MINUTES
MEETING 10th March 2011
COMMENCING 9.30am
AlburyCity Robert Brown Room

Guest Speakers: Karen Herbert

Meeting open at 9.42am
Rodney and Justin arrived 9.50

Welcome : Toby Grant Parklands Albury Wodonga, Mitch Mitchelmoore I&I, Richard Ahearn LPMA

Apologies: Christen Henriksen, Adam Craig, Paul McPhearson, John Francis, Ian Singleton, Alan Urquartson. Moved by Pat, seconded by Rob Ferguson.

Attendees: Mark Sheilds, Pat Minogue, Alan Clark, Jeremy Crocker, Thomas White, Michael Michelmore, Russell Percival, Mel Wilkerson, Neil Hibberson, Sarah Stuart, Paula Bosse, Robert Ferguson, Jan Mitchell, Graeme Worboys, Chris Slinger, Toby Grant, Tom Fagernes, Richard Ahearn, Shona Cowley, Mark Luff, John Ross, Justin Hamson, Rodney Anderson.

Minutes: Minutes to be true and correct.
Moved by Jan Mitchell, seconded John Ross.

Business Arising

- none

Correspondence In

- none

Correspondence Out

- Letter from Neil Hibberson.

Supporting letter for Hanwen's project to go ahead to do more research and field trials for silver leaf nightshade.

Financial Reports

- Still sorting out the transfer of finances from Wagga to Albury. No financial report.

RNWPO (Lisa) Report – March 2011

Important Dates over the coming weeks/months:

- Riverina Field Day 13-14 May 2011
- NSW Biennial Weeds Conference – 18th-21st July 2011 Coffs Harbour

Chinwag – Lisa emailed out Chinwag Edition 40 in November – available for download on the website. Thank you to all those weedos who took the time to contribute to the stories in Chinwag. It actually makes the newsletter much more interesting when others tell their own stories! Please remember to email her anything that you think might be of interest for the next edition. Edition 41 coming soon!!

Our website – – is constantly being updated. Remember if there is anything you want to see on there let Lisa know. We generally put info on there before we circulate it – so check it regularly!

Red Guide Post system - currently working on a Red Guide Post flyer. Stay tuned to see more….

Weed Awareness update Jessica Grantley – I & I
The kits are now available. One will be placed in the trailer and one left in our office for use. These kits will include copies of the new posters, postcards, samples of new NS4W merchandise (and ordering info), kids activity sheets, a display presentation on a disc and pdf copies of all printed materials on a disc. It is proposed that these resources will be able to be used as a stand alone hygiene focused display and regions can add other and local information to tailor the display as required. Any further info contact Lisa

Photo competition
Entries are being sort for the inaugural NSW *no space 4 weeds* photography competition The challenge is on for keen photographers to get snapping and be in line to win some great prizes! There are two competition categories to enter 1. Weed identification– a set of no more than six photographs to be used for the purposes of plant identification OR 2. Weed management – a single photograph of any aspect of weed management (e.g a weed infestation; weed control efforts, on the job action etc).

Everyone is eligible to enter, entry is free and you can enter as many times as you like! The winning entries will be displayed at the16th NSW Weeds Conference 18-21 July 2011. The competition closes on Friday 8 July 2011. All acceptable entries will be added to our image library and made available for use in weed publications and awareness campaigns. For more information please contact: weed.resource@industry.nsw.gov.au

Communication Strategy is finally well under way. There will be a draft circulated soon for people to peruse and if you have any thoughts or comments after this please let Lisa know.

Audit of Weed Information Resources – we are still waiting for many responses from you. (see list) all I need is either a no – nothing to report or Yes – and details of what you have. ASAP please.

Update of Regional Weed Identification Guide (Weeds of the Riverina) – An update of Weeds of the Riverina is required. There are not many copies left throughout the region now. Lisa has began the process of going through the old guide and changing what has become outdated etc. If anyone else has any comments or thoughts on these can you please contact Lisa. If you would like to be involved in the review process please let Lisa know and she will send you an electronic copy of the document to review and comment on.
I have also had a quote from local printers for 5000 copies. The approx cost was $5873 plus GST.

Riverina Field Day Griffith
Some discussion was had previously as to whether or not the Griffith field day will be a regional one or ran just by locals. A decision needs to be made as to whether the RNWPO needs to be in attendance or not. (Remembering that it is the best part of a 3 hour drive there and then back)

Plants that cannot be sold in the Riverina
Lisa has been updating this list to bring it in line with Order 26. As soon as it is finalised it will be available on the web.

