (no longer in existence) to produce the original Central Coast Council Municipal Weed Management Plan in 2007 (1). The document was an opportunity for the Central Coast Council to review existing weed management processes and practices and modify these to ensure consistency of weed management between regional and municipal levels. Around the same time the Cradle Coast Regional Weed Strategy (2) was produced, and then updated in 2010. Additional funding was made available through Cradle Coast NRM to initiate a mapping program but when the grant ended (before the data had been uploaded to the Natural Value Atlas, as intended), the internal focus switched to various, individually managed, singular on-ground efforts. In the absence of a dedicated Weeds Officer at the Central Coast Council and no one to carry the Municipal Weed Management Plan forward, the momentum was lost, coinciding with internal and external funding cuts typical of a general, national trend away from weed issues.

3.3 Central Coast Council Weed Management Plan 2022

The aims and objectives of this Plan are similar to the original Central Coast Council Municipal Weed Management Plan 2007 (1). The Plan specifically covers weed management on Council managed land; owned and leased.

This includes the majority of the coastal Crown Land reserves, parks, reserves, recreation grounds, buffer zones, cemeteries, green belts, foreshore zones, road reservations and miscellaneous properties such as gravel pits and aged person facilities. There are also Council owned land parcels that are leased from the Central Coast Council for recreational purposes by clubs etc., e.g. the Cradle Coast Mountain Bike Club, the Penguin Golf Club, Turners Beach Bowls Club, O.C Ling Caravan Park etc. and while these lease holders are responsible for all land management issues, the Council must have processes in place to ensure that weed control is undertaken on that land. This Plan aims to include management of weeds on private land, initially by mapping weeds across the Central Coast area, with a long-term objective to become active in reporting and inspecting, plus advising, and promoting public awareness.

The gradual withdrawal of overall financial support for weeds over the past 10 years has resulted in a drastic decline in local, State and Federal resource allocation for weed dedicated staff and abandonment of past projects and targets. The situation leaves weed control in the hands of local councils, private landowners and managers and facility managers. With a consistent, realistic, applied approach from within the Central Coast Council, objectives can be achieved, and with a proven track record successes can be built upon for the long-term. Private land issues will only be reachable when weeds on public land are under effective control.

GOALS

The goals and objectives of this Plan align with those of the Australian Weeds Strategy 2017–2027 (3) and the Central Coast Council Natural Resource Management Plan and are informed by the Tasmanian Weed Act 1999 (4). Our goals are:

- 1 Responsibility for regional weed control is shared by all stakeholders and community.
- 2 Weed management practices support healthy, diverse, and connected natural environments.
- 3 Weed management supports profitable, productive, and sustainable primary industries.
- 4 Weed management is supported by coordinated, collaborative and innovative leadership.

The objectives of this Plan, outcomes we expect to see, and the strategies to achieve them, are outlined below (Table 1: Vision, Goals, Outcomes and Strategies of the Central Coast Council Weed Management Plan).

Table 1: Vision, Goals, Outcomes and Strategies of the Central Coast Council Weed Management Plan

| Vision Government, Key Stakeholders, and the people of the Central Coast region working together to protect the environment, economy and community from the negative impacts of weeds | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Goals | Shared Responsibility | Sustainable Landscapes | Collaborative Leadership and Innovation |
| | 1 Responsibility for weed control is shared by all stakeholders and community. | 2 Weed management practices supports healthy, diverse, and connected natural environments. 3 Weed management supports profitable, productive, and sustainable primary industries. | 4 Weed management is supported by coordinated, collaborative and innovative leadership. |
| Objectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote weed management and behavioural change in the community Provide the foundation for all Key Stakeholders within Central Coast to work together, and to fully utilise knowledge and expertise. Increase community awareness and encourage ownership and participation in weed management. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve effectiveness in prevention and response to new weed incursions. Reduce the impacts of weeds with a focus given to areas of med-high biodiversity as identified in the NRM Plan. Understand the impacts of changing climate on weed management practices. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a framework for more detailed planning, monitoring, and reporting of weed management programs. Support leading practice in weed management through ongoing creation and sharing of knowledge and spatial information. |

| | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|--|
| <p>Outcomes</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community, industry, and government are sharing responsibility for weed Management and have clear understanding of their roles and obligations. People have the skills, knowledge, and capacity to deliver weed management activities. Awareness of weed management within Central Coast has improved, with communication and engagement, proactive and inclusive. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weed management is integrated across all tenures. Weeds are monitored at landscape and immerging issues are proactively managed. Weed management is protecting landscape health and key assets important to regional biodiversity. Sensitive Aboriginal cultural heritage areas and areas of high conservation values are protected. Weed biosecurity emergencies and high-risk pathways are well managed. Impacts on high priority assets have been minimised through risk-based weed management programs. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement, collaboration, and involvement of local people in decision making are coordinated. Relevant and timely information supports decision making by the throughout Central Coast and the North West Weeds Advisory Group. Information, monitoring, performance evaluation and reporting systems. A strong evidence and knowledge base is supporting innovation and strengthening research. Changes in weed behaviour under a changing climate are being understood and monitored. |
|------------------------|---|--|--|

DEFINITION

According to the Australian Weed Strategy 2017–2027 (3), a weed is considered pragmatically as a plant that requires some form of action to reduce its negative effects on the economy, the environment, human health, and amenity.

Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) and declared weeds were once a basis for prioritisation, and a means for funding opportunities for land managers (Figure 1). However, the significance of these declarations has lessened in recent years and both WoNS and declared weeds no longer have the funding and resourcing that are necessary for ongoing management action and eradication programs. The reduction in focus at National and State level on these weeds has had a flow-on effect to many land managers in the region. Weeds that were once a high eradication priority are now relegated to a watch and act status in many areas.



Figure 1: Current governance arrangements relating to the WoNS initiative.

However, recent efforts have been made by the Australian Government to reinvigorate the WoNS programs with the development of the draft Nations Established Weed Priorities Framework (5).

