



Bega Valley Shire Local Weed Management Plan



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1 Introduction

1.1 Bega Valley Shire

The Bega Valley Shire covers an area of approximately 627,950 hectares, the dominant land uses are conservation (42%), timber production (24%), agriculture (20%) and bushland (13%). Bega, Eden, Merimbula, Pambula, Bermagui, Tathra and Tura Beach townships, which cover about 1% of the total shire area, comprises the majority of the urban land surrounded by National Parks and numerous nature reserves, state forests and heritage conservation areas.

The main land uses in Bega Valley Shire are conservation and timber production, which together comprised 66% of the shire. Most of this area is managed by NSW State Government agencies. The other major land use is agriculture, which comprises 20% of the shire.

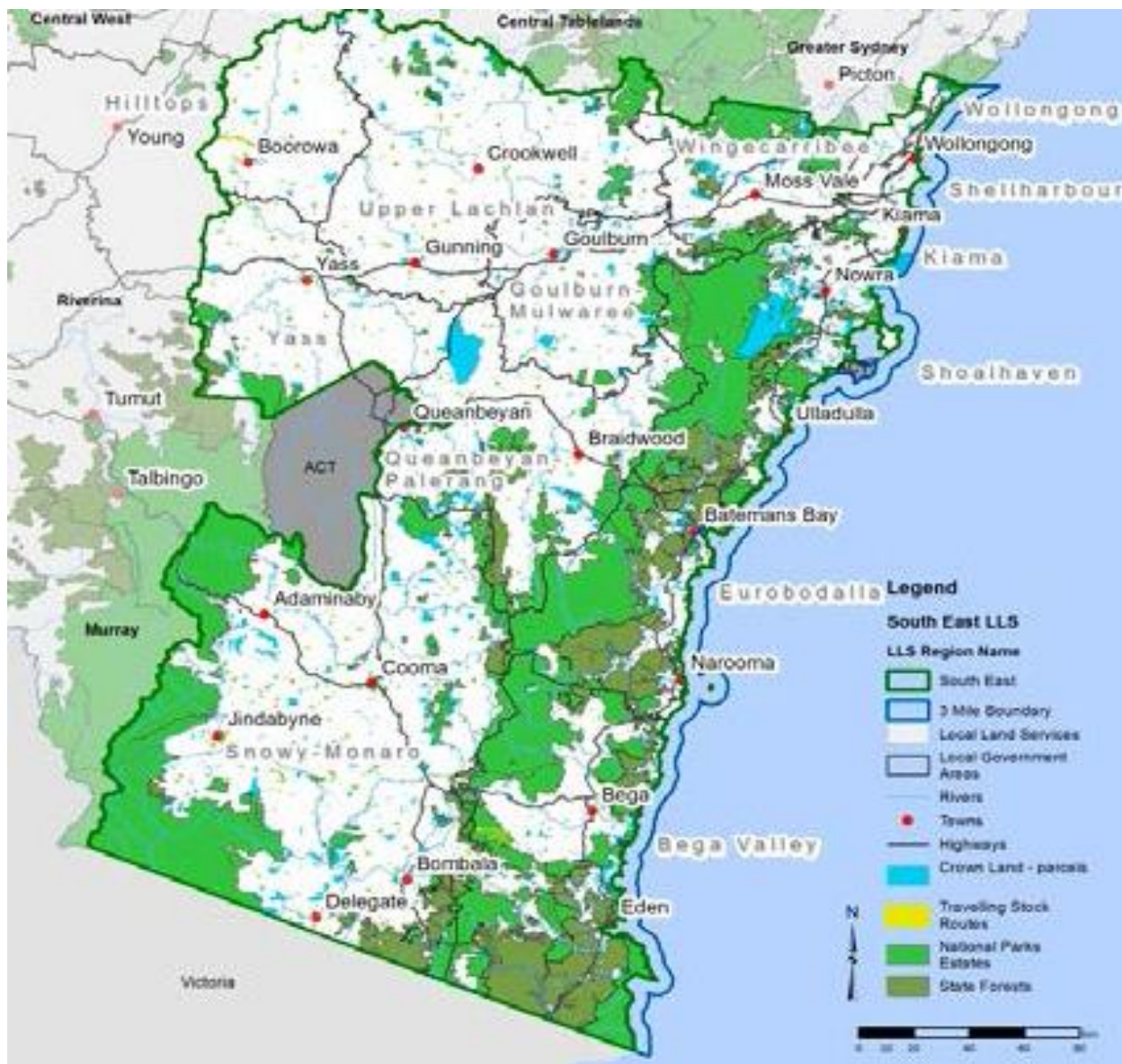
Weed invasion, and in particular invasion by perennial grass weeds like Serrated Tussock and African Lovegrass and Chilean Needle Grass, have the potential to reduce, and in some cases, eliminate native and introduced pastures and impact heavily on agricultural and environmental conservation vegetation communities. For this reason, these weeds are identified as one of the greatest threats to the biodiversity of the Bega Valley.

1.2 Implementation of the Biosecurity Act 2015

On 1 July 2015, the NSW *Biosecurity Act 2015* (the Act) became the primary legislation dealing with weed management in NSW. The Act supersedes the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* and operates on a risk management framework, providing flexibility in the development and implementation of weed management programs at a local level based on the level of risk that a weed poses to the local economy, environment and/or community.

The primary objective of the Act is to provide a framework for the prevention, elimination and minimization of a wide range of biosecurity risks, including pest animals, diseases, contaminants and weeds. In relation to the management of weeds, the Act aims to prevent the introduction of new weeds into or within the State, to eradicate new incursions quickly and efficiently and to minimize the impact of widespread established weeds.

