





352 words

30th June 2018

DO NOT ENTER THE RED ZONE!

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

The former 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.

Regional WAP Project Officer Paula Bosse said that over 2,000 red guide posts were distributed to 33 partnering councils across the Murray-Riverina & Western NSW to be installed next to existing white guide posts at the "START" and "END" of priority 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 was the development of resources including an extensive awareness campaign that was launched at the Henty Machinery Field Days. An animated TV commercial was also produced and aired on the WIN network in Southern NSW for 4 weeks in September 2014.

Murray Local Land Services 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 was in place for over 2 years to remind road users to avoid the red guide posted areas.

All resources developed and further information on the Red Guide Post initiative can be found at www.riverinaweeds.org.au/rgp/ or contact your local council weed officer.

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