LEGISLATION

Plant Quarantine Act (1997)

The *Plant Quarantine Act (1997)* (6) provides for the quarantine of plants and the control of pests and diseases. Biosecurity Tasmania regulates and prohibits the importation of pest plants, animals, and diseases into Tasmania.

Weed Management Act (1999)

The *Weed Management Act 1999* (4) was proclaimed on 1 September 2000. It is the principal legislation concerned with the management of declared weeds in Tasmania. Under the Act, the State Government may:

- . Prohibit the introduction of declared weeds into Tasmania.
- . Undertake the eradication of declared weed species.
- . Take action aimed at preventing the spread of declared weeds within Tasmania.
- . Require that action be taken against declared weed species where this is necessary to alleviate or prevent a problem.

The Act provides for the eradication and control of ‘declared weeds’. There are currently 146 weeds declared under the Act. The importation and sale of these plants is prohibited. All declared plants have a Statutory Weed Management Plan outlining the minimum management requirements of each species across all municipalities. With respect to each declared weed, municipalities are either Zone A or B. In Zone A municipalities, eradication is required, while in Zone B municipalities the goal is containment to prevent further spread.

The Department of Natural Resources and Environment’s Invasive Species Section responsible for preparation and revision of Statutory Weed Management Plans for declared weeds. The plans, and a list of Tasmanian declared weeds are found at: [Weeds Indexes | Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania \(nre.tas.gov.au\)](#) Declared weeds known to be in the Central Coast area are listed in Appendix

LINKS TO NATIONAL, STATE, REGIONAL AND LOCAL WEED STRATEGIES

1 [Australian Weeds Strategy 2017 to 2027](#)

The *Australian Weeds Strategy 2017 to 2027* (3) was released by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania on behalf of the Invasive Plants and Animals Committee. The document replaces the *National Weed Strategy 1997*. (7)

The Strategy has three goals:

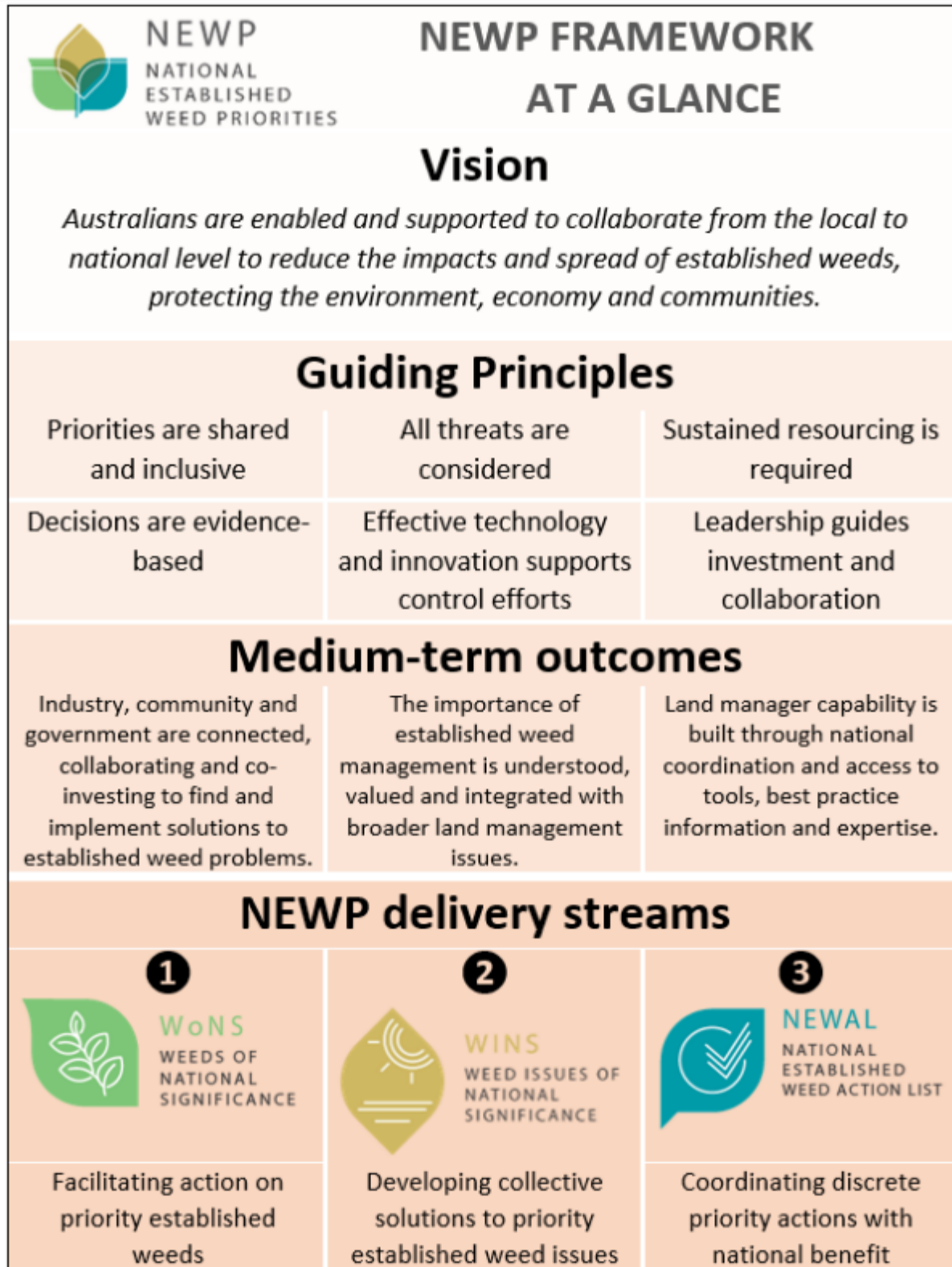
- 1 Prevention, detection, and early intervention.
- 2 Minimise the impact of established weeds.
- 3 Enhance Australia’s capacity and commitment to weed management.