This plan identifies the weeds with which Bega Valley Shire Council maintains an active management and compliance program. It also specifies the extent to which land managers within the Bega Valley Shire must manage these priority weeds in the absence of State legislated requirements.



1.2.1 Prohibited Matter

Schedule 2 of the Act identifies weeds which are legislated as Prohibited Matter throughout NSW. These weeds are subject to specific restrictions relating to the possession, purchase, sale, movement and other dealings as identified in the Act. A person who becomes aware of the presence of a prohibited weed, or suspects that a prohibited event has occurred, is occurring or is about to occur must immediately notify Council. Prohibited Matter (Weeds) are detailed in Table 1.

Table 1. Prohibited matter (weeds) to which specific restrictions are legislated

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Andropogon gayanus</i>	Gamba grass
<i>Annona glabra</i>	Pond apple
<i>Asparagus declinatus</i>	Bridal veil creeper
<i>Bassia scoparia</i> (excluding subsp. <i>trichophylla</i>)	Kochia
<i>Centaurea stoebe</i> subsp. <i>micranthos</i>	Spotted knapweed
<i>Centaurea x moncktonii</i>	Black knapweed

<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>	Siam weed
<i>Clidemia hirta</i>	Koster's curse
<i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i>	Rubber vine
<i>Eichhornia azurea</i>	Anchored water hyacinth
<i>Hieracium spp (all species)</i>	Hawkweed
<i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>	Hydrocotyl/Water pennywort
<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	Lagarosiphon
<i>Limnobium spp. (all species)</i>	Frogbit/Spongeplant
<i>Limnocharis flava</i>	Yellow burrhead
<i>Miconia spp. (all species)</i>	Miconia
<i>Mikania micrantha</i>	Mikania vine
<i>Mimosa pigra</i>	Mimosa
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian water milfoil
<i>Nassella tenuissima (syn. Stipa tenuissima)</i>	Mexican feather grass
<i>Orobancha spp. (all species except the native O. cernua var. australiana and O. minor)</i>	Broomrape
<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	Parthenium weed
<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	Water soldier
<i>Striga spp. (except the native S. parviflora)</i>	Witchweed
<i>Trapa spp. (all species)</i>	Water caltrop
<i>Vachellia karroo (syn. Acacia karroo)</i>	Karoo acacia
<i>Vachellia nilotica (syn. Acacia nilotica)</i>	Prickly acacia

1.2.2 Mandatory measures

Schedule 3 of the Biosecurity Regulations 2017 (the Regulations) identifies a number of weeds with which mandatory measures apply. The mandatory measures applying to these weeds is detailed in Clause 33 of the Regulations as 'a person must not import into the State or sell' any listed plant.

Table 2. Schedule 3 weeds to which mandatory measures apply

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	Alligator weed
<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	Madeira vine
<i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i> , <i>A. africanus</i> , <i>A. asparagoides</i> Western Cape form*, <i>A. declinatus</i> , <i>A. plumosus</i> , <i>A. scandens</i> (except <i>A. officinalis</i> , <i>A. racemosus</i>)	Asparagus weeds
<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	Bridal creeper
<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	Cabomba
<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	Bitou bush/Boneseed
<i>Dolichandra unguis-cati</i>	Cat's claw creeper
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Water hyacinth
<i>Genista monspessulana</i> , <i>G. linifolia</i> , <i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Brooms
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	Hymenachne

<i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i>	Bellyache bush
<i>Lantana camara</i>	Lantana
<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	African boxthorn
<i>Nassella neesiana</i>	Chilean needle grass
<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	Serrated tussock
<i>Opuntia</i> spp., <i>Cylindropuntia</i> spp., <i>Austrocylindropuntia</i> spp. (except <i>O. ficus-indica</i>)	Opuntoid cacti
<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	Parkinsonia
<i>Prosopis</i> spp.	Mesquite
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Blackberry except the varieties Chester Thornless, Dirksen Thornless, Loch Ness, Silvan, Black Satin, Murrindindi, Smooth Stem, Thornfree and Chehalem
<i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>	Sagittaria
<i>Salix</i> spp. except <i>S. babylonica</i> , <i>S. X calodendron</i> and <i>S. X reichardtiji</i>	Willows except weeping willows, pussy willow and sterile pussy willow
<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	Salvinia
<i>Senecio madagascariensis</i>	Fireweed
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	Silverleaf nightshade
<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>	Athel pine
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse

1.2.3 General Biosecurity Duty

Many priority weeds within the Bega Valley Shire are not subject to Prohibited Matter restrictions or to mandatory measures. To ensure that the risk posed by all weeds is prevented, eliminated or minimised, the Act requires land managers to manage all weeds in accordance with their 'General Biosecurity Duty'.

General Biosecurity Duty is referred to in Section 22 of the Act as “Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised”.

Although the general biosecurity duty applies broadly, there are a number of elements that must be satisfied. These are well defined by NSW Department of Primary Industries at (<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/biosecurity-legislation/general-biosecurity-duty>) as:

Dealing with – the general biosecurity duty only applies to a person who 'deals with' biosecurity matter or a carrier of biosecurity matter. 'Deal with' includes a wide range of activities, which are listed in section 12 of the Act. Some examples of dealing with biosecurity matter are; to keep, possess, grow, breed, move, supply or manufacture biosecurity matter.

Knowledge – a person must know, or ought reasonably to know, that there is or is likely to be a biosecurity risk arising from the biosecurity matter, carrier or 'dealing'. This will be a question of fact and will depend on the circumstances of each situation.

