

High Risk Pathways Management Plan



WAP 1.1.2

NSW Invasive Species Plan. Goal 1: Exclude	
Prevent the establishment of new invasive species	1.1 High risk species and pathways are identified and managed

Regional Weed Strategy. Aim: Preventative Weed Management	
No new weeds naturalised over the life of the RWS	1.1.7 Identify and survey high risk areas where potential new weeds may be introduced

The purpose of this plan is to prevent new weeds from establishing in the Riverina and reduce existing weeds from spreading via high risk (HR) pathways.

Pathways	The means by which a weed moves e.g. wind, water, animals and by humans.
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As defined in the NSW Invasive Species Plan 2008-2015

According to the final report of the *Pathway risk analysis for weed spread within Australia*, the sources and pathways that currently pose the greatest impact risk are “Trade in Fodder, Ornamental plants and Aquarium plants, contamination of Agricultural produce and Machinery and vehicles and natural Water movement”.

HR pathways that travel through the Riverina (but are not limited to): Machinery, vehicles, headers, slashers, boats, water, plants and animals. HR routes have been identified across the Riverina. We hope to inspect where **HR pathways** have been if we are unable to intercept them on the following routes:

HR Pathway	Route the vector travels	
Machinery / slashers / vehicles / headers	Roads	Roads (freeways, highways, local, unsealed roads etc)
Water / Boat / Trailer	Watercourses	Rivers / Creeks / Irrigation channels
Trains / Vehicles / Animals / Humans	Infrastructure Lines	Railway corridors / Telephone lines / Power lines / Gas lines

HR sites identified:

Landscape / gravel suppliers	Pet shop/aquarium suppliers
Saleyards	Lakes/reservoirs/dams
Airports	Wetlands/billabongs/marsh areas
Rest areas	Travelling Stock Routes / Reserves
Bridge crossings / boat ramps	Public recreation areas – with high volumes of non local traffic
Nursery and garden industry retailers (including interstate retailers & suppliers)	

HR pathways & sites have been identified by Riverina Local Control Authorities (LCAs) and prioritised according to previous incursions and potential risk, using the following definitions.

Prioritising HR pathways and sites:

High priority pathways & sites	Historically new incursions have <u>frequently</u> been found along this pathway or at this site AND/OR in the LCAs opinion, <u>potential</u> for a new incursion to occur here in the future is <u>high</u> .
Medium priority pathways & sites	Historically new incursions have <u>occasionally</u> been found along this pathway or at this site AND/OR in the LCAs opinion, <u>potential</u> for a new incursion to occur here in the future is <u>medium</u> .
Low priority pathways & sites	Historically new incursions have <u>rarely</u> been found along this pathway or at this site AND/OR in the LCAs opinion, <u>potential</u> for a new incursion to occur here in the future is <u>low</u> .

Management response required at each identified HR pathway and site:

High frequency of inspections	HR pathways & sites inspected 3 or more times per annum
Medium frequency of inspections	HR pathways & sites inspected 1-2 times per annum
Low frequency of inspections	HR pathways & sites inspected annually at the discretion of the LCA

The individual stakeholder results are detailed in a separate list (WAP 1.1.1) to be updated as new pathways and sites are identified; and or amended as sites are no longer deemed to be HR.

Regional Action Plan:

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE
1. Identify and document HR pathways & sites in the Riverina	1. Develop a survey to identify & document all HR pathways & sites	Survey developed	RNWPO
	2. Distribute survey to all LCAs & LHPAs to identify & document all HR pathways & sites	Spreadsheet circulated to LCAs & LHPAs	RNWPO, LCAs, LHPAs
	3. Collate data gathered from spreadsheet into a regional list of HR pathways & sites – working document	WAP 1.1.1 HR pathways and sites identified. List updated as new pathways & sites are identified	RNWPO
	4. Develop maps to better display identified HR pathways & sites	Maps developed & updated as needed	RNWPO
2. Reduce the spread of weeds along HR pathways	1. Implement Riverina inspection policy that ensures consistency for effective weed management & standardised enforcement	WAP 1.2.3 Riverina inspection policy being implemented	RNWPO, LCAs
	2. Implement Rapid Response Plan that ensures a consistent approach to the management of new incursions of HR species	WAP 2.2.1 Rapid response plan being implemented	RNWPO, LCAs, LHPAs