The Strategy outlines eight principles underpinning our national biosecurity system:

- 1 Biosecurity is a shared responsibility between all governments, industry, natural resource managers, custodians or users, and the community.
- 2 In practical terms, zero biosecurity risk is unattainable.
- 3 The pre-border, border and post-border elements of the biosecurity continuum are managed to minimise the likelihood of biosecurity incidents and mitigate their impacts.
- 4 The biosecurity continuum is managed through a nationally integrated system that recognises and defines the roles and responsibilities of all sectors and sets out cooperative activities.
- 5 Activity is undertaken, and investment is allocated according to a cost-effective, science-based and risk-management approach, prioritising the allocation of resources to the areas of greatest return.
- 6 Relevant parties contribute to the cost of biosecurity activities.
- 7 Risk creators and beneficiaries contribute to the cost of risk management measures in proportion to the risks created and/or benefits gained (subject to the efficiency of doing so).
 - a Governments contribute to the cost of risk management measures in proportion to the public good accruing from them.
 - b Governments, industry, and other relevant parties are involved in decision-making, according to their roles, responsibilities and contributions.
- 8 Australia's biosecurity arrangements comply with its international rights and obligations

2 National Established Weed Priorities

In March 2022 a draft framework was initiated through the Weeds Working Group of the Environment and Invasives Committee with funding provided by the Australian Government's Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment. The philosophy of the National Established Weed Priorities Framework (5) is collaboration and co-leadership among stakeholders in industry, community, and government. The Framework describes and guides the development of a long-term, national program for established weeds that is shaped by and developed for land managers of established weeds. It establishes governance and support to work together to determine and act upon Australia's established weed priorities.



WEED ACTION IN OUR REGION

3 Cradle Coast Regional Weed Management Strategy

The Northwest Weed Advisory Group, made up of industry, private, public and government stakeholders from all over the North West meet quarterly to oversee the *Cradle Coast Regional Weed Management Strategy 2010 (2)*.

The *Cradle Coast Regional Weed Management Strategy 2010 (2)* establishes a management framework (e.g. a network of weed officers, information exchange) and promotes a coordinated, cooperative approach to weed management across all land tenures for the region. The Strategy aims to identify priorities and possible weed management actions that could be undertaken in the Cradle Coast region.

The vision for weed management in the Cradle Coast region is:

A region leading the way in protecting natural resources from the impacts of weeds through practical and integrated management involving members of the Cradle Coast community and all levels of government and industry.

Key recommendations of the Strategy that have consequence to municipal management are:

- . Managing regional weed targets cooperatively, partnering for cost effectiveness with an aim to establish an enthusiastic, well informed and widespread network of people involved in weed management;
- . Employment of a Municipal Weed Management Officer to become part of a supported network that is represented by all municipalities;
- . Prevent new weed infestations, rapid response to new or expanding incursions;
- . Manage and map existing weeds;
- . Development of a Municipal Weed Management Plan;
- . Participation of Municipal Weed Officer in quarterly meetings with Regional Officers and Weed Officers from other municipalities to promote co-operation and coordination of weed management activities across the Region.

4 The Central Coast Council Weed action

The Council has already begun a coordinated approach to weed management by implementing collaborative weed control program focused on Spanish heath. The Spanish heath program is an agreement with four other councils located along the North West Coast utilising the Weed Action Fund to help finance the targeted removal of Spanish heath from identified and prioritised areas. Similar coordinated approaches should be investigated for other WoNS within the Central Coast area.

A roadside marker program was trialled in coordination with contractors and Council's Works Group. The trial saw several roads targeted within the Central Coast that had issues with weed spread through mechanical operations. No-slash zones were set up in areas with weeds such as Blue Periwinkle (*Vinca major*) to prevent spread out of those zones. The program ran in conjunction with targeted spray regime that reduced the population of the weeds within the unslashed areas. The trial was a success, and it is recommended that it be expanded across the entire Central Coast as part of the weed management plan.

5 Landcare, Coastcare and Friends of Groups

The Central Coast Council has many active volunteer community groups who undertake to manage and maintain natural areas; generally, weed control and revegetation. Their ongoing commitment and contributions to the areas they maintain is invaluable to the Central Coast and they are recognised as a highly valuable asset. The Council provides them with financial and directional support and is involved in planning actions undertaken by the groups. In most cases the groups are working under the guidance of a Management Plan (see 4.3.7 below). The groups are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Turners Beach CoastCare | Friends of the Leven |
| Friends of the Dunes | Ulverstone CoastCare |
| East Penguin CoastCare | Sulphur Creek CoastCare |
| Friends of Reid Street | Friends of East Ulverstone Beach |
| Riverside Avenue Community Group | + various individuals who care for foreshore and riparian area |

6 Municipal documents of relevance

The Central Coast Council are currently developing a new Natural Resource Management (NRM) Strategy which utilises geographic information system (GIS) data for the region, overlayed by Council management boundaries, lessees, and tenancies. The purpose of the strategy is to focus resources on the areas of high natural values and areas of natural significance. With the lens of the strategy then applied to help develop good environmental, economic, and social management plans underneath the guidelines

Within the Central Coast area parts of the reserved land owned by Crown Land Services is leased to the Council, and under this agreement the Council accept responsibility for weeds. A number of management plans exist for key 'public areas' managed by the Council. In addition, there are several enthusiastic volunteer groups who carry out activities aimed at the preservation or restoration of natural values in specific areas, and in some areas the activities are also guided by management plans.

WEEDS OF THE CENTRAL COAST MUNICIPAL AREA

Overview

Right across Tasmania a range of weed problems exist which result in reduced productivity of agricultural land, plus the degradation of environmental values in bushland, waterways and coastal reserves. In many instances plants from urban areas have 'escaped' and are invading bush and coastal land. This situation is also reflected within the Central Coast Council.

A weed mapping trial is being undertaken on a species-specific basis and added into the GIS systems utilised by Council. The aim of the mapping program is to enhance the current biodiversity index maps. The information will be invaluable to help prioritisation of resources, focus future planning, and help identify potential threats. The program is currently targeting Spanish heath (*Erica lusitanica*) under the NRM North – Weed Action Funds. Depending on the outcome of this trial it is hoped that more weeds will be mapped and added to the GIS systems.