People who know or ought reasonably to know will generally include people who deal with biosecurity matter or carriers on a regular basis as part of a commercial or recreational activity, and people who work professionally (i.e. 'deal') with a particular type of biosecurity matter or carrier. For these people their general knowledge and expertise would in most cases be sufficient to indicate they know the risks.

'Reasonably practicable' – what is reasonably practicable for the prevention, elimination or minimisation of a biosecurity risk will depend on what was reasonably able to be done at a particular time, taking into account and weighing up all relevant matters. Relevant matters include, the nature and potential impact of the biosecurity risk, the person's level of knowledge of the risk and related actions that could be taken to prevent, eliminate or minimise the risk, and the cost, availability and suitability of these actions. It is not likely to be reasonably practicable if the cost is greatly disproportionate to the risk.

Preventing, eliminating or minimising the biosecurity risk – the risk must be prevented or eliminated if reasonably practicable, otherwise it must be minimised so far as is reasonably practicable.

The general biosecurity duty can apply to more than one person in relation to the same biosecurity risk, for example an owner and a manager may both be responsible for managing a particular biosecurity risk on a property.

2 South East Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022

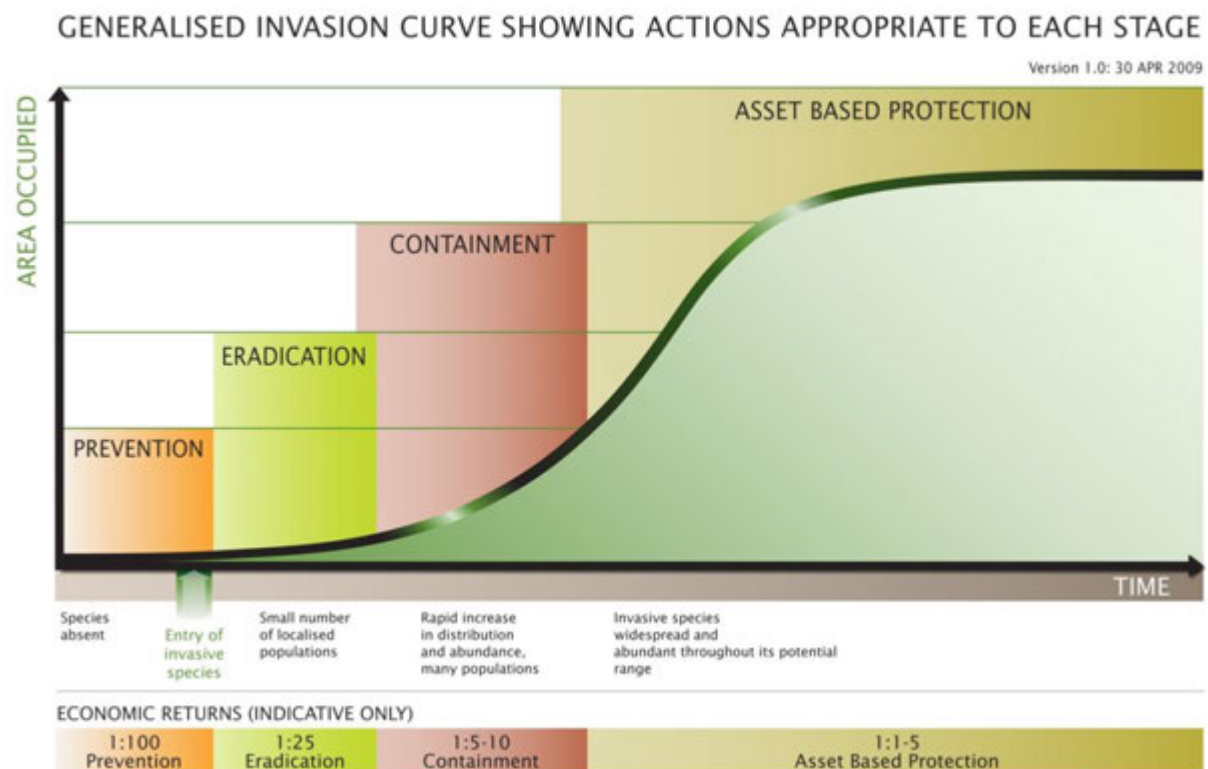
The South East Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022 (the Regional Plan) was developed by the South East Regional Weed Committee in 2017 on behalf of the South East Local Land Services Board. Its intent is to outline strategic actions to guide collaborative weed management, resource allocation and investment in the South East region. The Regional plan identifies a number of weed priorities within the South East and recommends strategic responses to prevent, eliminate or minimise the biosecurity risk associated with each weed.

The Bega Valley Shire Local Weed Management Plan adopts the principles and priorities identified within the Regional Plan and further prioritises actions based on local risk, impact and feasibility of control.

3 Priority weeds within the Bega Valley Shire

With the immense diversity in landscape, climate, soil type and land use throughout the Bega Valley Shire it is inevitable that weed intensity levels vary widely throughout the region. With this diversity comes significant variation in the capacity of land managers to reach a common standard in weed control. The Bega Valley Shire Local Weed Management Plan recognises that a 'one shoe fits all' approach to weed management will not achieve efficient resource allocation or weed control outcomes.

To ensure that the most efficient controls and recognise all limitations in achieving full control of some priority weeds the plan aims to ensure that limited resources are used most efficiently to minimise the impact from priority weeds.



4 Plan review

A mid-term review of the Plan will occur in 2020 (Year Two) and a full review in 2022 (Year Four) in line with review of the Regional Plan.

Bega Valley Shire Council Serrated Tussock Management Program (*Nassella trichotoma*)

Section 371 (1) b of the Biosecurity Act 2015

Introduction

Serrated Tussock is a **Weed of National Significance**. It is regarded as one of the worst weeds in Australia because of its invasiveness, potential for spread, and economic, environmental and social impacts. Serrated tussock has little to no grazing value because of its high fibre and low protein content. Infestations result in a significant loss in livestock production and dense infestations may completely dominate pasture; making large areas incapable of supporting livestock.