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Cassie West arrived 10.06

RNWPO (Paula) Report – March 2011

Important dates over the coming weeks/months:

- Mach Inspect and Clean, Wagga 16/3/11 – 17 enrolled – only 3 places left – as at 28/2/11
- Project Officer forum to discuss WAP progress – Goulburn 24/3/11
- I&I NSW is calling for nominations for the Buerckner & Stephenson LG Weed Professional Awards. Nominations close on **29th April 2011**.The two categories in this year's Awards:
  - The Buerckner Award -for outstanding contribution to the on ground control of weeds in NSW
  - The Stephenson Award -for outstanding contribution to planning and coordinating weed management programs in NSW.

Riverina WAP allocations – The Minister approved a grant of $1,234,459 for the Riverina WAP submission. Our increased request for funding for our regional coordinator (RNWPO), Alligator weed operational funding & Riverina LHPA funding was not approved. **Invoices outstanding!!!!!!**

RWAC Report Template – still on the to-do list. It will be circulated when finalised.

Proposed changes to CG declaration – nothing to report.

Tropical soda apple – 15/2/11 – I emailed out a pathway analysis (map) and copy of I&I NSW letter that went to GMs in February.

Hawkweed – A Primefact & MR are in the pipeline for next season. Map from DECCW – circulate.

Sagittaria – Strategic plan currently being updated. When I receive a final draft I will circulate it to all for comments. Also Brian Keener, a Sagittaria taxonomist from the University of West Alabama is coming to Australia to look at plant specimens and hopefully identify them. Rae Kwong is hoping to grab some samples in the Riverina for id – CMCC might give an update later?

Draft NSW Prickle bush strategy – available if anyone would like to comment. Next meeting: ?

NWA 1993 - Consistent with section 76 of the Act, a review is being undertaken to determine whether the policy objectives of the Act remain valid, and whether the terms of the Act remain appropriate for securing those objectives. The Issues Paper on the review of the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* is available for download at: http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/about/legislation-acts/review/noxious-weeds. Closing date for submissions was 28/2/11. I do have a copy of the WOA response to the issues paper – all members should have received this.

Order 26 – details emailed out 23/11/10 summarising the changes. The major change is that a few of the state-wide CC5 weeds have been moved into CC4. I&I also sent correspondence 21/12/10

Mesquite & Parkinsonia - I&I are proposing to add Mesquite and Parkinsonia to (Corowa, Albury, GHSC, WWCC, Tumut, Tumbarumba, Junee, Cootamundra & Gundagai) Class 2 weed list to bring it into line with all other Riverina councils. Councils were emailed this information 8/2/11.

NSW Biennial weeds conference – draft program available. Rego details will be online soon

I&I Regional Coordinators – Feedback requested by LGSA – the request came through in late Oct 2010 & I formulated a response with the chairs & secs of both groups. Our response is available if anyone would like a copy. No follow up received to date.

Weed management capacity building services – results of survey from Birgitte – 8% of extranet subscribers responded! Results from the survey will guide a review of the project activities and targets for the 2011-15 financial years. Summary of conclusions:

Part 1: *Capacity building Services* - The weeds websites & information resources available on the websites are valued the most by respondents this is followed by the Weeds Training Program & weed awareness coordination. The printed resources & Weed Resource Bulletin was least valued.

Part 2: *Provision of printed resources* - Many respondents' value & are reliant on the provision of free printed resources to extend information about weeds to the community. Some areas are more self sufficient & would easily transition to doing their own print runs. Overall a reduction in printing resources will result in less information being provided to community & landholders on weed management.

Part 3: *The Extranet for weed management professionals* - There is good support to retain and expand the use of the extranet. Most agree that the extranet should remain a closed site. Most people want the extranet to be redesigned to make it a more interactive site for weed professionals.

Birgitte emailed the results to us to ensure that we are happy that the results are a fair indication of our regions priorities regarding the capacity building services I&I NSW provide and to give us one more chance to have a say. Our response/confirmation of results is required **by the 11th March**.