Many weeds impact the Central Coast and several of them pose significant risk to sensitive and bio-diverse areas of importance. Several of these weeds have their own management plans developed. It is recommended that these plans are reviewed under the lens of the new NRM strategy. Weeds which cause significant impact in the Central Coast Municipal area listed in Table 4 and Table 5 in the Appendix.

7 Declared Weeds

Each WoNS within the Central Coast area is also a declared weed.

Twenty-three other plants declared under the Tasmanian Weed Management Act (1999) (4) have been identified within the Central Coast area (Table 4). Included are minimum management

requirements for each weed as outlined in the current Statutory Weed Management Plans under the Act, together with specific actions to be undertaken by the Council.

As a minimum under the Legislation, Zone A weeds are to be eradicated, while Zone B weeds are to be contained. However, in some cases setting of Central Coast Council sub-municipal Zone A/Zone B boundaries may be greatly advantageous to the management of weeds in the Central Coast Municipal area. Other declared weeds for which sub-municipal boundaries may be appropriate include willow, English broom and Montpellier broom, and Spanish heath. As the Central Coast Municipal weed mapping program becomes more comprehensive, it is recommended that the Natural Resources/Weeds Officer, in conjunction with Council and DPIPW, move to establish and enforce other appropriate sub-municipal Zone A and Zone B boundaries.

8 Regionally, Locally Significant Weeds, Environmental Weeds

There are several weeds, some declared, others not, some deemed Environmental Weeds, which are having significant local impacts and may otherwise be ignored because they are not necessarily on the State or Federal target lists (Table 5: List of environmental weeds potentially found in the Central Coast Municipal area). There are also many weeds which are high profile in the minds of the public – this may be because the weed/s are affecting agricultural productivity or simply affecting lawns, e.g. capeweed (*Arctotheca calendula*). Regionally, Spanish heath is an emerging threat that if left unmanaged will rapidly become an insurmountable issue for North-west Tasmania. Similarly, Fox Gloves (*Digitalis pupurea*) is emerging as a significant threat to the region. Currently there is a push from the local community for action on this threat and action by the Tasmanian Government is being sought by the Northwest Weed Advisory Group, backed by the Cradle Coast Authority and NRM North.

PLAN ACTIONS

9 Central Coast Council Plan Implementation

This section covers actions required to achieve the goals set out in this plan. The actions developed are associated regional measures of performance are based on best available information and scientific relevance to weed management. Objectives contain multiple actions to assist in achieving the goals and are identified in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Goals, objectives, and actions of the Central Coast Council Weed Management Plan

| GOAL 1. Responsibility for weed control is shared by the CENTRAL COAST stakeholders and community | |
|---|---|
| Objectives | Actions |
| 1.1 Promote weed management and behavioural change in the community. | 1.1.1 Promote and attend local events with a NRM focus to educate and inform of weed management practices encouraging behavioral change within Central Coast. |
| 1.2 Provide the foundation for all Key Stakeholders within Central Coast to work together, and to fully utilise knowledge and expertise. | 1.2.1 Develop partnerships and support tenure neutral weed management. 1.2.2 Foster network, alliance and Aboriginal engagement that support communities and stakeholders in weed management activities. 1.2.3 Provide support and resources to community groups to assist with management of key areas of interest |
| 1.3 Increase community awareness and encourage ownership and participation in weed management. | 1.3.1 Enhance existing communication networks to increase effective dissemination of weed management information and understanding of shared responsibility. 1.3.2 Work with local schools to develop knowledge and capacity in weed management practices |

GOAL 2. Weed management practices supports healthy, diverse, and connected natural environments

and

GOAL 3. Weed management supports profitable, productive, and sustainable primary industries.

| Objectives | Actions |
|--|--|
| 2 –3.1. Improve effectiveness in prevention and response to new weed incursions. | <p>2–3.1.1 Develop standardised and consistent planning for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weeds listed in Table 2 as identified under the NRM Plan New weed incursion, including rapid response plans and associated cost sharing arrangement <p>2–3.1.2 Meet Statutory weed management responsibilities.</p> <p>2–3.2.3 Ensure management occurs for high priority weeds in alignment with relevant State, Regional, and CCC objectives.</p> <p>2–3.1.4 Promote integrated management practices and best practice weed management to minimise the spread and reduce the impacts of established weeds.</p> |
| 2 –3.2. Reduce the impacts of weeds with a focus given to areas of med–high biodiversity as identified in the NRM Plan. | <p>2–3.2.1 Support the ongoing development and coordination of cooperative programs in priority sites.</p> <p>2–3.2.2 Actively manage, and preference resource high priority areas as flagged under the CCC NRM Plan.</p> <p>2–3.2.3 Continue to contribute to state and national arrangements for managing established weeds.</p> |
| 2 –3.3. Understand the impacts of changing climate/s on weed management practices. | <p>2–3.3.1 Use the information collected from research, local community groups, contractors and works department, and regional stakeholder bodies to inform an adaptive management approach to CCC weed management projects, plans, programs and policies.</p> |

GOAL 4. Weed management is supported by coordinated, collaborative and innovative leadership

| Objectives | Actions |
|---|--|
| 4.1. Provide a framework for more detailed planning, monitoring, and reporting of weed management programs. | <p>4.1.1 Work in collaborative partnerships with all stakeholders to implement this plan.</p> <p>4.1.2 Support the functions and business needs of the Northwest Weed Advisory Group.</p> <p>4.1.3 Develop strategies for integrated departmental planning and reporting actions that reduce the risk of weed spread and inhabitation.</p> <p>4.1.4 Share information with other jurisdictions and regional partners on approach, progress, and innovation with weed management.</p> |
| 4.2 Support leading practice in weed management through ongoing creation and sharing of knowledge and spatial information. | <p>4.2.1 Using GIS database and Council NRM Plan develop a list of priority weeds for action.</p> <p>4.2.2 Work with GIS officer, Works Depot and Contractors to identify and apply locational coordinates to priority weeds.</p> <p>4.2.3 Share new weed sites to the Natural Values Assets website as data becomes available.</p> |

ACHIEVING EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF WEEDS**10 Resources**

Generally, resources to directly implement weed control are the responsibility of the land manager. However, coordination of efforts at the Regional and Municipal levels, and good sources of information on identification and treatment methods can greatly improve results of weed control actions.

