

NSW Invasive Species Plan. Goal 1: Exclude	
Prevent the establishment of new invasive species	1.2 Develop and implement early detection capabilities

Regional Weed Strategy. Aim: Preventative Weed Management	
No new weeds naturalised over the life of the RWS	1.1.8 Implement a targeted inspection program on private properties and roadsides

The purpose of this inspection policy is to provide a minimum standard that ensures consistent policy and procedural framework for all LCAs to follow. It contains consistent enforcement and inspection procedures under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.

The inspection program aims to detect new and emerging weeds before they become established, as governed by the NSW ISP, NSW Biosecurity Strategy and Riverina WAP.

Early detection and rapid response offer the most strategic and cost effective form of weed management. Consistency in the inspection policy across the region is critical for effective weed management.

1. Background

Council has demonstrated its commitment to achieving inspectorial targets by becoming a participating partner of the Riverina Weeds Action Program 2015-2020 (WAP). All Councils have signed a MoU that sets out the principles that the parties wish to adopt in undertaking the Riverina WAP. This includes the development of regional weed management programs and associated documents and the implementation of these programs and other associated projects undertaken individually or in collaboration by the councils.

2. Associated Legislation

NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.

3. Policy

3.1. Employment of Inspector

3.1.1. Council will employ at least 1 (one) appropriately qualified weeds inspector at all times, or make every effort to ensure the position is filled as soon as possible after becoming vacant.

3.2. Inspections of properties

3.2.1. Council weed inspector(s) will ensure residential and rural properties within the council area are inspected for weeds as per their individual LCA inspection policy. Council to supply Regional Weed Coordinator with current policy.

3.2.2. The target number of property inspections (including businesses and council managed lands) per year are set out in Councils activity spreadsheet as submitted for the Riverina WAP 2015-2020.

3.2.3. Council will make every effort to reach these targets each year.

3.3. Inspections of High Risk sites & High Risk pathways

3.3.1. Council weed inspector(s) will ensure the target number of High Risk site and High Risk pathway inspections are met as per the Riverina WAP submission. Refer to High Risk Pathways and Sites WAP database for a complete list of High Risk sites and High Risk pathways.

3.4. New incursions

3.4.1. Upon finding a new incursion – the Rapid Response Plan WAP 2.2.1 will be implemented.

4. Linkages

- High Risk Pathways & Sites WAP database
- HR Pathways & Sites Management Plan WAP 1.1.1
- High Risk Species WAP 1.2.1
- New Incursion Plan – HR Species WAP 1.2.2
- Rapid Response Plan WAP 2.2.1
- Memorandum of Understanding dated 28th April 2015 between Greater Hume Shire and all Riverina LCAs, LLS & RWACs.
- NSW Invasive Species Plan
- Murray RSWMP 2017-2022
- Riverina RSWMP 2017-2022
- Riverina WAP 2015-2020

5. Endorsement/recommendation

That council adopt this amended regional inspection policy