	3. Implement New Incursion Plan – HR Species that ensures a consistent approach and response to the surveillance, identification and management of all HR species	WAP 1.2.2 NIP – HR species being implemented	RNWPO, LCAs, LHPAs	
	4. HR private property (pp) inspections carried out (# of properties) 2.1.1.1	8806 HR pp inspected under the Riverina WAP by 30/06/2015	all Riverina WAP participants	
	5. HR roadside inspections carried out (in kms) 2.1.1.2	118233.95kms of HR roadsides inspected by 30/06/2015	all Riverina WAP participants	
	6. Implement a targeted inspection program on and with retail outlets (# of nurseries inspected) 2.1.1.3	1100 retail outlets inspected by 30/06/2015	all Riverina WAP participants	
	7. HR waterway inspections carried out (in kms) 2.1.1.4	22795kms of HR waterways inspected by 30/06/2015	all Riverina WAP participants	
	8. Stock yard inspections carried out (# of stock yards) 2.1.1.5	360 stock yards inspected by 30/06/2015	all Riverina WAP participants	
	9. HR reserve inspections carried out (in hectares) 2.1.1.6	535243ha of HR reserves inspected by 30/06/2015	all Riverina WAP participants	
	10. Undertake targeted inspection program on soil, gravel and fill distribution points (# inspected) 2.1.1.12	2095 soil, gravel and fill distribution points inspected by 30/06/2015	all Riverina WAP participants	
	11. Install Red Guide Posts along roadsides to identify weed locations & avoid further spread along our HR routes.	Red guide posts installed as HR species are detected along our roadsides.	LCAs, LHPAs, RMS	
	12. Report notifiable weeds to NSW DPI using notifiable weeds reporting form	Notifiable weed reporting form submitted to NSW DPI as Class 1, 2 or 5 weeds are detected.	LCAs	
	13. Implement MERI plan	WAP 4.6.1 MERI Plan being implemented	RNWPO, LCAs, LHPAs	
	3. Ensure stakeholders are aware of HR pathways	1. Implement communication strategy that outlines major communication, extension, training & education activities	WAP 4.3.1 Communication Plan and WAP 2.1.1.9 Vehicle hygiene protocol being implemented	RNWPO, LCAs, LHPAs

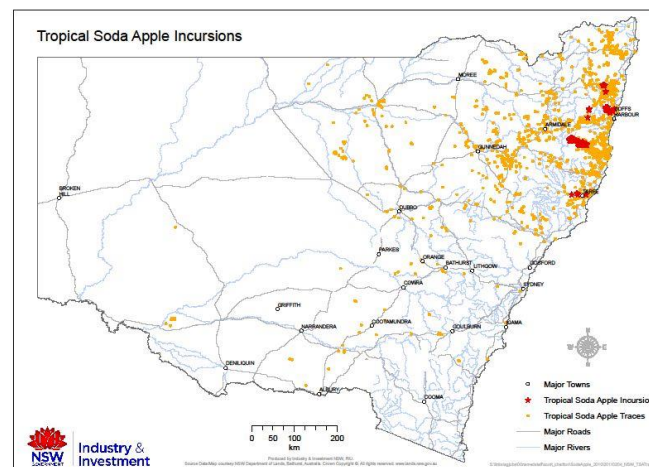
Linkages

- High Risk Pathways and Sites WAP 1.1.1
- High Risk Species WAP 1.2.1
- New Incursion Plan – High Risk Species WAP 1.2.2
- Riverina Inspection Policy WAP 1.2.3
- Rapid Response Plan WAP 2.2.1
- Notifiable Weed Reporting Form I&I NSW extranet <http://extranet.dpi.nsw.gov.au/weeds/permit-report/report/notifiable-reports>
- NSW Invasive Species Plan
- Murray RWS
- Murrumbidgee RWS
- Lower Murray Darling RWS
- Lachlan RWS
- Sindel, B. Meulen, A. Coleman, M & Reeve, I. (2009) *Pathway risk analysis for weed spread within Australia*. Land & Water Australia.

Case Study April 2011 – Tropical Soda Apple Greater Hume Shire Council



Summary – Greater Hume Shire Councils (GHSC) Senior Weeds Inspector (SWI) found the first reported Tropical Soda Apple (TSA) plant in the Riverina on the 6th April 2011. The property was targeted for an inspection as a result of a pathways analysis undertaken by NSW DPI (formerly known as I&I NSW) using the National Livestock Identification Scheme (NLIS). The map below highlights incursions (red dots) and traces (yellow dots). The traces led the SWI to the new incursion. 3 plants (1 in seed) were located in the holding paddocks where new stock bought in are emptied out. 1,200kms from the original infestation!



Kempsey
and
surrounding
areas

Origin of TSA – Tropical soda apple was first identified in Australia in the Kempsey area on the Mid North Coast of New South Wales (NSW) in August 2010. However, this weed is believed to have been present in this area for a number of years. The current extent of that infestation is about 50 ha. Subsequent surveys have identified other smaller infestations in surrounding areas, including Wingham and Grafton.



NLIS

As part of the combined NSW Government and Local Government response to TSA, a pathway analysis was undertaken by I&I NSW. It was established that cattle movement is a significant source of new infestations of TSA. Consequently, I&I NSW conducted a trace of cattle movements from known infestation sites using the NLIS to determine incursion pathways. This resulted in 7411 properties of interest being identified – covering a total of 53 Local Control Authorities in NSW.



Greater
Hume Shire
Council

GHSC received correspondence from I&I NSW (9th March 2011) listing several properties of interest identified through the pathways analysis. The SWI scheduled inspections at all properties and found 3 TSA plants (1 in seed) in the holding paddocks of the last property inspected! All plants have been manually removed.

Outcome: A potentially major environmental threat and economic disaster has been averted