When and if grant funding is available and obtainable it is important that any targeted control is part of a long-term and committed control regime because such funding is typically a one-off without support for follow-up and on-going requirements.

Weed management is often a long-term process and a correspondingly long-term commitment to funding is required. Failure to allocate sufficient funds for follow-up monitoring and maintenance works often leads to a waste of the initial investment. Preparation of weed management plans will assist land managers to overcome many of these issues. Amongst other things, a weed management plan assists in predicting the level of resources required over time to adequately address particular weed management issues, thereby assisting planning and budgetary processes. Alternatively, if the weed problem is greater than available resources can initially control, the preparation of a weed management plan enables funding to be used to greatest effect by prioritising available resources.

Key performance indicators (KPIs) have been linked to actions to support the aims and objectives of this plan (Table 3). For the plan to be effective continuing review of KPIs is crucial and yearly assessment of the relevance of KPIs is recommended.

Table 3 Key Performance Indicators for weed management in the Central Coast Council Municipal area. Indicators are associated with the action numbers they pertain to, and monitoring and responsibility are defined.

| Action | Measurement | Target | Source | Review | Responsibility |
|--|---|---------------|---|---------------|--|
| 1.1.1 1.2.2 2-3.1 4.1 | Active attendance at events held by local and regional stakeholders, industry, community groups and governance bodies. | 10 a year | NRM Officer | Annually | NRM Officer Relevant Works Department Personnel |
| 1.1.1 2-3.3.1 3.1.4 4.1.4 | Create and distribute weed management promotional material, campaigns, events, media releases, social media, websites, e-newsletters, brochures and other publications. | 4 per year | Council website Council document management system | Quarterly | NRM Officer Relevant Council Departments |

| Action | Measurement | Target | Source | Review | Responsibility |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|---------------|--|
| 1.1.1 1.2.2 1.2.3 4.1.4 | Gather and maintain relevant and Up to date management materials and equipment for educational and instructive purposes. | No less than 10 pieces of any given material is currently in stock | Equipment audit | Annually | NRM Officer |
| 4.2 | Weed maps are up to date with new sites added and currently well controlled sites noted for ongoing monitoring. | | ListMap Council GIS system Weed database app | Quarterly | GIS Officer NRM Officer |
| 4.2 | Staff are recording and actively monitoring target weeds | All on-ground staff install and utilising weed app | ListMap Weed app to be selection | Monthly | Manager Construction & Maintenance Works Department Staff |
| 2-3.1 | Target weeds are reducing in prevalence in the CENTRAL COAST | 50 per cent reduction of weed pressures in key target areas over 5 years | Visual Auditing of known weed sites | Annually | NRM Officer Manage Works Services |
| 1.2.1 1.2.2 2-3.2.2 2-3.2.3 | Develop and/or actively participate in collaborative weed management programmes with other LGA, local and state governance bodies, community | 1 project a year | Information record of contacts and agreements | Annually | NRM Officer |

| Action | Measurement | Target | Source | Review | Responsibility |
|--------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 4.1 | groups and stakeholders | | Budget audits Share folders | | |
| 4.1 4.2 | On-ground management activities and reports are interdepartmentally accessible with up to date information | Increase in knowledge across council of NRM relevant information | Share Folders | Annually | All Council |

11 Weed identification and treatment methods

There is a range of information available to assist with identification and treatment of weeds, including:

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA SERVICE SHEETS

The Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania prepares and publishes a variety of service sheets detailing best practice control measures for declared and other weeds, with sheets currently available for a range of weeds and herbicides registered in Tasmania.

Service sheets can be found here:

<https://nre.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds>

GUIDELINES FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE HERBICIDE USE NEAR WATERWAYS – NRE

The Tasmanian Department of NRE have developed documents that provide guidelines for best practice management of waterways and wetlands in Tasmania (8). They incorporate legislative requirements and provide advice on many aspects of management of waterways, including herbicide usage in or near waterways, use of additives and application details.

These documents can be found on the Department website here:

https://nre.tas.gov.au/Documents/herbicide_guidelinesFINAL2012.pdf

TASMANIAN WASHDOWN GUIDELINES FOR WEED AND DISEASE CONTROL

NRE have developed The Washdown Guidelines (9) is a useful document about machinery hygiene. These guidelines establish a standard for washdown and provide a guide to prescribing its application where codes of practice or other environmental management plans are not in place.

The document can be found here:

<https://nre.tas.gov.au/Documents/Washdown-Guidelines-Edition-1.pdf>

NRE have also developed a specific manual for preventing spread of pest species and pathogens in freshwater environments (10). This manual provides information on how to prevent the spread of freshwater pests and pathogens in Tasmanian waterways, wetlands, swamps, and boggy areas. Although the document is not directly relating to weed control, it provides useful guidelines and information that is transferable.

The document can be found here:

https://nre.tas.gov.au/Documents/15130802_52keepingitcleanspreadswe.pdf

WEED AND DISEASE PLANNING AND HYGIENE GUIDELINES

Weed and Disease Planning and Hygiene Guidelines (11) provide reference resource for those organisations, groups and individuals undertaking weed management planning or have a requirement to ensure they have appropriate hygiene controls in place to prevent the accidental spread of weeds or diseases.

Whilst the Guide is designed to assist contractors and consultants involved in the planning and implementation of developments, it also provides a useful tool for landowners and community groups involved in weed management and hygiene planning.

The guidelines can be found here:

<https://nre.tas.gov.au/Documents/Weed%20%20Management%20and%20Hygiene%20Guidelines.pdf>

OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

The [Tasmanian Weeds Facebook page](#) is an excellent networking link to other weed/land managers who share information, questions and answers about weed identification and control methods, tips and hints and is especially useful starting point when you cannot identify something – a photo post will result in many suggestions and guesses. The limits here are that there is no efficient way of searching through past conversations to find relevant information.