Serrated Tussock threatens the biodiversity of many native vegetation communities, including native grasslands, grassy woodlands, sclerophyll forests and some coastal vegetation.

Serrated Tussock is very similar in appearance to many Australian native grass species making it hard to identify when not in flower. It can therefore go unnoticed for many years and eventually form monocultures in once diverse ecosystems. This reduction of biodiversity is a serious threat to native fauna and flora that inhabit these areas.

Purpose of this program

To specify the control measures that a landholder must implement to ensure that his/her General Biosecurity Duty is discharged in relation to Serrated Tussock.

Legal status

The management of invasive weeds in NSW is governed by the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. The Local Control Authority (Bega Valley Shire Council) is responsible for ensuring the prevention, elimination, minimization and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by invasive weeds. It is also responsible for the development, implementation, coordination and review of invasive weed control programs within its area of jurisdiction.

Mandatory Measure (Part 2, Division 8, Clause 33, *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*): A person must not import into the state or sell Serrated Tussock.

Any person dealing (eg the owner or occupier of land) with Serrated Tussock must comply with his or her General Biosecurity Duty.

Biosecurity ACT 2015 – General Biosecurity Duty

Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.

Control Objective

The primary objective of this plan is to reduce the negative impact of Serrated Tussock on the Bega Valley's economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Council requirements

Bega Valley Shire Council has a duty as Local Control Authority to inspect all land in connection with its weed control functions. In achieving this it must ensure the management of the **biosecurity risk** posed or likely to be posed by weeds within its area of jurisdiction.

Surveillance: Council inspects private and public lands for the presence of Serrated Tussock infestations on a 6 year cycle. Frequency of inspection increases in cases of non-compliance; the frequency of which is determined by the level of risk posed by the infestation(s).

Reporting: Council provides an inspection report to the land owner/occupier following inspection. The report shall indicate the level of infestation, its spatial distribution on the property and the level of weed control required by the owner/occupier. Infestation data is reported to the NSW Biosecurity Information System.

Enforcement: Council will enforce the control of Serrated Tussock where identified breaches are identified. Enforcement measures may include the issue of a penalty infringement notice, entering the land and controlling infestations at the owner/occupier's expense, or the issue of a court attendance notice. Penalties for non-compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* are significant.

Land owner/occupier requirements

All property managers have a responsibility to prevent, eliminate or minimize adverse effects on the economy, the environment and the community that arise from weeds. Where full control is feasible Council will enforce that requirement. Where widespread and established invasive species have become "naturalized" in our environment and full control is not deemed feasible by Council it will promote a strategy of minimization and containment.

Serrated Tussock is a State priority weed subject to mandatory requirements. A person must not import into the State or sell parts of the plant.



Isolated infestations:

Objective: Prevent establishment

Action: Eliminate infestations

Established infestations:

Objective: Containment. Reduce incidence in affected areas.

Action: The growth of the plant must be controlled in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread. Infestations may be managed in accordance with a staged control plan approved by Council. In situations where Council deems this requirement not

reasonably practicable in accordance with Section 16 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, buffers and containment strategies may be introduced to protect priority assets.

Transportation:

The plant must not be sold, transported or knowingly distributed.

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Bega Valley Shire Council African Lovegrass Management Program

(Eragrostis curvula)

Section 371 (1) b of the Biosecurity Act 2015

Introduction

African lovegrass is a hardy, drought tolerant perennial grass species. In some countries it is regarded as valuable for animal production and soil conservation but in others, such as Australia, it is regarded as a weed due to its low feed quality and acceptance by livestock. African Lovegrass can spread and dominate sparse, over-grazed pastures, forming pure, dense infestations competing with native and pasture species. Large stands can pose a fire hazard.



Purpose of this program

To specify the control measures that a landholder must implement to ensure that his/her General Biosecurity Duty is discharged in relation to African lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula*) within the Bega Valley Shire

Legal status

The management of invasive weeds in NSW is governed by the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. The Local Control Authority (Bega Valley Shire Council) is responsible for ensuring the prevention, elimination, minimization and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by invasive weeds. It is also responsible for the development, implementation, coordination and review of invasive weed control programs within its area of jurisdiction.

Any person dealing (eg the owner or occupier of land) with African lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula*) comply with his or her General Biosecurity Duty.

Biosecurity ACT 2015 – General Biosecurity Duty

Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.

Control Objective

The primary objective of this plan is to reduce the negative impact of African lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula*) on the Bega Valley's economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Council requirements

Bega Valley Shire Council has a duty as the Local Control Authority to inspect all land in connection with its weed control functions. In achieving this it must ensure the management of the **biosecurity risk** posed or likely to be posed by weeds within its area of jurisdiction.

Surveillance: Council inspects private and public lands for the presence of African lovegrass infestations on a 6 year cycle. Frequency of inspection increases in cases of non-compliance; the frequency of which is determined by the level of risk posed by the infestation(s).

Reporting: Council provides an inspection report to the land owner/occupier following inspection. The report shall indicate the level of infestation, its spatial distribution on the property and the level of weed control required by the owner/occupier. Infestation data is reported to the NSW Biosecurity Information System.

Enforcement: Council will enforce the control of African lovegrass where identified breaches are identified. Enforcement measures may include the issue of a penalty infringement notice, entering the land and controlling infestations at the owner/occupier's expense, or the issue of a court attendance notice. Penalties for non-compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* are significant.