Car Sunshades I&I are looking at ordering some car windscreen shades (the kind that you put up on the inside of the car windscreen to shade the vehicle and then fold away and keep in a bag behind the seat) as a NS4W merchandise item. They have a large area to print on and offer a good space for promoting our message. We would use some of the key messages from the hygiene theme and the logo. They have the opportunity to order larger numbers and have some available at a cost (approx. $12.00 each) if you think it could be an item that councils might purchase for vehicles?

WoNS Strategies being reviewed - currently open for formal comment www.weeds.org.au/wons

Boat ramp signage – currently at the printer – printed this week or next. 52 signs coming our way!

Albury	4	Gundagai	1	Tumut	8	Central Murray	12	Narrandera	2
Corowa	6	Junee	1	Wagga	3	Murrumbidgee	1	Wakool	4
Greater Hume	2	Tumbarumba	1			Griffith	2	Wentworth	5

WAP reporting 10/11 – I have incorporated the reporting into everyone's individual WAP spreadsheets (all 27 of them). Has everyone received and had a go at filling them in? Last ones were emailed out 17/2/11. Questions? The only additional information I'll require I will email out closer to the end of financial year – 1 pager to do with new incursions, inspection program – high risk sites/pathways, community extension, educations and involvement, regional highlights &

achievements. Reporting under the WAP is a lot earlier than in past years – end of August for me!

Density and Spread – regional definition: As a recommended action out of our Rapid Response plan and a reporting requirement in the WAP, we need to list/report new weed incursions along with their current density and spread at the end of each year using the same spread & density definition as per our control programs. This is what you'll refer to when determining density of new incursions

High Risk Species WAP 1.2.1 – circulate handouts. I've combined our priority listings from our 4 RWS with the Class 1 & 2 state wide list into one document. This will form the basis for a lot of the planning to be undertaken in the coming months. Anything to add – let me know!

Rapid Response Plan WAP 2.2.1 – in draft and circulated to all for comments. This plan outlines the specific procedures and recommended actions to be undertaken upon finding a new incursion of a Category A or B weed. Any comments / additions – please let me know ASAP.

Regional Inspection Program WAP 1.2.3 – after trawling the web looking for examples to base our regional policy on; I ended up looking over Lachlan & Macquarie Valleys. It was very broad & straightforward which is exactly what I was looking for. I've modified it to suit our region & linked it to our WAP, MoU & RWS. The only way to achieve regional endorsement is by giving councils the ability to detail their own inspection goals. Discuss. Anything missing, am I completely off track?

Regional High Risk Pathways WAP 1.1.1 – this will ultimately be a list of HR Sites & Pathways. We need to do exactly what we've already done for boat ramps – but for everything else. I'm in the process of putting a spreadsheet together that will be circulated to everyone for input. You'll need to list all new incursions that you can remember – site & pathways, as well as details of HR sites.

Regional Management protocol of high risk pathways – to be developed once Pathways are id.

Regional Incursion Plan for High Risk species – base on the NSW incursion plan.

Constitution – as amended at the AGM – is available on the web.

Genista monspessulana (Montpellier broom) – possible declaration in the Riverina. I will email a request for further information out to all weeds that I will then collate and feed back up to I&I.

The land magazine – article on water hyacinth at Wagga in this edition – photo of Adam Craig.

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Paula discussed the survey results from Birgitte and asked the group if they are happy with the collated results and if it represents the opinions of the group since only 8 percent responded online.
Mel commented about the value of the printed resources and the demand from landholders for the printed resource material. In particular the handbooks, if we had to print them ourselves it would be very costly to weed officers.

Mitch commented about the material and who develops the material and where it is available.

General discussion about value of printed weed resources.

Fact sheets are easy to print off ourselves but the handbooks are difficult and expensive to produce.

Density & Spread – Paula distributed 'Density & Spread' WAP reporting sheets
Group is happy with the form. Rodney Anderson moved, Alan Clarke seconded.

Paula distributed 'High Risk Species' WAP reporting sheets and explained.

If you have a weed that needs to be put on the High Risk Weeds list it needs to be mentioned to Paula, then be listed and prioritised. The group agreed not to move it as a working document. It will be updated and changed regularly.

Paula distributed the draft 'Rapid Response Plan' this was a requirement for Paula to complete for the WAP. The document outlines procedures and recommended actions. Open for comment on the document.

Group to adopt draft document, Jeremy Crocker moved, seconded by Graeme Worboys – to become a working document.

'Regional Inspection Policy' handed out.

Discussion about the length of time it takes each council to inspect every residential and rural property. It is different for every LCA.

