





353 words

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2014

## DO NOT ENTER THE RED ZONE!

Red Guide Posts are being installed along roadsides throughout the Riverina (by weed officers) to identify known locations of high risk noxious weeds. The posts alert road users of the area they need to avoid to prevent further spread of noxious weeds along high risk pathways.

Eastern & Western Riverina Noxious Weeds Advisory Groups (E&WRNWAG) teamed up with the Lachlan & Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committees (L&MVWAC) to apply for the NSW Government funding under the NSW Weeds Action Program (WAP) New Innovative project for weeds 2013-2015. Their project *Pilot - Red Guide Post Project - Riverina, Lachlan & Macquarie RWACs* was successful, receiving \$107,440 to be spent over the 2 years.

Riverina Noxious Weeds Project Officer Paula Bosse said that over 2,000 red guide posts have been distributed to 33 partnering councils across the Riverina & Western NSW to be installed next to existing white guide posts at the "START" and "END" of high risk noxious weed infestations.

"Red guide posts have so far been installed to identify: Parthenium weed, Chilean needle grass, Serrated tussock and Coolatai grass sites. As a new weed infestation is detected, the red guide posts are installed to prevent the weeds spread while the site is being managed," Mrs Bosse said.

A major component of the pilot project is an extensive awareness campaign that will be launched at the upcoming Henty Machinery Field Days. An animated TV commercial has been produced and will be airing on the WIN network in Southern NSW for 4 weeks commencing 7<sup>th</sup> September.

Murray Local Land Services has also partnered with this project to expand the market reach of the commercial throughout the region as well as trial a new advertising medium displayed on Service Station Fuel Nozzles. This advertising will also commence 7<sup>th</sup> September and will remind road users to avoid the red guide posted areas.

Further information on the Red Guide Post initiative can be found at <a href="www.riverinaweeds.org.au">www.riverinaweeds.org.au</a> or contact your local council weed officer.

By avoiding Red Guide Posted areas we can all help stop the spread of weeds.

PAULA BOSSE

Riverina Noxious Weeds Project Officer E <a href="mailto:pbosse@greaterhume.nsw.gov.au">pbosse@greaterhume.nsw.gov.au</a> Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

PO Box 382
JINDERA NSW 2642
F 02 6026 3957
W www.riverinaweeds.org.au

LISA MITSCH

Riverina Noxious Weeds Promotions Officer E <u>Imitsch@greaterhume.nsw.gov.au</u> Wednesday, Friday