Land owner/occupier requirements

All property managers have a responsibility to prevent, eliminate or minimize adverse effects on the economy, the environment and the community that arise from weeds. Where full control is feasible Council will enforce that requirement. Where widespread and established invasive species have become "naturalized" in our environment and full control is not deemed feasible by Council it will promote a strategy of minimization and containment.

African lovegrass is identified within the South East Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022. The plan specifies that African lovegrass is subject to a local management program. Bega Valley Shire Council's local management program imposes the following requirements:

Isolated infestations:

Objective: Prevent establishment

Action: Eliminate infestations

Established infestations:

Objective: Containment. Reduce incidence in affected areas.

Action: The growth of the plant must be controlled in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread. Infestations may be managed in accordance with a staged control plan approved by Council. In situations where Council deems this requirement not reasonably practicable in accordance with Section 16 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, buffers and containment strategies may be introduced to protect priority assets.

Transportation:

The plant must not be sold, transported or knowingly distributed.



Bega Valley Shire Council St John's Wort Management Program (*Hypericum perforatum*)

Section 371 (1) b of the Biosecurity Act 2015

Introduction

St Johns Wort is a hardy, perennial plant which can rapidly invade and dominate native and introduced pastures, roadsides, open woodlands and conservation areas. Its aggressive nature and ability to reproduce by seeding and by lateral growth from underground rhizomes enables it to spread rapidly.

St Johns Wort plants contain a poisonous substance, hypericin, which is toxic to livestock. Hypericin causes photosensitisation, with bare skin or white haired areas becoming reddened, itchy and blistered. Irritation can be intense and accompanied by restlessness, loss of condition, convulsions, blindness and eventually death.



Purpose of this program

To specify the control measures that a landholder must implement to ensure that his/her General Biosecurity Duty is discharged in relation to St John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) within the Bega Valley Shire

Legal status

The management of invasive weeds in NSW is governed by the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. The Local Control Authority (Bega Valley Shire Council) is responsible for ensuring the prevention, elimination, minimization and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by invasive weeds. It is also responsible for the development, implementation, coordination and review of invasive weed control programs within its area of jurisdiction.

Mandatory Measure (Part 2, Division 8, Clause 33, *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*): A person must not import into the state or sell St Johns Wort.

Any person dealing (eg the owner or occupier of land) with St Johns Wort must comply with his or her General Biosecurity Duty.

Biosecurity ACT 2015 – General Biosecurity Duty

Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.

Control objective

The primary objective of this plan is to reduce the negative impact of St Johns Wort on the Bega Valley's economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Council requirements

Bega Valley Shire Council has a duty as the Local Control Authority to inspect all land in connection with its weed control functions. In achieving this it must ensure the management of the **biosecurity risk** posed or likely to be posed by weeds within its area of jurisdiction.

Surveillance: Council inspects private and public lands for the presence of St Johns Wort infestations on a 6 year cycle. Frequency of inspection increases in cases of non-compliance; the frequency of which is determined by the level of risk posed by the infestation(s).

Reporting: Council provides an inspection report to the land owner/occupier following inspection. The report shall indicate the level of infestation, its spatial distribution on the property and the level of weed control required by the owner/occupier. Infestation data is reported to the NSW Biosecurity Information System.

Enforcement: Council will enforce the control of St Johns Wort where identified breaches are identified. Enforcement measures may include the issue of a penalty infringement notice, entering the land and controlling infestations at the owner/occupier's expense, or the issue of a court attendance notice. Penalties for non-compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* are significant.

Land owner/occupier requirements

All property managers have a responsibility to prevent, eliminate or minimize adverse effects on the economy, the environment and the community that arise from weeds. Where full control is feasible Council will enforce that requirement. Where widespread and established invasive species have become "naturalized" in our environment and full control is not deemed feasible by Council it will promote a strategy of minimization and containment.

St Johns Wort is identified within the South East Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022. The plan specifies that St Johns Wort is subject to a local management program. Bega Valley Shire Council's local management program imposes the following requirements:

Isolated infestations:

Objective: Prevent establishment

Action: Eliminate infestations

Established infestations:

Objective: Containment. Reduce incidence in affected areas.

Action: The growth of the plant must be controlled in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread. Infestations may be managed in accordance with a staged control plan approved by Council. In situations where Council deems this requirement not reasonably practicable in accordance with Section 16 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, buffers and containment strategies may be introduced to protect priority assets.

Transportation:

The plant must not be sold, transported or knowingly distributed.



Bega Valley Shire Council Gorse Management Program

(*Ulex Europaeus*)

Section 371 (1) b of the Biosecurity Act 2015

Introduction

Gorse is a densely spiny shrub to 4m high with hairy ribbed stems. Seedlings are not spiny and have leaves composed of three leaflets, but these are replaced by grooved spines up to 30 mm long on mature plants. The seed of the plant is spread generally through birds, and can be carried on the wool of sheep. Gorse thrives in poor growing areas and conditions including drought; it is sometimes found on very rocky soils, where many species cannot thrive. Moreover, it is widely used for land reclamation (e.g., mine tailings), where its nitrogen-fixing capacity helps other plants establish better.



Young plants are palatable but older ones are not and Gorse reduces carrying capacity of pasture, and because of its prickly nature makes movement within infested paddocks difficult. It provides cover for feral animals such as rabbits and foxes. It also invades forest, replacing native understorey plants. It burns rapidly and dense stands are a fire hazard.

Purpose of this program

To specify the control measures that a landholder must implement to ensure that his/her General Biosecurity Duty is discharged in relation to Gorse.

Legal status

The management of invasive weeds in NSW is governed by the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. The Local Control Authority (Bega Valley Shire Council) is responsible for ensuring the prevention, elimination, minimization and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by invasive weeds. It is also responsible for the development, implementation, coordination and review of invasive weed control programs within its area of jurisdiction.