Rob F mentioned that it is impossible to ensure that you will inspect every one of these properties in a certain time frame. Mitch explained what a 'reasonably useful look' for a property inspection is.

Every council will have a different classification for 'rural'. Mitch said that we need to ensure the inspections are efficient and effective.

Determined by size - Less than 1 ha, more than 1 ha?

Changes to the document section 3.1.1. were discussed – should each council to develop their own Inspection Policy?

Change to 'council weed inspectors will ensure that residential and rural properties within the council area are inspected for weeds as per the individual LCA's inspection policy.'

Paula to remove the word 'every'.

Need to include a time frame of when all properties will be inspected in a useful way - in each local policy. All councils to have draft policy to Paula by end of month. Council's should have policy form Weed Control Coordination program anyway.

Changes made and draft document adopted.
Moved by Rodney Anderson Seconded by Justin Hamson.
Carried.

Regional High Risk pathways – Paula to email out spreadsheet.

The updated constitution is on the website.

Looking at declaring cape broom, email from Stephen Johnson.

Encourage group to send samples of Broom to herbarium so they have an accurate distribution record.

Paula to forward weed officers to reply to Stephen's email.
Paula will collate responses and send to Stephen.

Lunch at 12.00

Guest Speaker 12.50
Karen Herbert – Hawkweed
Power point presentation

Melbourne University is looking for weed professionals for a detection trial during Dec – Jan.
Contact Karen if interested.

Weeds Officers Reports

Name: Jan Mitchell _____ **Organisation**: Albury City _____

Weeds of National Significance Update (Alligator weed, Tamarix, Boneseed, Blackberry, Bridal creeper, Cabomba, Chilean needle grass, Gorse, Mesquite, Parthenium, Salvinia, Serrated tussock, Willows):
Chilean Needle Grass Ettamogah site
Blackberry inspections 15 SECTION 18 A
3 SECTION 18

Weeds of Regional Significance Update (Sagittaria, Coolatai grass, Silverleaf nightshade, St Johns wort, Hardhead thistle, Prairie Ground Cherry, Spiny burrgrass and Johnson grass):

Coolatai grass cutting seed heads off, spraying
Coolatai grass now at Thurgoona drive overpass
St. Johns wort inspections 2 SECTION 18 A
1 SECTION 18

Property inspections: (anything unusual found or an unusual situation?)

Water Hyacinth update
Nursery Inspections In Style at peards, Bunnings
Water Poppy

Biological control update (weed warriors):

No Bio control

Other projects / other funding sources:
Weed action project – case study water poppy
CMA funding 25K – Protection for woodlands

Coolaman – Chris

Date: 9.3.11

Name: Graeme Worboys **Organisation**: Cootamundra Shire Council

Weeds of National Significance Update (Alligator weed, Tamarix, Boneseed, Blackberry, Bridal creeper, Cabomba, Chilean needle grass, Gorse, Mesquite, Parthenium, Salvinia, Serrated tussock, Willows):
Blackberry – season has favoured growth with control being undertaken. Blackberry present along rail corridor ARTC have been notified.
CNG – attended useful field day near Visy at Tumut in December. Inspected area just outside shire boundary in Young Shire where some control is being undertaken and spot sprayed a few active plants. Landowners in area notified were notified of location prior to harvest.

Weeds of Regional Significance Update (Sagittaria, Coolatai grass, Silverleaf nightshade, St Johns wort, Hardhead thistle, Prairie Ground Cherry, Spiny burrgrass and Johnson grass):
Coolatai grass – known localities re-visited. New plants and re-growth occurring with control undertaken and landowners notified.
Silverleaf nightshade – 2 known major infestations sprayed and other isolated plants spot sprayed.
St Johns wort – season saw this weed increase dramatically across Shire. Many roadsides, ARTC land and properties infested. Saw no sign of biological control agents at work. Much time and money spent on controlling this weed in the Cootamundra Shire.
PGC – one known infestation on ARTC/private land controlled after re-sprays. Further inspections needed. ARTC graded area after spraying.
Johnson Grass- continued to appear across the shire and being sprayed when seen on roadside/shire land/crown land/ARTC.

Property inspections: (anything unusual found or an unusual situation?)

Seasonal conditions have seen strong weed growth with Scotch thistle, Bathurst burr, Devils claw, St Barnabys thistle, fleabane (esp. on roadsides), field bindweed and chicory being seen.
In town and 2 villages, caltrop and khaki weed plentiful and footpaths etc being sprayed.
Found Dwarf marigold (Schkuhria pinnata) growing on roadside in Yannawah district.