The Natural Values Atlas (NVA) contains site records for threatened flora or fauna or geo-conservation sites of significance. Note, however that data relating to north-western region of Tasmania generally, is currently incomplete and/or limited, although updates to the datasets is

still ongoing. Where the data exists, a search of an area can be conducted before disturbance/spraying occurs to check for potential concerns or impacts on threatened plant or animal species, for example. There is also a dedicated section for weed records although it is not yet updated with Central Coast Council data.

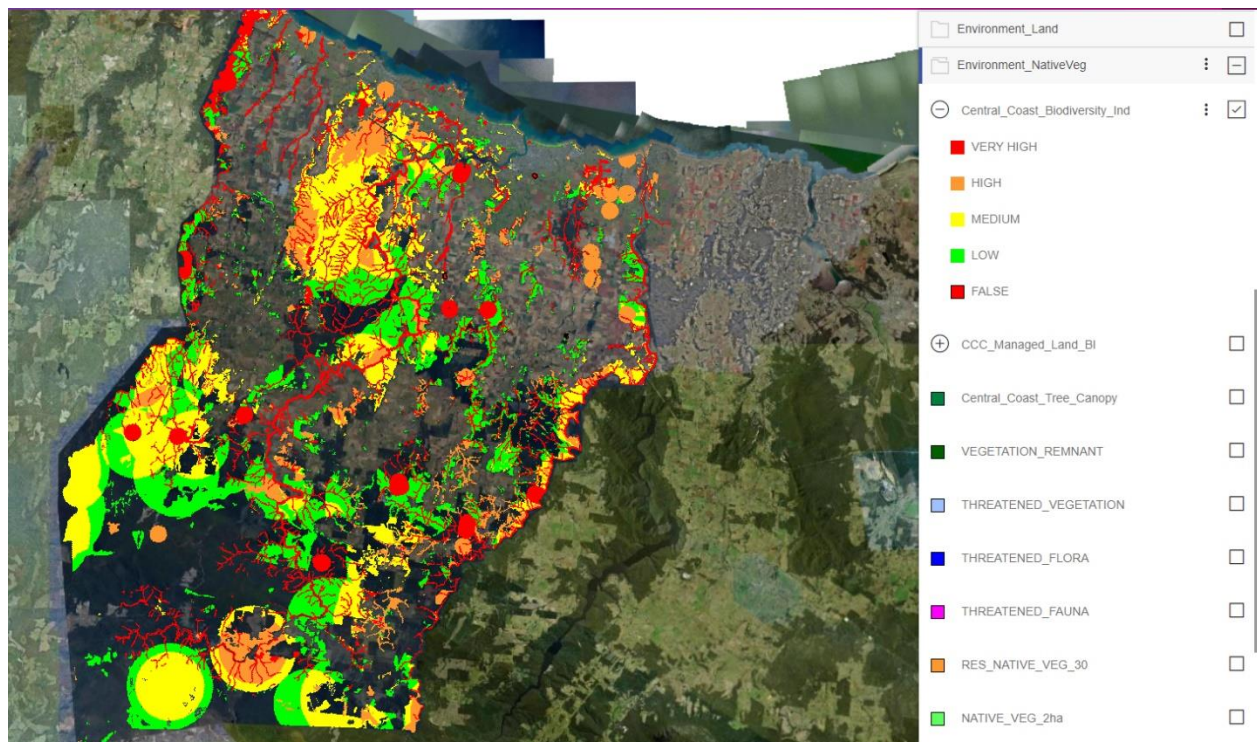
The NVA can be found here: www.naturalvaluesatlas.tas.gov.au

Coastal Weeds of the Cradle Coast Region (12) booklet describes control methods and includes colour pictures for fifty coastal and environmental weeds of the Cradle Coast Region and is available from Cradle Coast NRM or the Central Coast Council.

A whole of Tasmanian equivalent is available here: [Coastal Weeds of Tasmania | Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania \(nre.tas.gov.au\)](http://Coastal Weeds of Tasmania | Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (nre.tas.gov.au))

iNaturalist is a joint initiative of the California Academy of Sciences and the National Geographic Society. They have developed an app that is available on both iOS and android platforms that is capable of mapping and sharing fauna/flora photos, sites and information. All information is regularly integrated into the ListMap system. This is useful for capturing the weed issues across the entire state of Tasmania.

Draft Biodiversity Index screenshot



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APPENDIX 1

Table 4: Declared weeds of the Central Coast Municipality. WONS are listed in bold print. Individual weeds are shaded to indicate that a NRE Service Sheet is available. When this is the case, management of the particular weed should follow the recommendations of the Service Sheet.

| COMMON NAME BOTANICAL NAME | STATUS | WMP RECOMMENDATION | CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL ACTION |
|--|------------------------------------|---|--|
| AFRICAN BOXTHORN <i>Lycium ferocissimum</i> | Localised infestations – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries and prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | Control on Council managed land as per DPIPWE service sheet. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. |
| ASPARAGUS FERN <i>Asparagus scandens</i> | Isolated occurrences | Implement integrated control program for eradication | Liaise with DPIPWE Biosecurity Inspector if potential sites are identified and implement actions as required. |
| BLACKBERRY <i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i> | Widespread – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries and prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | Control on council managed land as per DPIPWE service sheet. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. Access funding programs if available. Identify and record sites. |
| BONESEED <i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> | Localised infestations – Zone B | Implement integrated control for eradication and prevent future occurrences | Control on Council managed land as per DPIPWE service sheet with aim of eradication. Access funding programs if available. Identify and record sites. |
| BRIDAL CREEPER <i>Asparagus asparagoides</i> | Localised infestations | Implement integrated control program for eradication | Liaise with DPIPWE Biosecurity Inspector if potential sites are identified and implement actions as required. Identify and record sites. |
| CALIFORNIAN THISTLE <i>Cirsium arvense</i> | Localised infestations – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries & | Control on Council managed land as per DPIPWE service sheet. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. |