Any person dealing (eg the owner or occupier of land) with Gorse must comply with his or her General Biosecurity Duty.

Biosecurity ACT 2015 – General Biosecurity Duty

Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.

Control Objective

The primary objective of this plan is to reduce the negative impact of Gorse on the Bega Valley's economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Council requirements

Bega Valley Shire Council has a duty as Local Control Authority to inspect all land in connection with its weed control functions. In achieving this it must ensure the management of the **biosecurity risk** posed or likely to be posed by weeds within its area of jurisdiction.

Surveillance: Council inspects private and public lands for the presence of Gorse infestations on a 6 year cycle. Frequency of inspection increases in cases of non-compliance; the frequency of which is determined by the level of risk posed by the infestation(s).

Reporting: Council provides an inspection report to the land owner/occupier following inspection. The report shall indicate the level of infestation, its spatial distribution on the property and the level of weed control required by the owner/occupier. Infestation data is reported to the NSW Biosecurity Information System.

Enforcement: Council will enforce the control of Gorse where identified breaches are identified. Enforcement measures may include the issue of a penalty infringement notice, entering the land and controlling infestations at the owner/occupier's expense, or the issue of a court attendance notice. Penalties for non-compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* are significant.

Land owner/occupier requirements

All property managers have a responsibility to prevent, eliminate or minimize adverse effects on the economy, the environment and the community that arise from weeds. Where full control is feasible Council will enforce that requirement. Where widespread and established invasive species have become "naturalized" in our environment and full control is not deemed feasible by Council it will promote a strategy of minimization and containment.



Gorse is a State priority weed subject to mandatory requirements. A person must not import into the State or sell parts of the plant.

Gorse is a Regional priority weed. The South East Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022 specifies that Gorse must be managed in accordance with a published local management plan.

Bega Valley Shire Council's local management program imposes the following requirements:

All infestations:

Objective: Eradicate

Action: Eliminate Infestations

Transportation:

The plant must not be sold, transported or knowingly distributed.



Bega Valley Shire Council Chilean Needle Grass Management Program (*Nassella neesiana*)

Section 371 (1) b of the Biosecurity Act 2015

Introduction

Chilean needle grass is closely related to Serrated tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*). Chilean needle grass affects both sown pasture and native grasslands of south-eastern Australia. It is relatively unpalatable and reduces farm productivity by displacing more desirable pasture species. Heavy infestations can decrease productivity by as much as 50% during summer. It also causes injury to stock and downgrades wool, skins and hides with its long, sharp seeds.



Research on the Northern Tablelands of NSW by the University of New England has shown that the main reason for the success of Chilean needle grass is its large, long-lived reserve of viable seed in the soil seed bank. This seed bank can persist for many years even if further seed input is prevented. It is a prolific seeder, with the potential to produce more than 20,000 seeds per square metre in a good season. It also has hidden seeds under the leaf sheaths at each of the nodes on the flowering stems that mature even if the seed head has been removed.

Purpose of this program

To specify the control measures that a landholder must implement to ensure that his/her General Biosecurity Duty is discharged in relation to Chilean Needle Grass (*Nassella neesiana*) within the Bega Valley Shire.

Legal status

The management of invasive weeds in NSW is governed by the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. The Local Control Authority (Bega Valley Shire Council) is responsible for ensuring the prevention, elimination, minimization and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by invasive weeds. It is also responsible for the development, implementation, coordination and review of invasive weed control programs within its area of jurisdiction.

Mandatory Measure (Part 2, Division 8, Clause 33, *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*): A person must not import into the state or sell Chilean Needle Grass.

Any person dealing (eg the owner or occupier of land) with Chilean Needle Grass comply with his or her General Biosecurity Duty.

Biosecurity ACT 2015 – General Biosecurity Duty

Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.

Control Objective

The primary objective of this plan is to reduce the negative impact of Chilean Needle Grass on the Bega Valley's economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Council requirements

Bega Valley Shire Council has a duty as the Local Control Authority to inspect all land in connection with its weed control functions. In achieving this it must ensure the management of the **biosecurity risk** posed or likely to be posed by weeds within its area of jurisdiction.

Surveillance: Council inspects private and public lands for the presence of Chilean Needle Grass infestations on a 6 year cycle. Frequency of inspection increases in cases of non-compliance; the frequency of which is determined by the level of risk posed by the infestation(s).

Reporting: Council provides an inspection report to the land owner/occupier following inspection. The report shall indicate the level of infestation, its spatial distribution on the property and the level of weed control required by the owner/occupier. Infestation data is reported to the NSW Biosecurity Information System.

Enforcement: Council will enforce the control of Chilean Needle Grass where identified breaches are identified. Enforcement measures may include the issue of a penalty infringement notice, entering the land and controlling infestations at the owner/occupier's expense, or the issue of a court attendance notice. Penalties for non-compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* are significant.

Land owner/occupier requirements

All property managers have a responsibility to prevent, eliminate or minimize adverse effects on the economy, the environment and the community that arise from weeds. Where full control is feasible Council will enforce that requirement. Where widespread and established invasive species have become "naturalized" in our environment and full control is not deemed feasible by Council it will promote a strategy of minimization and containment.

Chilean Needle Grass is a State priority weed subject to mandatory requirements. A person must not import into the State or sell parts of the plant.



Chilean needle grass is identified within the South East Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022. The plan specifies that Chilean Needle Grass is subject to a local management program. Bega Valley Shire Council's local management program imposes the following requirements:

Isolated infestations:

Objective: Prevent establishment

Action: Eliminate infestations

Established infestations:

Objective: Containment. Reduce incidence in affected areas.