Other

Recent article in Cootamundra News by solicitor from a firm called JMA Legal on Noxious Weeds Act was timely and copy given to Paula for inclusion in Chinwag.
Chris Slinger did a day tour of Shire with me looking at different situations. A very useful exercise.

Pat NPWS issues – requested a guest speaker from NPWS due to issues with state forest land acquired by NPWS. Josh Bean at next meeting.
Gundagai – Russell

Name: Neil Hibberson _____ **Organisation**: Greater Hume Shire Council _____

Weeds of National Significance Update
Inspections for Alligator weed, Chilean needle grass, Gorse, Serrated tussock, have been ongoing. A/W has been the major concern with a large amount discovered in the creek system. This has been removed by hand or if needed sprayed out in the case of terrestrial plants.

Weeds of Regional Significance Update All known Coolatai grass, Silverleaf nightshade, Prairie Ground Cherry, Johnson grass sites have been sprayed and inspections carried out.

Property inspections: Since the floods several property owners have reported Thornapple outbreaks.

Biological control update Cochineal on Riverina pear at Walbundrie and Jindera.

Other projects / other funding sources:
CMA biodiversity grant for the removal of Montpellier Broom in the Jindera area.

Cooperative arrangements ARTC spraying of the unused rail line between Holbrook and Culcairn for St. John's Wort.

Lockhart – Justin

Alan Clarke - Alan Clarke left at 2.24

Name: Mel Wilkerson _____**Organisation**: Tumut Shire Council

Weeds of National Significance Update (Alligator weed, Tamarix, Boneseed, Blackberry, Bridal creeper, Cabomba, Chilean needle grass, Gorse, Mesquite, Parthenium, Salvinia, Serrated tussock, Willows):

- **Blackberry** is still endemic through the shire however; there has been a reduction of blackberry infestation about 30% in most of the key problem areas.- This includes major treatment and reduction on common/Council lands but is primarily private land reductions
- **Boneseed** – Boneseed was found on one property (6 plants). These were removed and no regrowth was noted – this will be monitored over the next 3 years.
- **Serrated Tussock**. – Two plants were positively identified on the Go-Cup road. These plants were removed and the area treated. No regrowth has been noted.
- **Gorse** - Gorse reductions continue and have been very effective this year. However due to excessive flooding at the time of seed set, down watercourse flows will have to be closely monitored over the next 3-5 years for regrowth and spread.
- **Black Willow reduction** – the black willow reduction plan has been an ongoing project intermixed with other projects conducted around the shire. Significant achievement has been made on reductions with nearly 80% successful removal. Monitoring and spot removal will continue.

The Grant funding was expended with an $11,555 carry over from the previous grant money (16,000) allocated to the shire in 2007. This was expended in conjunction with 4 major works projects which reduced the operational expenses significantly. A short summary is as follows:

LOCATION	YEAR	EXPENDITURE	RUNNING TOTAL
Adelong falls	2007-2009	20,000	20,000
RivergladeWetlands	2007-2010	7,000	27,000
Bila Park	2008-2009	3,500	30,050
Junction Bridge park	2009-2010	4,099	34,599
Pioneer Park/riverwalk	2009-2010	3,500	38,099
Gilmore reserve above eucalypt walk	2009-2010	10,000	48,099

Grant	**16,037.74**
Local Control Authority commitment	**36,061.26**
Total Expenditure	**48,099.00**

- **Chilean Needle Grass** – several major outbreaks of Chilean Needle Grass have been detected and at least 5 have been mapped within the shire. A Chilean Needle Grass vehicle Hygiene protocol has been adopted by Council for Council works in these areas. More than 450ha of lands are included in the infestations with approximately 90-95 percent of the infestations still remaining on Council Lands. (this does not include land held by the ARTC and HLPA) which also have infestations. The areas have been sign posted, and media releases have been issued as well as weed awareness field days conducted. The major infestation areas either have or are being treated with fluproponate. This will likely be an ongoing project for 5-7 years. **Funding is a major issue to success.**

Weeds of Regional Significance Update (Sagittaria, Coolatai grass, Silverleaf nightshade, St Johns wort, Hardhead thistle, Prairie Ground Cherry, Spiny burrgrass and Johnson grass):

- **St Johns Wort –** The wet weather and warm days have led to a significant growth of Wort throughout the shire. Additional contractors were hired to spray on Council lands however; the Council only managed to effectively treat about ½ of the infested areas prior to seed set. This was due to the weather. A larger and more dense problem is expected for the 2011-2012 growth season
- **Johnsons Grass** – A targeted program for Johnson's grass was undertaken on all the major Council roads and several sub routes in the Shire. The kill rate was particularly effective and highly visible. –Long term efficacy has yet to be evaluated.