| COMMON NAME BOTANICAL NAME | STATUS | WMP RECOMMENDATION | CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL ACTION |
|---|--|---|---|
| prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | | | |
| CAPE TULIP <i>Homeria species</i> | Localised infestations | Implement integrated control program for eradication | Liaise with DPIPWE Biosecurity Inspector if potential sites are identified and implement actions as required. |
| CARTHAMUS LANATUS Saffron thistle | Localised infestations | | Control on Council managed land as per DPIPWE service sheet. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. |
| CROW GARLIC <i>Allium vineale</i> | Not recorded in the Central Coast area | Prevention and early detection | Liaise with DPIPWE Biosecurity Inspector if potential sites are identified and implement actions as required. DPIPWE control guide available. |
| DATURA <i>Datura species</i> | Isolated occurrences | Eradicate existing infestations & prevent future occurrences | Liaise with DPIPWE. Control on Council managed land. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. |
| SLENDER THISTLE <i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i> | Widespread – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries & prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | Control on Council managed land as per DPIPWE control guide. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. |
| SLENDER THISTLE <i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i> | Widespread – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries & prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | Control on Council managed land as per DPIPWE control guide. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. |
| ELISHA'S TEARS <i>Leycesteria formosa</i> | Localised Infestations – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries & | Control on Council managed land. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. |

| COMMON NAME BOTANICAL NAME | STATUS | WMP RECOMMENDATION | CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL ACTION |
|--|------------------------------------|---|--|
| prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | | | |
| ENGLISH BROOM <i>Cytisus scoparius</i> | Localised infestation – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries and prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | Control on Council managed land as per DPIPWE service sheet. Identify and record sites. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. |
| FENNEL <i>Foeniculum vulgare</i> | Widespread – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries and prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | Control on Council managed land. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. |
| FLAX-LEAF BROOM (<i>Genista linifolia</i>) | Isolated occurrences – Zone A | Implement integrated control program from eradication and prevent future occurrences | Liaise with DPIPWE Biosecurity |
| GORSE <i>Ulex europaeus</i> | Localized infestations – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries & prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | Control on council managed land as per DPIPWE service sheet. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. Access funding programs if available. Identify and record sites. |
| HOLLY (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>) | Isolated occurrences Zone – B | Implement integrated control program from eradication and prevent future occurrences | Liaise with DPIPWE Biosecurity |
| HOREHOUND <i>Marrubium vulgare</i> | Localised Infestations – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries & prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | Control on Council managed land as per DPIPWE service sheet. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information |

| COMMON NAME BOTANICAL NAME | STATUS | WMP RECOMMENDATION | CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL ACTION |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| MONTPELLIER BROOM <i>Genista monspessulana</i> | Widespread – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries & prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | Control on Council managed land as per DPIPWE service sheet. Identify and record sites. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. |
| NODDING THISTLE <i>Carduus nutans</i> | Isolated occurrences | Eradicate existing infestations and prevent future occurrences | Liaise with DPIPWE Biosecurity Inspector if potential sites are identified and implement actions as required. DPIPWE control guide available. |
| PAMPAS GRASSES <i>Cortaderia species</i> | Localised infestations | Implement integrated control program for eradication | Continue to implement Council eradication program. Liaise with landowners as required. Identify and record sites. |
| PATERSON'S CURSE OR SALVATION JANE <i>Echium plantagineum</i> | Isolated occurrences – Zone A | Eradicate existing populations & prevent future occurrences | Liaise with DPIPWE Biosecurity Inspector if potential sites are identified and implement actions as required. DPIPWE service sheet available. |
| RAGWORT <i>Senecio jacobaea</i> | Widespread – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries & prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | Control on Council managed land as per DPIPWE service sheet Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. Identify and record sites. |
| SPANISH HEATH <i>Erica lusitanica</i> | Localised infestations – Zone B | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries & prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | Control on Council managed land. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. |
| ST JOHN'S WORT <i>Hypericum perforatum</i> | Localised infestations | Implement integrated control program for eradication and prevent future occurrences | Liaise with DPIPWE Biosecurity Inspector if potential sites are identified |

| COMMON NAME BOTANICAL NAME | STATUS | WMP RECOMMENDATION | CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL ACTION |
|---|---|---|--|
| PARROTS FEATHER <i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i> | Isolated occurrences | Implement integrated control program for eradication and prevent future occurrences | and implement actions as required. Liaise with DPIPWE Biosecurity |
| VIPER'S BUGLOSS <i>Echium vulgare</i> | Isolated occurrences | Eradicate existing populations & prevent future occurrences | Liaise with DPIPWE. Control on Council managed land. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. |
| WHITE-EDGED NIGHTSHADE <i>Solanum marginatum</i> | Isolated occurrences | Implement integrated control program for eradication | Liaise with DPIPWE Biosecurity Inspector if potential sites are identified and implement actions as required. |
| WILLOW <i>Salix species</i> | Widespread Crack Willow – Zone B Other Taxa – Zone A | Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries and prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. | Control on council managed land. Liaise with landowners as required, provide control information. Access funding programs if available. Identify and record sites. |

Table 5: List of environmental weeds potentially found in the Central Coast Municipal area.

| ENVIRONMENTAL WEEDS: CENTRAL COAST MUNICIPAL AREA | |
|---|-----------------------|
| BOTANICAL NAME | COMMON NAME |
| <i>Acanthus mollis</i> | Bears Breeches |
| <i>Acetosella vulgaris</i> | Sheep Sorrel |
| <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> | Sycamore Maple |
| <i>Agapanthus praecox</i> | Agapanthus |
| <i>Allium triquetrum</i> | Three-Cornered Garlic |
| <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> | Marram Grass |
| <i>Anagallis arvensis</i> | Scarlet Pimpernel |