Action: The growth of the plant must be controlled in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread. Infestations may be managed in accordance with a staged control plan approved by Council. In situations where Council deems this requirement not reasonably practicable in accordance with Section 16 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, buffers and containment strategies may be introduced to protect priority assets.

Transportation:

The plant must not be sold, transported or knowingly distributed.

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Bega Valley Shire Council Crofton Weed Management Program 2018

(*Ageratina adenophora*)

Section 371 (1) b of the Biosecurity Act 2015

Introduction

Crofton weed is a rapid-spreading weed that has become a nuisance in many areas along the eastern coast of Australia. It is particularly invasive on cleared land that is not grazed, such as public reserves, and an aggressive invader of public amenity land such as State forests, National parks and nature reserves.

Places where Crofton weed is commonly found is along creek lines and tributaries and wet low-lying gullies. Once established, seedlings tolerate shade and grow rapidly. In this way, small infestations of Crofton weed rapidly increase in size unless controlled.

Crofton weed reduces the ecological value of bush land.

Note: It is poisonous to horses

Horses may preferentially graze the plant even when ample feed is available. Access to Crofton weed for as little as eight weeks can cause sickness.

Purpose of this program

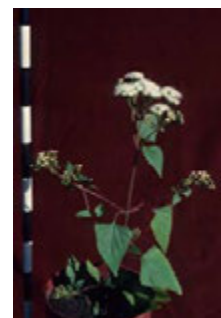
To specify the control measures that a landholder must implement to ensure that his/her General Biosecurity Duty is discharged in relation to Crofton weed (*Ageratina adenophora*) within the Bega Valley Shire

Legal status

The management of invasive weeds in NSW is governed by the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. The Local Control Authority (Bega Valley Shire Council) is responsible for ensuring the prevention, elimination, minimization and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by invasive weeds. It is also responsible for the development, implementation, coordination and review of invasive weed control programs within its area of jurisdiction.

Mandatory Measure (Part 2, Division 8, Clause 33, *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*): A person must not import into the state or sell Crofton weed.

Any person dealing (eg the owner or occupier of land) with Crofton weed must comply with his or her General Biosecurity Duty.



Biosecurity ACT 2015 – General Biosecurity Duty

Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.

Control objective

The primary objective of this plan is to reduce the negative impact of Crofton weed on the Bega Valley's economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Council requirements

Bega Valley Shire Council has a duty as the Local Control Authority to inspect all land in connection with its weed control functions. In achieving this it must ensure the management of the **biosecurity risk** posed or likely to be posed by weeds within its area of jurisdiction.

Surveillance: Council inspects private and public lands for the presence of Crofton weed infestations on a 6 year cycle. Frequency of inspection increases in cases of non-compliance; the frequency of which is determined by the level of risk posed by the infestation(s).

Reporting: Council provides an inspection report to the land owner/occupier following inspection. The report shall indicate the level of infestation, its spatial distribution on the property and the level of weed control required by the owner/occupier. Infestation data is reported to the NSW Biosecurity Information System.

Enforcement: Council will enforce the control of Crofton weed where identified breaches are identified. Enforcement measures may include the issue of a penalty infringement notice, entering the land and controlling infestations at the owner/occupier's expense, or the issue of a court attendance notice. Penalties for non-compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* are significant.

Land owner/occupier requirements

All property managers have a responsibility to prevent, eliminate or minimize adverse effects on the economy, the environment and the community that arise from weeds. Where full control is feasible Council will enforce that requirement. Where widespread and established invasive species have become "naturalized" in our environment and full control is not deemed feasible by Council it will promote a strategy of minimization and containment.



Isolated infestations:

Objective: Prevent establishment

Action: Eliminate infestations

Established infestations:

Objective: Containment. Reduce incidence in affected areas.

Action: The growth of the plant must be controlled in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread. Infestations may be managed in accordance with a staged control plan approved by Council. In situations where Council deems this requirement not reasonably practicable in accordance with Section 16 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, buffers and containment strategies may be introduced to protect priority assets.

Bega Valley Shire Council Sagittaria Management Program

(*Sagittaria platyphylla*)

Section 371 (1) b of the Biosecurity Act 2015

Introduction

Sagittaria (*Sagittaria platyphylla*, previously *S. graminea*) is a Weed **of National Significance**. An aquatic weed in New South Wales capable of aggressive growth and rapid spread. It can block irrigation channels, impede water flows and choke natural watercourses and wetlands.

In natural systems the vigorous, choking habits of Sagittaria threaten native aquatic flora and fauna. Dense infestations restrict water flow and can substantially alter the flow regime of catchments and waterways affecting biodiversity and stream health.

Infestations also have detrimental impacts on recreational activities such as fishing, boating and swimming, and reduce visual amenity of waterways.



Purpose of this program

To specify the control measures that a landholder must implement to ensure that his/her General Biosecurity Duty is discharged in relation to *Sagittaria platyphylla*

Legal status

The management of invasive weeds in NSW is governed by the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. The Local Control Authority (Bega Valley Shire Council) is responsible for ensuring the prevention, elimination, minimization and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by invasive weeds. It is also responsible for the development, implementation, coordination and review of invasive weed control programs within its area of jurisdiction.

Mandatory Measure (Part 2, Division 8, Clause 33, *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*): A person must not import into the state or sell *Sagittaria platyphylla*.

Any person dealing (eg the owner or occupier of land) with *Sagittaria platyphylla* must comply with his or her General Biosecurity Duty.

Biosecurity ACT 2015 – General Biosecurity Duty

Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.

