



Northern Inland Weed Advisory Committee
Gwydir Shire Council Chambers – Thursday November 16th, 2006

1.0 Meeting commenced at 10.07 am:

1.1 Present: Cr Maria Woods (Chair), Lee Amidy and Tony Woods (GSC), Peter Scott (LPSC), Mick Kane (MPSC), Cr George Sevil, Andrew Croft and Sue Williams (NSC), Natasha Soar (Secretary, TRC), Greg Lumber (TRLPB), Gaven Young (MRLPB), Duane Shawcross, Ken Pines, David Nixon (GSC), Les Tanner (NWW), Phil Blackmore (DPI), Jamie Maddock (MRLPB), Kevin Waters and Tina Hatfield (NEWA).

Apologies: Eilyn Johns (NRLPB), Bob Stuart (LPSC), Richard Galliger (NNERLPB), Stuart Boyd-Law (NPWS), Darren Pitt (NPWS), Tom Newby and Nigel Fuller (SF), Lindy Goodman (MRLPB), John Gordon (NEWA), Paul Welchman (NSC), Clr Stephen Benham (GSC)

1.2 Chair's Report

- Amendments to the Act, new weed classes and control measures, new declaration lists.
- ARTC – pleasing that council's agreed to write to the Minister regarding noxious weeds on the rail corridors.
- Thank you to Massiel for her efforts as the Planning Co-ordinator.
- Approximately \$6400 was received by the member councils for extra awareness activities.
 - The St John's wort advertisement is currently running on Prime. An invoice for this has been received at NEWA.
 - The next ad features Mother of Millions and will run later in the year.

1.3 Financial Statement

- The financial statement was circulated and produced by Lee Amidy.

1.4 Nomination and Election of Chair

Nomination: Maria Woods

Moved: Clr George Sevil Seconded: Lee Amidy CARRIED

1.5 Nomination and Election of Secretary

Nomination: Peter Scott

Moved: Lee Amidy Seconded: Les Tanner REJECTED

Nomination: Paul Welchman

Moved: Andrew Croft Seconded: Lee Amidy CARRIED

1.6 Confirmation of the Minutes from the previous meeting

Motion: That the Minutes of the General Meeting in Narrabri on August 9th, 2006 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Andrew Croft Seconded: Clr George Sevil CARRIED

1.7 Introduction of Guests

- David Wilkinson – ARTC
- Clare Smith – Namoi CMA
- Frances Pike – Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA

2.0 Phil Blackmore's Report

- Explanation to the comments that were raised at the previous meeting regarding the regional plans. The group projects were new. Weed control activities on council lands is the LCA responsibility. The group projects must reflect what extra work will be undertaken with the grant funding.
- Order 20 – galvanised burr may be re-instated. North-West weeds have removed *Xanthium sp.* from their declared list.
- Call for abstracts for next year's conference.
- Grant funding has been announced. Funding for the regional plans has included St John's wort and Blackberry. Thank you to Massiel for her efforts in submitting the applications.
- Fountain grass, *Pennisetum setaceum*, is a Class 5, however, in nurseries the type 'rubrum' has been mis-labelled. This type belongs to *Pennisetum advena*. Please inspect and recommend that the plants be re-labelled or the plants can be detained.
- Inspections – now is the time for anything new, unpalatable or different to stand out.
- Total – noxious weeds grants being administered by CMA's is being discussed in Cabinet.
- Congratulations to Maria on her appointment to NWAC.

3.0 Business arising and action sheet from last meeting

ARTC – David Wilkinson

- David is the Team Manager, based at Tamworth. Mobile – 0427 007 419. or dwilkinson@artc.com.au
- Darren Clarke is the counterpart at Narrabri.
- A 3 year programme has been put in place to address weeds along the rail corridors, this has a budget allocation of \$350,000.
- Specific weeds being treated include; Blackberry, St John's wort, African boxthorn, Green Cestrum, Golden Dodder (these weeds will be treated from now unto early in the new year). Following this will be Johnson grass, Noogoora burr, Bathurst burr, Paterson's curse and English broom.
- At present contractors are being organised to perform the work required.
- Officers may receive contact from Greg Ferris, Integrated Land Management.
- Track spraying covers a few metres on either side of the track, however, the treatment of the noxious weeds will go from fence to fence.
- There are restrictions on who can work on operational rail corridors. Council can obtain the necessary training, however, it is conducted through an external provider.

Namoi CMA – Clare Smith

- Contact: 6828 1272 or clare.smith@cma.nsw.gov.au
- Based at Walgett. Has been talking to LCA's and RLPB's regarding weeds and pests.
- Money has been allocated to be spent by 2008, approximately \$300K. This contains incentive funding, not money for on-going works. Extension activities could be considered as a joint project.
- Previously NIWAC produced a report that outlined the Top 20 weeds. The focus is an environmental weeds, rather than noxious.
- Currently advertising for a project officer.
- Mapping is a high priority, would like access to the current weed information that LCA's have collected.

Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA – Frances Pike

- Based at Moree, frances.pike@cma.nsw.gov.au
- Noxious weed control must fit in with greater targets regarding biodiversity.
- Would like to attend regular meetings.

Mimosa mapping

- Les has provided a map to locate the distribution of mimosa in all LCA areas, please complete this and return it.
- There will be advertisements of mimosa on Channel 10, the filming for this has been completed.
- Extra funding is required to prevent the spread of mimosa from the west.

Weed control handbook

- Nothing further has been added. Please forward a list of the Top 20 weeds for your LCA to Mick Kane.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Map locations of Mimosa bush, forward to Les Tanner.• Forward your Top 20 weeds to Mick Kane for inclusion in the weeds booklet.	All
Invite the Survey Co-ordinator to the next meeting. Check stock feed regulations.	Phil Blackmore

4.0 Individual LCAs and RLPBs

Liverpool Plains Shire

- Roadside spraying conducted by the RTA along the New England Highway.

Motion: That NIWAC write to the RTA to determine the policy for noxious weeds along roadsides that they control.

Moved: Peter Scott

Seconded: Neil Rossington

CARRIED

5.0 General Business

- Weed recording methods, think about changing the word 'class'. The survey co-ordinator is currently working on this, awaiting the report.
 - Working group to alter the current recording standard – Peter Scott, Mick Kane, Les Tanner, David Nixon.
 - Report the conclusions at the next meeting.
- Pesticide use notification plans are to be finalised by February 2007. Tamworth's plan is on the council website, www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au. NPWS also have a draft plan on the net.

Meeting closed at 1.45 pm

Next Meeting Thursday 15th February 2007 in Walcha.