Property inspections: (anything unusual found or an unusual situation?)

- A very large patch of Devil's claw (yellow flower) was discovered on one property which was not noted there on any previous inspections.

- Wet weather has hampered the number of inspections conducted. Positively, 11 of 13 significant properties with major infestations have all committed to a 5-7 year weed control management plan drawn up in conjunction with the Council which has led to a positive outcome and a nearly 30 percent reduction in blackberry infestations as well as a significant reduction in spread and new infestations.
    - One key contributor to this may be the adoption by Council to impose a fee for re-inspections where no control work has been done.
    - Weed inspection reports now all contain the following summation:

NOXIOUS WEEDS CONTROL IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

Noxious weeds are plants that are significantly detrimental to agricultural production or the environment. Under the *Noxious Weeds Act,* landowners, State Government and Local Control Authorities (Council) are legally responsible to carry out control measures.

Council is legally required to inspect all lands for noxious weeds, to control noxious weeds on Council-owned land and roadsides, to enforce noxious weeds control on private land using the provisions of the *Noxious Weeds Act, 1993,* and to control noxious weeds on council-owned and public land.
Owners and Occupiers of Land, both rural and urban, are responsible to control noxious weeds on their property under the *Noxious Weeds Act, 1993*. Failure to do so leaves owners and occupiers liable for considerable fines or other legal action. While most landowners do the right thing by controlling noxious weeds, a small number stall, or use other methods to avoid effective control. These properties often become weed seedbeds which are transported by animals, birds, rain, wind etc creating a real problem and expense for everyone. The additional expense from non-compliance means more cost to everyone including the general ratepayer**.**
Council undertakes regular inspections of private and public lands over the entire Shire.

- Landowners will be advised in writing after the first inspection of the presence of noxious weeds on their land. The report will state a reasonable period of time in which control measures must be implemented. If a second inspection shows that control measures taken are found to be reasonable and effective no further action will be required.
- If a second inspection shows that reasonable and effective control measures **have not been taken**, an 'Intention To Serve a Weed Control Notice' will be issued under the Noxious Weeds Act. **Any re-inspections due to non compliance will be subject to a charge (currently $102 if less than 45 minutes – including travel time, and $169.00 if more than 45 minutes - including travel time).** (s26 *Noxious Weeds Act 1993)*
- If a subsequent inspection reveals that reasonable control action has not been taken, a Notice will be issued requiring the owner/occupier to control noxious weeds within a specific period of time.
- Failure to comply with a Weed Control Notice may result in legal action or Council may carry out the weed control work required at the landowner's expense

Biological control update (weed warriors):

- Bio controls for Patterson's Curse throughout the shire have been decimated by the heavy rains and weather. Previously large density bio controls such as weevils and beetles are now virtually non existent.

Other projects / other funding sources:

- A funding arrangement has been made with a land care group who had unallocated funds in their grant money which was unable to be used to the weather constraints. They have offered a dollar for dollar matching of funds specifically focussed on controlling the Chilean Needle Grass. Council has matched this, using funds from its existing weeds budget which generated about a $10,000 starting base for control work on the problem.

- ARTC and HLHPA have also been significant contributors to Chilean needle grass control within the shire with the HLHPA paying for chemical and the shire providing control spraying on some areas
- Crown lands has also approached the shire about doing work on some of the crown land commons and a quote has been sent to them for the cost of annual control measures in the common, former agricultural reserve as well as heavily infested mid tract crown lands in the Batlow area.

Cooperative arrangements (working with ARTC, RTA, NPWS etc):

- A working arrangement has been made with the Industry and investment input between the ARTC (Kirsten Hendrickson) and the Shire to deal with the significant CNG infestation in the central area between Adelong and Tumut. Although both the Shire and the ARTC will primarily work on their own held property there is a significant resource sharing and control effort that crosses over in many areas due to works being done by the Shire. A rotating slash and spray approach has been taken to control and this project, if funding can be secured will hopefully continue for the next few years.