Control Objective

The primary objective of this plan is to reduce the negative impact of *Sagittaria platyphylla* on the Bega Valley Shires economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Council requirements

Bega Valley Shire Council has a duty as Local Control Authority to inspect all land in connection with its weed control functions. In achieving this it must ensure the management of the **biosecurity risk** posed or likely to be posed by weeds within its area of jurisdiction.

Surveillance: Council inspects private and public lands for the presence of *Sagittaria* infestations on a 6 year cycle. Frequency of inspection increases in cases of non-compliance; the frequency of which is determined by the level of risk posed by the infestation(s).

Reporting: Council provides an inspection report to the land owner/occupier following inspection. The report shall indicate the level of infestation, its spatial distribution on the property and the level of weed control required by the owner/occupier. Infestation data is reported to the NSW Biosecurity Information System.

Enforcement: Council will enforce the control of *Sagittaria platyphylla* where identified breaches are identified. Enforcement measures may include the issue of a penalty infringement notice, entering the land and controlling infestations at the owner/occupier's expense, or the issue of a court attendance notice. Penalties for non-compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* are significant.

Land owner/occupier requirements

All property managers have a responsibility to prevent, eliminate or minimize adverse effects on the economy, the environment and the community that arise from weeds. Where full control is feasible Council will enforce that requirement. Where widespread and established invasive species have become "naturalized" in our environment and full control is not deemed feasible by Council it will promote a strategy of minimization and containment.

Sagittaria platyphylla is a State priority weed subject to mandatory requirements. A person must not import into the State or sell parts of the plant.

Isolated infestations:

Objective: Prevent establishment

Action: Eliminate infestations

Established infestations:

Objective: Containment. Reduce incidence in affected areas.

Action: The growth of the plant must be controlled in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread. Infestations may be managed in accordance with a staged control plan approved by Council. In situations where Council deems this requirement not reasonably practicable in accordance with Section 16 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, buffers and containment strategies may be introduced to protect priority assets.

Transportation:

The plant must not be sold, transported or knowingly distributed.



Bega Valley Shire Council Blackberry Management Program (*Rubus fruticosus* species aggregate)

Section 371 (1) b of the Biosecurity Act 2015

Introduction

Recognised as one of the worst weeds in Australia, blackberry was declared a **Weed of National Significance** in 1999.

Blackberry grows vigorously and can infest large areas quickly. Negative impacts include:

- reduced available grazing land (most livestock find blackberry unpalatable) and restricted livestock access to water (when growing densely around waterbodies)
- reduced productivity of land caused by shading out of pastures and crops, and competition for soil moisture and nutrients
- degradation of natural environments by displacing native plants and reducing habitat for native animals
- devaluation of visual and recreational aspects of public land, parks and reserves
- provision of harbour for vermin such as rabbits and foxes, and seasonal food for exotic animals such as starlings, blackbirds and foxes. These pest species also disperse blackberry seed, acting as vectors that spread blackberry infestations.



Purpose of this program

To specify the control measures that a landholder must implement to ensure that his/her General Biosecurity Duty is discharged in relation to Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* aggregate species) within the Bega Valley Shire

Legal status

The management of invasive weeds in NSW is governed by the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. The Local Control Authority (Bega Valley Shire Council) is responsible for ensuring the prevention, elimination, minimization and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by invasive weeds. It is also responsible for the development, implementation, coordination and review of invasive weed control programs within its area of jurisdiction.

Mandatory Measure (Part 2, Division 8, Clause 33, *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*): A person must not import into the state or sell Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* aggregate species).

Any person dealing (eg the owner or occupier of land) with Blackberry to comply with his or her General Biosecurity Duty.

Biosecurity ACT 2015 – General Biosecurity Duty

Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.

Control Objective

The primary objective of this plan is to reduce the negative impact of Blackberry on the Bega Valley's economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Council requirements

Bega Valley Shire Council has a duty as the Local Control Authority to inspect all land in connection with its weed control functions. In achieving this it must ensure the management of the **biosecurity risk** posed or likely to be posed by weeds within its area of jurisdiction.

Surveillance: Council inspects private and public lands for the presence of Blackberry infestations on a 6 year cycle. Frequency of inspection increases in cases of non-compliance; the frequency of which is determined by the level of risk posed by the infestation(s).

Reporting: Council provides an inspection report to the land owner/occupier following inspection. The report shall indicate the level of infestation, its spatial distribution on the property and the level of weed control required by the owner/occupier. Infestation data is reported to the NSW Biosecurity Information System.

Enforcement: Council will enforce the control of Blackberry where identified breaches are identified. Enforcement measures may include the issue of a penalty infringement notice, entering the land and controlling infestations at the owner/occupier's expense, or the issue of a court attendance notice. Penalties for non-compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* are significant.

Land owner/occupier requirements

All property managers have a responsibility to prevent, eliminate or minimize adverse effects on the economy, the environment and the community that arise from weeds. Where full control is feasible Council will enforce that requirement. Where widespread and established invasive species have become "naturalized" in our environment and full control is not deemed feasible by Council it will promote a strategy of minimization and containment.



Blackberry is identified within the South East Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 – 2022. The plan specifies that Blackberry is subject to a local management program. Bega Valley Shire Council's local management program imposes the following requirements:

Isolated infestations:

Objective: Prevent establishment

Action: Eliminate infestations

Established infestations:

Objective: Containment. Reduce incidence in affected areas.

Action: The growth of the plant must be controlled in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread. Infestations may be managed in accordance with a staged control

plan approved by Council. In situations where Council deems this requirement not reasonably practicable in accordance with Section 16 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, buffers and containment strategies may be introduced to protect priority assets.

Transportation:

The plant must not be sold, transported or knowingly distributed.

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