| ENVIRONMENTAL WEEDS: CENTRAL COAST MUNICIPAL AREA | |
|---|------------------------|
| BOTANICAL NAME | COMMON NAME |
| <i>Arctotheca calendula</i> | Cape Weed |
| <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> var. <i>bulbosum</i> | Onion Twitch |
| <i>Bambusa</i> sp. | Bamboo |
| <i>Bignonia capreolata</i> | Orange tecoma |
| <i>Bromus</i> sp. | Brome |
| <i>Cakile maritime</i> | Sea rocket |
| <i>Callitriche stagnalis</i> | Starwort |
| <i>Calystegia sepium</i> | Greater Bindweed |
| <i>Calystegia soldanella</i> | Lesser Bindweed |
| <i>Canna</i> sp. | Canna Lily |
| <i>Cotoneaster</i> sp. | Cotoneaster varieties |
| <i>Centranthus ruber</i> | Red Valerian |
| <i>Chamaecytisus palmensis</i> | Lucerne tree |
| <i>Chenopodium album</i> | Fat Hen |
| <i>Conium maculatum</i> | Hemlock |
| <i>Coprosma repens</i> | Mirror Bush |
| <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> | Hawthorn |
| <i>Crocasmia x crocosmifolia</i> | Montbretia |
| <i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i> | Monterey cypress |
| <i>Dactylis glomerata</i> | Cocksfoot |
| <i>Dahlia</i> sp. | Tree dahlia |
| <i>Delairea odorata</i> | Cape Ivy |
| <i>Elymus repens</i> | Rope Twitch |
| <i>Epilobium</i> sp. | A Willow-herb |
| <i>Euphorbia lathyris</i> | Caper spurge |
| <i>Euphorbia paralias</i> | Sea Spurge |
| <i>Euphorbia peplus</i> | Petty Spurge |
| <i>Fumaria muralis</i> | Fumitory |
| <i>Fuchsia magellanica</i> | Fuchsia |
| <i>Galium aparine</i> | Cleavers (Sticky weed) |

| ENVIRONMENTAL WEEDS: CENTRAL COAST MUNICIPAL AREA | |
|---|------------------------|
| BOTANICAL NAME | COMMON NAME |
| <i>Gazania rigens</i> | Gazania |
| <i>Geranium mille</i> | Dove's foot cranesbill |
| <i>Glyceria maxima</i> | Poa Aquatica |
| <i>Hedera helix</i> | English Ivy |
| <i>Holcus</i> sp. | Fog grass |
| <i>Hypochoeris radicata</i> | Flatweed |
| <i>Jasminum polyanthum</i> | Jasmine |
| <i>Lamium scandens</i> | Aluminium plant |
| <i>Leycesteria formosa</i> | Elisha's Tears |
| <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> | Privet |
| <i>Lonicera japonica</i> | Japanese Honeysuckle |
| <i>Lotus</i> sp. | Lotus |
| <i>Malus x domestica</i> | Apple |
| <i>Malva sylvestris</i> | Mallow |
| <i>Medicago polymorpha</i> | Burr medic |
| <i>Mentha spicata</i> | Spearmint |
| <i>Myosotis sylvertris</i> | Forget-me-not |
| <i>Nasturtium officinalis</i> | Water Cress |
| <i>Ostospermum fruticosum</i> | Trailing daisy |
| <i>Oxalis</i> sp. | Oxalis |
| <i>Papaver</i> sp. | Opium Poppy |
| <i>Paraserianthes lapantha</i> | Cape Wattle |
| <i>Passiflora mollissima</i> | Banana Passionfruit |
| <i>Pelargonium</i> sp. | Geranium |
| <i>Phormium tenax</i> | New Zealand Flax |
| <i>Pinus radiata</i> | Radiata Pine |
| <i>Picris echioides</i> | Ox-tongue |
| <i>Pittosporum undulatum</i> | Sweet pittosporum |
| <i>Plantago</i> sp. | Plantain, Ribwort |
| <i>Polygonum aviculare</i> | Wireweed |

| ENVIRONMENTAL WEEDS: CENTRAL COAST MUNICIPAL AREA | |
|---|------------------------|
| BOTANICAL NAME | COMMON NAME |
| <i>Prunus cerasifera</i> | Cherry plum |
| <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> | Cherry laurel |
| <i>Psoralea pinnata</i> | Blue Butterfly-Bush |
| <i>Ranunculus repens</i> | Buttercup |
| <i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> | Wild Radish |
| <i>Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum</i> | Watercress |
| <i>Rosa rubiginosa</i> | Briar Rose |
| <i>Rubus idaeus</i> | Raspberry |
| <i>Rumex</i> sp. | Docks, Sorrel |
| <i>Sambucus nigra</i> | Elderberry |
| <i>Sisymbrium officinale</i> | Hedge Mustard |
| <i>Solanum nigrum</i> | Black-berry Nightshade |
| <i>Solanum tuberosum</i> | Potato |
| <i>Sollya heterophylla</i> | Bluebell creeper |
| <i>Sonchus</i> sp. | Sowthistle |
| <i>Stellaria media</i> | Chickweed |
| <i>Symphytum officinale</i> | Comfrey |
| <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> | Dandelion |
| <i>Tradescantia albiflora</i> | Wandering Jew |
| <i>Tragopogon porrifolius</i> | Salsify |
| <i>Trifolium repens</i> | White Clover |
| <i>Tropaeolum majus</i> | Nasturtium |
| <i>Typha latifolia</i> | Cumbungi |
| <i>Verbascum virgatum</i> | Mullein |
| <i>Vicia</i> sp. | Vetches |
| <i>Vinca major</i> | Blue Periwinkle |
| <i>Watsonia species</i> | Watsonia |
| <i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i> | Arum lily |

Glyceria maxima (Poa aquatica) is a waterway weed which has the potential to severely degrade waterways and spreads quite rapidly. It is recommended that distribution of this weed be mapped as an urgent priority, and that it be considered for nomination for declaration under the Weed Management Act.

APPENDIX 2

List of

- . East Ulverstone Coastal Reserve Management Plan
- . Turners Beach Vegetation and Fire Management Plan
- . Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan
- . Sulphur Creek Coastal Reserve and Habitat Management Plan
- . Turners Beach Gables Management Park Plan
- . Riverside Avenue Management Plan
- . Bushways Vegetation Assessment and Work Plan for Reid Street Reserve
- . Central Coast Council Coastal Management Plan
- . West Ulverstone Penguin Habitat Plan
- . Threatened Species Strategy
- . Leven Canyon Reserve Plan
- . Vegetation Management Strategy