Future guest speakers or topics (thoughts):

Topic: Achieving compliance with problem land holders. – this is proposed more of a general discussion than a formal topic.

Topic: Getting a focus on weeds from non-weeds professionals:
- Council
- Regional
- State
- Landholders

Name: Jeremy Crocker _____ **Organisation**:WWCC_____

Weeds of National Significance Update (Alligator weed, Tamarix, Boneseed, Blackberry, Bridal creeper, Cabomba, Chilean needle grass, Gorse, Mesquite, Parthenium, Salvinia, Serrated tussock, Willows):

Since the last meeting WWC have inpsected for and controlled Chilean Needle grass on the Sturt highway, Oura rd, Downside to Shepards siding rd and Toonga settlement rd.

We also located a single Gorse plant on Willans hill.

The Salvina and Water Hyacinth in Lake Albert has not been seen, inspected regularly.

Weeds of Regional Significance Update (Sagittaria, Coolatai grass, Silverleaf nightshade, St Johns wort, Hardhead thistle, Prairie Ground Cherry, Spiny burrgrass and Johnson grass):

The SJW and SLN season's are good with plants and patches popping up every where. SBG has germinated en masse and we have been spraying chipping and burning it, also working with the LHPA to get on top of it.

Property inspections: (anything unusual found or an unusual situation?)

Property inspections have been numerous with complaints a plenty this year due to the high rainfall, Blackberry, Spiny and Burrs being the main weeds encountered

Biological control update (weed warriors):

Nil

Other projects / other funding sources:

CMA project: Tarcutta creek Black willows/Blackberry to be shortly in conjunction with the River Restoration Crew and Tarcutta Landcare.

Cooperative arrangements (working with ARTC, RTA, NPWS etc):

LHPA in SBG control

Date: 08/03/2011

Name: Mark Luff **Organisation**: Hume LHPA

Weeds of National Significance Update (Alligator weed, Tamarix, Boneseed, Blackberry, Bridal creeper, Cabomba, Chilean needle grass, Gorse, Mesquite, Parthenium, Salvinia, Serrated tussock, Willows):

Chilean needle grass has been found on the TSR's along the Snowy Mts Highway. We are working in with the Tumut Shire Council to control this problem.

Weeds of Regional Significance Update (Sagittaria, Coolatai grass, Silverleaf nightshade, St Johns wort, Hardhead thistle, Prairie Ground Cherry, Spiny burrgrass and Johnson grass):

Weeds have been real problem on our TSR's this summer. St Johns wort was found on TSR's during the summer that had been free or near free for years. Spiny burrgrass has been a problem on one of our TSR's, the area has been fenced our and currently working with the local council.
Bathurst burrs have also been a real problem.

Property inspections: (anything unusual found or an unusual situation?)

TSR Rangers have inspected TSR's for weeds.

Biological control update (weed warriors):

Other projects / other funding sources:

The plague locust campaign consumed most of our resources during the spring/summer which put our weeds spraying program behind.

Cooperative arrangements (working with ARTC, RTA, NPWS etc):

Future guest speakers or topics (thoughts):

LPMA – Shona – $40,000 weed spraying E/WRNWAG,
funding for Council projects,
CMA – Murray – Cassie – Alligator weed, 14th April
scheduled day with Greater Hume. Purple stolons on orange hawkweed is a good ID feature. Community Grants released next week $2500 for community groups. CMA looking to run training workshops in Albury Oct – Nov. Grass recognition course.

CMA – Murrumbidgee. Tom – community grants available soon for $2500.

General Business

- Impact of wet season on weeds – district & regional concerns (Graeme W)

Weeds that we thought had beat have come back this year due to seasonal conditions. This season means we'll be busy for the next few seasons.

- Update of Regional Weed ID guide

Waiting for updates in weed declarations before printing new version. Mel – minimum content should be all declared Noxious Weeds.
Not enough space to have ALL noxious weeds.
Weed officers to check and send any changes to Lisa not Paula.

- Upcoming workshops in Tooma – Blackberry & Hawkweed from Paul McPhearson, more information to come out once details are finalised
- Rob F – Daily Telegraph article.

Date, Time & Venue of Next Meeting

- 9.30am Thursday 9th June Robert Brown Room Albury.

Meeting Close: 2.50